The purposes of this study were to study the role stress of caregiver of the elderly , to investigate relationships between personal factors, ability of elderly to perform daily living activities, elderly and elderly caregiver relationships and role stress of caregiver of the elderly and to explore the variables that predict the role stress of caregiver of the elderly. The subjects were 210 caregivers in Petchaburi Municipality, Petchaburi Province ,selected by multi-stage random sampling technique. The instruments used in data collection were the questionnaires, personal factors of caregivers , ability of elderly to perform daily living activities, elderly and elderly caregiver relationships and role stress of caregiver of the elderly.

Major findings were as follows :

1. Caregivers of the elderly had overall role stress at a low level. Detailed analysis showed that caregivers scored low in every aspect of role stress.

2. There were negative significant relationships between age of the caregivers, ability of elderly to perform daily living activities, elderly and elderly caregiver relationships and role stress of caregiver of the elderly at a level of .05 (r = -.23, r = -.32 ,r = -.63)

3. Elderly and elderly caregiver relationships, ability of elderly to perform daily living activities and age of the caregivers could predict role stress of caregiver of the elderly at .05 significant level. These predictors accounted for 47.26 % ($R^2 = .4726$) of the variance. The predicted equation in standard score form can be stated as follow :
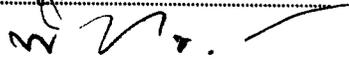
$$Z = -0.566 \text{ RELAT} - 0.223 \text{ ADLT} - 0.21 \text{ AGE}.$$

ภาควิชา ____คณะพยาบาลศาสตร์____   ลายมือชื่อนิสิต_____

สาขาวิชา____การพยาบาลศึกษา____   ลายมือชื่ออาจารย์ที่ปรึกษา_____

ปีการศึกษา___2540___   ลายมือชื่ออาจารย์ที่ปรึกษาร่วม_____