

<b>THESIS TITLE</b>	The Physical Environment of Juvenile Hospital : A Study of its Impact on the Recovery of its Patients
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### **ABSTRACT**

This thesis is an investigation into the effects of physical environment in children wards on juvenile patients in three hospitals in Bangkok. It aims to study the attitudes and feelings of the children patients and the related people e.g. doctors, nurses and their parents towards the physical environment in the children wards.

The data of this study is based on the related theories and researches together with field survey in 3 different children wards-Children Ward 8 in Children Hospital, Children Ward 2 in Ramathibodi Hospital and Children Ward Louis 2 in Chulalongkorn Hospital. These wards have common conditions-being common children ones with recreation sections and being in public hospital in neighboring areas. The data were collected from observation of general environment and planning of each children wards together with 2 sets of questionnaires for the patients and the related people. The questionnaires were randomly distributed to two groups of subjects. They are 90 seven-twelve year old chronic patients-30 from each ward-and 90 related people-also 30 from each ward. The data received were analyzed in terms of quality and statistics using SPSS program to find out percentage, arithmetic means ( $\bar{X}$ ), standard deviation (S.D.) and Chi-square ( $\chi^2$ ).

The results of the investigation show that the attitudes and feelings of the patients and the related people vary according to the factors of physical environment of each children ward. It is found that the most important physical environment is having home atmosphere.

The appropriate location of children wards should be on the ground floor. The size should be 30 beds because this can lead to the most efficiency in working. The warm, bright colour such as soft yellow, coral and peach is suitable for the children wards. But the colour for chronic patients should be cool, subdued colour like light green. During the day, the light inside the children wards should derive from the sun. There should be recreation section in the children wards.

The planning for children wards is recommended in terms of the appropriate arrangement of a unit of bed taking 5.04 metres. Then 4 units of beds are put together in order to make 3 types of standard planning of children wards : single corridor, double corridor and racetrack. This can be applied to suit real situation in each hospital.