The purposes of this research were (1) to analyze professional nurses'
abilities in using cues in thinking styles and in making the nursing diagnosis
and (2) to compare those abilities classified by working experiences and
employers' agencies under different jurisdictions. The sample were 135 profes-
sional nurses selected by using the multistage ·sampling method. Videotape
simulation and the test developed by the investigators were used to collect
data. Those instruments were tested for content validity and internal reliabi-
lity which the test reliability was .89. McGuire's method was used to analyze
abilities in making cues and thinking styles and one way analysis of variance
cooperated with Scheffe's methods were selected to compare abilities. The
major finding were :

1. Most professional nurses showed a low level of competency in using
cues for making nursing diagnosis.

2. Professional nurses with 3-6 years of experiences had higher abili-
ties than those who have been working 1 year and lower, 1-3 years and greater,
and greater than 6 years at .05 significant level.

3. Professional nurses under the jurisdiction of Metropolitan Hospitals
and the Ministry of University Affairs showed higher ability in using cues for
making nursing diagnosis than those under the jurisdiction of the Ministry of
Public Health and Thai Red Cross Hospital at .05 significant level.

4. Most professional nurses used random thinking style in making nursing
diagnosis and only few showed thorough and discrimination thinking styles.

5. Professional nurses with 3-6 years experience had higher ability than
those who have been working 1 year and lower, 1-3 years and greater, and greater
than 6 years at .05 significant level.

6. Professional nurses under the jurisdiction of the Ministry of Univer-
sity Affairs and the Ministry of Public Health showed higher ability in formula-
ting nursing diagnosis statements than those under the jurisdiction of Red Cross
Hospital at .05 significant level.