

Thesis Title	Family Social Support and Stress of the Elderly with Hip Fracture	
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Abstract

The purposes of this study were to investigate level of family social support and level of stress, and to examine the relationship between family social support and stress of the elderly with hip fracture. Study subjects obtained by inclusion of 40 elderly patients with hip fracture admitting at orthopaedic ward, Chaing Rai Hospital during June to August 1998. The research instruments used for data collection was composed of 3 parts : the Demographic Data Record Form, Social Support Questionnaire modified from the Personnal Resource Questionnaire part 2 (PRQ - 85 : part 2) developed by Brandt & Weinert (1985), and Stress Questionnaire modified from the Perceived Stress Scale (PSS) developed by Cohen, Kamarck & Mermelstein (1983). The

content validity of both questionnaires with back translation was tested out by a panel expert. The content validity values for social support and stress questionnaires were .97 and .83 with the interrater agreement of .97 and .84, respectively. The reliability was obtained by means of Cronbach's coefficient alpha. The reliabilities for social support and stress questionnaires were .93 and .81, respectively. Demographic data were analyzed by using frequency, percentage, means, and standard deviation. Correlation between variables was analyzed by using Pearson's product moment correlation coefficient.

The results of the study revealed that :

1. The elderly with hip fracture perceived the overall family social support and each subscale score at a high level.
2. Stress of the elderly with hip fracture was at a low level.
3. There was highly negative statistically significant relationship between overall family social support and stress at .001 ($r = -.7632$). There were highly negative significant relationship ($r = -.7312$), between reassurance of worth and stress at .001, and moderately negative significant relationships between each subscale : attachment ($r = -.6225$), opportunity of nurturance ($r = -.6436$), social integration ($r = -.4961$), and availability of information, emotion and material help ($r = -.5901$) and stress at .001.

These findings provide baseline information that can be used to guide planning for stress management and supported family role in caring for the elderly with hip fracture.