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ABILITY

JARIYA TANTIKORNKUL : EFFECT OF REFLECTIVE THINKING IN  
CLINICAL TEACHING ON NURSING STUDENTS' PROBLEM SOLVING ABILITY.

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Problem solving ability is very important for nursing. The purpose of this quasi experimental research was to compare the competence in nursing problem solving of second year nursing students who were taught by reflective thinking in clinical teaching and that of nursing students taught by conventional teaching method. The sample was 32 second year nursing students of The Royal Thai Air Force Nursing College chosen on the basis of their marks. The students were randomly divided into two groups of 16 students each. The subjects in the experimental group were taught by reflective thinking method in clinical teaching. The subjects in the control group were taught by conventional teaching method. The research instruments were a reflective thinking on clinical practice model, a lesson plan of pediatric nursing practice, and a modified essay question test. The data were analysed by t- test and Analysis of Covariance.

The result of this research indicated that the students in the experimental group obtained higher scores on the post-test than on the pre-test at .001 significance level. The students in the experimental group obtained higher scores on the post-test than did students in the control group at .05 significance level. The opinion of students in the study was that reflective thinking increased their confidence, self awareness and enabled them to broaden their knowledge.

This study ascertained that reflective thinking in clinical teaching can promote problem solving ability and the learning outcomes. The researcher recommends for the application of this teaching method in clinical practice.