

**ABSTRAK** : Perilaku ibu dalam mencuci tangan yang tidak tepat merupakan salah satu penyebab diare dan jika dibiarkan secara jangka panjang dapat memengaruhi status gizi. Penelitian ini bertujuan untuk mengetahui pengaruh perilaku cuci tangan ibu dan kejadian diare balita terhadap status gizi (PB/U) di Indonesia. Studi penelitian ini berdesain cross sectional menggunakan data sekunder Riskesdas 2018. Subjek yang terlibat dalam penelitian ini sebanyak 71.314 balita berusia 0-5 tahun. Hasil penelitian menunjukkan bahwa perilaku cuci tangan ibu dengan sabun dan air mengalir, serta cuci tangan saat beraktivitas penting (sebelum makan, menyusui bayi, setiap tangan kotor, setelah BAB dan penggunaan pestisida), dan kejadian diare berpengaruh signifikan dengan nilai *p-value* (<0,05) terhadap risiko *stunted* (pendek) pada balita di Indonesia. Perilaku cuci tangan ibu dengan tepat pada waktu-waktu penting perlu ditegaskan sehingga menurunkan risiko stunted pada balita.

**Kata Kunci :** Balita, Diare, Perilaku cuci tangan, Status gizi

**ABSTRACT :** *Improper maternal handwashing behavior is one of the causes of diarrhea and if left unchecked in the long term can affect nutritional status. This study aims to determine the effect of maternal handwashing behavior and the incidence of diarrhea among toddlers on nutritional status (PB/U) in Indonesia. This research study was cross sectional in design using secondary data from Riskesdas 2018. The subjects involved in this study were 71,314 toddlers aged 0-5 years. The results showed that maternal handwashing behavior with soap and running water, as well as handwashing during important activities (before eating, breastfeeding, every dirty hand, after defecation and pesticide use), and the incidence of diarrhea had a significant effect with a p-value (<0.05) on the risk of stunted (short) in toddlers in Indonesia. Proper maternal handwashing behavior at key times needs to be promoted and reduce the risk of stunted children under five*

**Kata Kunci :** Toddler, Diarrhea, hand washing behavior, nutritional status