

Thesis Title            A Study of Health Beliefs of the Thai Muslims  
                          Rendering Health Services in Hospitals  
                          in Four Southern Bordering Provinces  
Name                    Miss Salee Chalermwannapong  
Thesis Advisor        Dr. Puangrat Boonyanurak, Associate Professor  
Thesis Co-Advisor    Associate Professor Farida Ibrahim  
Department            Nursing Education  
Academic Year        1986

### ABSTRACT

The purposes of this research were to study and compare health beliefs of the Thai muslims rendering health services in hospitals in four southern bordering provinces. Two hundred and ninety samples were selected by the purposive sampling technique. Thai muslims who have been using the health service provided by four hospitals. The instrument questionnaire used for data collection was developed by the researcher to measure health beliefs of the Thai muslims in six dimensions of Health Beliefs; perceived susceptibility, perceived seriousness, perceived benefits, perceived barriers, general health motivation and modifying factors related to religious belief concerning health. The instrument had been tested for content validity and its reliability was .76. Statistic procedures used to analyze data were percentages, arithmetic mean, standard deviation, t-test and ANOVA. The .05 level of statistical significant was considered in this study.

The conclusion drawn from data analysis were as follow:

1. The mean of total score of health beliefs and the means

of perceived susceptibility, perceived seriousness, perceived benefits, perceived financial barrier, general health motivation and religious belief indicated the high level of the health beliefs. Perceived physical and psychological barriers were at the moderate level.

2. The means of total health beliefs and perceived barriers of female Thai muslims were significant higher than male.

3. There was no statistically significant difference between the mean of the total health beliefs of out-patient and in-patient. However, the results were revealed that health beliefs of out-patient concerning perceived susceptibility and general health motivation were significant higher than of in patient and perceived barriers was significant lower than in-patient.

4. There was no statistically significant difference between the means of the total health beliefs of Thai muslims who were classified by age groups. Categorically analyzed was reveal that the Thai muslims in age range of 20 - 30 perceived benefits and general health motivation were significant higher than those in age range of 31 - 45 and 46 - 60 years, and perceived barriers significant lower than the groups of 31 - 45 and 46 - 60 years.

Thai muslims in age range of 31 - 45 perceived seriousness, benefits and general health motivation were significant higher than those in age range of 46 - 60 years.

5. There was no statistically significant difference between the means of the total health beliefs of the Thai muslims who were classified by educational levels. Categorically analyzed was revealed that the respondents who had no education perceived susceptibility, benefits and general health motivation were significant

lower than those who completed the elementary, secondary, higher education and non-formal education, and no education group perceived barrier significant higher than those who completed higher education. The respondents who completed elementary education perceived barriers significant higher than those who had the secondary, higher education and non-formal education.

The respondents who completed elementary education and non-formal education perceived barriers significant higher than those who completed secondary and higher education, and perceived general health motivation significant lower than those who completed secondary and higher education.

6. There was no statistically significant difference between the means of health beliefs of Thai muslims who were classified by family income groups. Categorically analyzed was revealed that the respondents who had monthly family income higher than 2,500 baht perceived susceptibility significant higher than those who earned monthly income 1,001 - 2,500 baht and lower than 1,000 baht, and perceived psychological barrier significant lower than the groups of income lower than 1,000 baht.

Thai muslims who earned monthly family income 1,001 - 2,500 baht perceived financial barrier significant higher than those who had monthly family income higher than 2,500 baht and they also perceived general health motivation significant lower than those who earned monthly family income higher than 2,500 baht.