

## Abstract

The study on “Family Relationship Characteristic Affected Solutions to Problems from Caring for the Cancer Sufferers” had objective to 1) investigate problems and relationship characteristics between members and patients suffering from cancer and 2) study how to handle problems caused by caring for those patients. The data of this descriptive study was collected data from questionnaires. The samples were 240 members from families that had a member suffering from cancer and under the care of National Cancer Institution. The statistical analysis was carried out using percentage, standard deviation, t-test and F-test with significance at the 0.05 level, and multiple regression analysis.

The result revealed that the majority of respondents were female aged between 31 to 50 years, with education up to bachelor degree level and salary less than 20,000 baht. Most of them were patients’ children, spending not over 1 year taking care of the patients. They were suffering from physical problems most often. The positive relationship between the samples and patients was rated as “much” level. The solution in the sense of internal type was regarded as “the most” level while seeking information in the sense of external type was rated as “the most” level. The relationship between samples’ characteristics and the way to handle problems had statistically significant at the 0.05 level. From the multiple regression analysis on taking care of cancer sufferers, it was found that only 2 variables – boredom and recognition could explain the way that the samples handled problems with statistical significance at the 0.05 level.

From the study, it was suggested that the self-help group should be set up for relatives and cancer sufferers. The relatives should be known about fund sources to relieve financial problems especially transportation cost. Family members should be encouraged to participate in health care team. All relevant activities should be held with aims to create good relationship between family members and patients and to educate family members to take care of patients properly and confidentially.

