CHAPTER THREE
METHODOLOGY

This chapter describes the research methodology and its design. It consists of the following sections: (1) the subjects, (2) the materials, (3) the procedures used in the collection and analysis of the data, and (4) the data analysis.

3.1   SUBJECTS

The sample of this study was 100 office workers at every age and gender who worked in air-conditioned buildings located in the Silom area. The sampling frame was only office workers who worked full-time.

3.2   MATERIALS

The research instrument in the study was a questionnaire which was based on a Likert Scale technique and consisted of closed-ended questions. Moreover, an open-ended question was added to assess the respondents' suggestions or comments about Sick Building Syndrome.

The questionnaire was divided into five parts as follows:

Part I: General information of the respondents

The first part contained seven questions about demographic data of the respondents including gender, age, education, occupation, working period, discomfort experience at work, and background knowledge of Sick Building Syndrome.

Part II: The degree of awareness of the causes of Sick Building Syndrome

In the second part, there were 12 closed-ended questions. The respondents were asked about the causes of Sick Building Syndrome.

Part III: The degree of awareness of the symptoms of Sick Building Syndrome

The questions were categorized into six groups regarding the groups of symptoms of Sick Building Syndrome. The respondents were required to answer questions reflecting their degree of awareness of the symptoms of Sick Building Syndrome.

Part IV: The degree of awareness of the prevention of Sick Building Syndrome

The fourth part was composed of 11 questions asking the respondents about the prevention of Sick Building Syndrome.

Part V: The respondents' suggestions or comments

The final part consisted of an open-ended question. The respondents were given the freedom to share their comments, opinions or suggestions about Sick Building Syndrome.

To find out the degree of awareness pertaining to the causes, the symptoms, and the prevention of Sick Building Syndrome of the office workers, the Likert Summated Rating Scale was used in the part II, III, and IV as follows:

> 5 = Very good awareness
>
> 4 = Good awareness
>
> 3 = Moderate awareness
>
> 2 = Little awareness
>
> 1 = No awareness

3.3 PROCEDURES

3.3.1 Research Design

This research study was a cross-sectional design to explore the degree of awareness of Sick Building Syndrome of the office workers.

3.3.2 Data Collection

Data collection started on November 29, 2008 and ended on December 27, 2008. The questionnaires were distributed to 100 office workers who worked in air-conditioned buildings located in the Silom area. The questionnaires were gathered back after the respondents had completed it.

3.4 DATA ANALYSIS

The Statistical Package for Social Sciences (SPSS) version 15.0 was used to analyze the data using descriptive statistics: frequency and percentage.

3.4.1 Part I: General information of the respondents was presented by using frequency and percentage.

3.4.2 Part II: The degree of awareness of the causes of Sick Building Syndrome was presented by using frequency and percentage.

3.4.3 Part III: The degree of awareness of the symptoms of Sick Building Syndrome was presented by using frequency and percentage.

3.4.4 Part IV: The degree of awareness of the prevention of Sick Building Syndrome was presented by using frequency and percentage.

3.4.5 Part V: The respondents' suggestions or comments were recorded in the form of narration.

In sum, this chapter illustrated the methodology of this research about subjects, materials, procedures, and data analysis. In the next chapter, the results of the study will be presented.