

Tatchawadee Siththisarn 2009: Factors Influence on the Mental Health of the Elderly in the Kamphaeng Saen Hospital Elderly Club, Nakhon Pathom Province. Master of Arts (Social Development), Major Field: Social Development, Interdisciplinary Graduate Program. Thesis Advisor: Associate Professor Chatcharee Naritoom, Ph.D. 190 pages.

The main objective of this research was to study independent variables basic socio-economic factors, health conditions, self-esteem and family relationship of the elderly which influence on the mental health of the elderly in the Kamphaeng Saen Hospital Elderly Club. The samples were 186 subjects who were obtained by systematic random sampling. The data were collected by interview schedule. Reliability of the instrument was tested by using Cronbach alpha coefficient. Analyze data by using descriptive statistics and hypothesis testing was done by using Chi-square, Pearson product-moment correlation coefficient and stepwise multiple regression analysis with the level of statistical significance at .05.

The results of the study showed that the elderly in the elderly club had health conditions, self-esteem and family relationship at good level. As for mental health of elderly in the club, the study showed good level in all the sense of goodness, acceptance of changes, adaptation to the environment, self emotion control and creating good relationships with others.

The results of hypothesis testing the relationship between independent variables and dependent variables showed sources of income and participation in the club to be related to total mental health with statistical significance at .05. Health conditions, self-esteem and family relationship were related to total mental health with the level of statistical significance at .001.

The results of testing independent variables influencing the mental health of the elderly that were basic socio-economic factors, health conditions, self-esteem and family relationship, those factors consisted of 15 independent variables. The results were found that 4 independent variables together predicted the total mental health at 49.8%: self-esteem (34.1%), family relationship (7.8%), health conditions (5.3%) and occupation (2.6%) respectively with the level of statistical significance at .001. The result of the studies in each aspect of the mental health found that self-esteem was the first variable could predicted mental health in acceptance of changes, adaptation to the environment, creating good relationships with others and total mental health. Besides, family relationship was also the first variable could predicted mental health in the sense of goodness.

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Thesis Advisor's signature