

**Thesis Title**        Needs of Family Members of Critically Ill Patients  
                         as Perceived by Themselves and by Nurses

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**Abstract**

The purposes of this study were to identify and compare needs of family members of critically ill patients as perceived by themselves and by nurses. The subjects were 55 family members of patients admitted at medical intensive care units (ICU) 1 and 2, surgical ICU, neurological ICU, coronary care unit, and cardiovascular thoracic ICU, and 51 nurses having work experience for at least 1 year in these units of Maharaj Nakorn Chiang Mai hospital. Data were collected during March to April 1997. The instruments used were the Critical Care Family Need interview form and the questionnaire of Critical Care Family Need as Perceived by Nurse. The content validity of both instruments was tested and the reliability was obtained by means of Cronbach's coefficient alpha with the values of .73 and .88,

respectively. Data were analysed by descriptive statistics using frequency, percentage, means, and the Mann-Whitney U test.

The results of this study were as follows:

1. Family members of critically ill patients perceived the informational need at the high level followed by the emotional, physiological, and spiritual needs respectively.

2. Nurses perceived that family members of critically ill patients required informational need at the high level followed by spiritual, emotional, and physiological needs respectively.

3. Needs of family members of critically ill patients as perceived by themselves and by nurses were not statistically different in the informational, physiological emotional, and spiritual needs.