

NATHANART CHAISIRI : SELECTED FACTORS RELATED TO LIFE STYLES OF
OSTEOARTHRITIS ELDERLY PATIENTS. THESIS ADVISOR : ASSO.PROF. JINTANA
YUNIBHAND, Ph.D. 160 PP. ISBN 974-579-005-2

This correlational study was designed to investigate factors related to life styles of osteoarthritis elderly patients and search for the factors that would be able to predict life styles of osteoarthritis elderly patient. The variables in this study were attitude of being elderly, knowledge related to self-practice, perception of pain severity, internal locus of control, family support and support from health team. The followings were the major results of the study:

1. Life styles of osteoarthritis patients was in the high level.

2. There were no significant relationships between perception of pain severity, internal locus of control and life styles of osteoarthritis elderly patients. However, the positive and significant relationships at .05 level were found between attitude of being elderly, knowledge related to self-practice, family support, and support from health team and life styles of osteoarthritis elderly patients.

3. Support from health team, family support, attitude of being elderly, and perception of pain severity were variables that were able to predict life styles of osteoarthritis patients. The predictability was accounted for 46 percent ($R^2 = .4647$), at the .05 level.

4. One factor that was able to significantly predict almost all aspects of life styles of osteoarthritis patients was support from health team. Moreover, other factors that were able to significantly predict some aspects of life styles were attitude of being elderly, knowledge of self-practice and family support.