        The purposes of this research were to analyze the ability to make
decision on nursing problems of first year nursing students in defining the
problem, analyzing the data, analyzing, and choosing the alternatives; and
to explore the relationships between academic achievement, self-concept,
clinical environment, and the ability to make decision on nursing problems
of first year nursing students. The samples were 200 freshmen who had
completed all first year course requirements, selected by stratified random
sampling. Research instruments were self-concept scale, clinical environment,
and decision making ability test questionaires developed by the investigator.
All instruments were content validated by group of experts and tested for
the reliability.
        Results of the study were as follows :
        1.   The mean scores of the ability to make decision on nursing
problems of first year nursing students in the step of defining the problem,
analyzing the data, analyzing, and choosing the alternatives were 4.89 out
of 12, 60.18 out of 100, 19.93 out of 48, and 9.97 out of 24, respectively,
which all were at the middle level.
        2.   The first year nursing students used two thinking styles in
making decision which were shotgun thinking and discriminating thinking
styles. Neither of them used constrict thinking nor undiscriminating
thinking styles.
        3.   The group of predictors of the ability to make decision on
nursing problems of first year nursing students in each stage were as
follows.
        3.1 In the stage of defining the problem, the 9.07 percent
of varience was explained by physical environment and nursing team
interactions.
        3.2 In the stage of analyzing the data, the 3.20 percent of
varience was only explained by students' readiness for clinical practice.
        3.3 In the stage of analyzing the alternatives, the 2.00
percent of varience was only explained by T-score of theoretical part of
nursing subject.
        3.4 In the stage of choosing the alternatives, the 5.34
percent of varience was only explained by physical environment.