

THESIS TITLE : FACTORS RELATED TO ILLNESS PREVENTIVE BEHAVIOR
AND CARE OF RURAL MOTHERS TO CHILDREN WITH ACUTE
RESPIRATORY INFECTION

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ABSTRACT

This descriptive study was designed to investigate illness preventive behavior and care of rural mothers for Acute Respiratory Infection in Children (ARIC), and to examine relationship between Predisposing, Enabling and Reinforcing factors and their behavior. Furthermore, factors predicting illness preventive behavior and care of mothers for ARIC, were also explored. One hundred and seventy-five mothers, whom their under five years old children, had illness with ARIC in the past year, and lived in rural area of Maung District Khon Kaen Province, were selected as the sample of the study by the multistage cluster sampling technique. The interview questionnaire was developed and validated by seven experts. The questionnaire's reliability was tested by Kuder-Richardson 21 and Cronbach's Alpha Coefficient. All data were analyzed using percentage, mean, standard deviation, Pearson's Product Moment Correlation and Stepwise multiple regression. Research findings were as follow:

1. Illness preventive behavior and care of rural mothers for ARIC were mainly at moderate level of 67.5% and 74.3%, respectively.

2. There were correlations between Predisposing, Enabling and Reinforcing factors on illness preventive behavior and care of rural mothers for ARIC, with knowledge about ARIC, perceptions on ARIC, time for children care, obtaining information about ARIC from various sources, and social support.

3. Factors predicting illness preventive behavior of rural mothers for ARIC were social support, knowledge about ARIC and time for children care, at 23.9%

4. Factors predicting rural mother's care for ARIC were knowledge about ARIC, information about ARIC from various sources, social support and time for children care, at 31.0%

Result suggest that the implementation of program for all preventive and control of Acute Respiratory Infection in Children in community should be emphasized on family and community participation. The target group should be mothers who had children under 5 years old and other children care givers such as husband and elderly in the family and the community. For further research, the effectiveness and the efficiency of pattern for preventive behavior and children care during ARIC should be explored.