

Acknowledgements

The present work was completed with the assistances of many people and financial support by Faculty of Medicine, Thammasat University.

I would first like to thank to my advisor, Assoc. Prof. Arunporn Itharat, for her guidances, stimulating suggestions and encouragements to my research and thesis writing. I am really appreciated for everything she did for me.

I am grateful to all the lecturers and staff of the Department of Graduate Studies, Faculty of Medicine, Thammasat University for their valuable advices.

I would like to thank to Professor Somboon Kietinun, Assoc. Prof. Sukanya Jesadanont and Dr. Pintusorn Hansakul for their English approval and advices of my thesis.

I am really thankful to Ms. Siriporn Kittiwisut, Ms Pakakrong Thongdeeying and Ms. Orraphat Pureesatien for their advices in my thesis.

I am grateful to Mr. Tatsapong Boonlon for his motorcycle which I used for my overtime works.

I deeply thank to my friends, Ms Chungrida Kao-ian, Ms Sineeporn Donnapee, Ms Siriporn Kittiwisut, Ms Sinee Thongmee and Ms Watcharin Pananto, for booting my morale that make me always pull through any difficulties and problems.

Finally, I am grateful to my family for their support, moral support, entirely care and love. I dedicate usefulness of this thesis to my father, Mr. Viruth Sukkarn, my mother, Mrs. Nipa Sukkarn and all the teachers who have taught me since my childhood.

Bhudsaban Sukkarn

2009