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Socio-economic Status and Hand Hygiene Knowledge and Practices of Elementary Students in Iligan City

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While the significance of effective hand hygiene (HH) in disease prevention, both in clinical settings and the community, is well-established, there exists a notable research gap concerning the intricate relationship between individual socioeconomic factors and hand-washing behavior among school children. For this reason, this study aimed to investigate the relationship between hand hygiene and the socioeconomic status of elementary Students in Iligan City. A total of 492 Grade six students from different schools of Iligan City participated in the study comprising 41% male and 59% female. The result showed that most of the respondents - believed that it is important to wash their hands before eating. When it comes to Hand cleaning practices most of the students indicated that they washed their hands when their hands were visibly dirty with water and soap. Furthermore, most of the students used personal towels or handkerchiefs when drying their hands. Furthermore, the results also indicated that there is a significant relationship between the SES of the students and their hand hygiene knowledge level and practices. Therefore, the higher the SES status the higher their hand hygiene knowledge and practices will be. Lastly, including other factors that may affect the hand hygiene knowledge and practices of the students such as gender and age in the study is highly recommended.

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