

## **ABSTRACT**

Soil-Transmitted Helminths (STH) infections are intestinal infection caused by nematode worm consisting of *Ascaris lumbricoides*, *Trichuris trichiura*, or Hookworm (*Ancylostoma duodenale* or *Necator americanus*). STH infections can occur in all ages, especially in people with poor personal hygiene. The conditions that related to the lack of personal awareness in maintaining personal hygiene are still often found in residents who have mental limitation or mental retardation. This study aims to determine the relationship between personal hygiene and the incidence of Soil-Transmitted Helminths (STH) infections in mentally retarded residents in Karangpatihan Village. The population in this study are 97 mentally retarded residents in Karangpatihan Village, while the sample in this study is 30 resident who have passed the inclusion criteria. The type of this research is analytical observational with a cross sectional study. Collecting data through examination stool, interview, and observation. The results of this study showed that 20 samples had STH infections which was indicated by the discovery of Hookworm on microscopic examination of stool and 73,3% from 30 mentally retarded residents were known have poor personal hygiene. The results of the bivariate analysis using the chi square test showed that there was a relationship between personal hygiene and the incidence of STH infection in mentally retarded residents in Karangpatihan Village. Based on five personal hygiene variables, there are known that the variable of habit of wearing footwear, the habit of washing hands with soap, and the variable of nail hygiene shows a relationship with the incidence of STH infections.

Key words : Soil-Transmitted Helminths Infections, Personal Hygiene, Stool Examination, Mentally Retarded Residents