

3936728 RAPN / M : MAJOR: PEDIATRIC NURSING ; M.N.S.(PEDIATRIC NURSING)

KEY WORDS : SUPPORTIVE - EDUCATIVE NURSING SYSTEM / COPING /  
ANXIETY / PARENT / NEONATAL INTENSIVE CARE UNIT

PARICHART SILPRASERT : EFFECT OF SUPPORTIVE EDUCATIVE NURSING  
SYSTEM ON PARENTS' COPING AND ANXIETY IN NEONATAL INTENSIVE  
CARE UNIT. THESIS ADVISORS : JARIYA WITTAYASOOPORN, B.Sc., M.S., DNS.,  
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The purpose of this quasi - experimental research was to evaluate the effect of a supportive educative nursing system on parents' coping and anxiety in neonatal intensive care units (NICU). Orem's general nursing theory and Lazarus and Folkman's stress theory were used to guide the study. The purposive sample was composed of 60 parents whose children were admitted to NICU, Ramathibodi Hospital and Queen Sirikit National Institute of Child Health during May to November, 1998. Subjects were purposively assigned into control and experimental groups with 30 subjects in each group. Both groups received usual nursing care, but the experimental group also received the supportive educative nursing system program. Trait anxiety and state anxiety were measured by the State Trait Anxiety Inventory and parents' coping was measured by Jalowiec Coping Scale.

The findings show that the mean scores of the total coping and the emotive coping were statistically significantly higher in the experimental group than in the control group ( $p < .05$  and  $p < .01$  respectively), but the confrontive coping and the palliative coping scores were not different ( $p > .05$ ) between groups. The mean score of state anxiety in the experimental group was statistically significantly lower than in the control group ( $p < .001$ ). The results support Orem's general nursing theory and Lazarus and Folkman's stress theory and can be used in nursing practice for NICU parents.