

3636651NSAN/M : MAJOR : ADULT NURSING ; M.N.S. (ADULT NURSING)

KEY WORDS : EMPOWERMENT / KNOWLEDGE AND SKILL / SELF ESTEEM /
ORGANIZATIONAL EMPOWERMENT

MANASNAN NARKKERD : EMPOWERMENT OF PROFESSIONAL NURSES
PRACTICING IN CRITICAL CARE UNITS. THESIS ADVISORS :TASSANA BOONTONG,
Ed.D.,JARIYAWAT KOMPAYAK,Dr.P.H., CHANPEN KARIVATE M. Ed., 96 p.

ISBN 974-662-246-3

Nursing practice in critical care units is a rather complicated job. In order to deliver high quality nursing care, nurses need to possess self esteem, organizational empowerment and knowledge and skill. Together, these factors make up empowerment.

This study was to describe levels of empowerment of professional nurses practicing in critical care units. The sample of 300 staff professional nurses practicing in critical care units in general hospitals in Bangkok metropolis was selected by using multi-stage sampling. Data were collected using questionnaires. The questionnaires were developed by the researcher using Benner's domains of nursing practice regarding knowledge and skill in critical care nursing practice. For the questionnaires on self-esteem and organizational empowerment the Thai versions were modified from the Coopersmith self-esteem inventory and Kanter's organizational empowerment questionnaires, respectively. Data were analyzed using percentage, mean and standard deviation.

The results of the study revealed that :

1. The level of knowledge and skill of professional nurses practicing in critical care units was at a high level.
2. The level of self-esteem of professional nurses practicing in critical care units was at a high level.
3. The level of organizational empowerment of professional nurses practicing in critical care units was at a moderate level.

The results suggest that in order to improve organizational empowerment, nurse administrators need to emphasize the provision of assistants, information and resources as well as opportunities for staff development.