

PORNTIP PRAYOORAVONG : AN ANALYSIS OF DECISION MAKING ABILITIES OF HEAD NURSES, IN REGIONAL HOSPITAL AND MEDICAL CENTERS, MINISTRY OF PUBLIC HEALTH. THESIS ADVISOR:: ASSO.PROF. PAUNGRAT BOONYANURAK, Ed.D., 171 PP. ISBN

The purposes of this research were to analyze the decision making ability of head nurses in defining the problem, analyzing the data and analyzing the alternatives; and to compare the decision making of head nurses classified by marital status, working experiences, and administration or decision making training. One hundred and fifty two subjects were selected by using the multistage sampling method. The research instruments were the test concerning decision making ability. The percentage, arithmetic mean, standard deviation, t-test, F-test and Tukey (b)' method were the statistical procedures used for data analysis. Results of the study were found as follows:

1. The decision making ability of most head nurses in defining the problem showed at low level and there were no statistical significant differences in decision making ability between different marital status. However, head nurses who had experiences in working 6 years to 10 years, showed higher ability than those who had 1 year to 5 years of experiences. Head nurses who had no administration or decision making training also showed higher ability than those who had training. There was also no statistical significant differences among head nurses' ability in dealing with obstacle problem, preventive problem and developing problem.
2. The decision making ability of most head nurses in the analyzing of data, showed the middle level and there were no statistical significant differences in head nurses' ability classified by marital status, working experiences and administration or decision making training. The same results was found when comparing three types of decision making situations.
3. The decision making ability of most head nurses in analyzing alternatives showed the middle level and there were no statistical significant differences in head nurses' ability classified by marital status, working experiences, and administrative or decision making training. However, head nurses' ability in analysis the alternatives of developing situation showed the higher ability than others.
4. The head nurses used two thinking styles in decision making which were random of undiscriminating thinking and discriminating thinking styles.