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SADANAND PIYAKUL : QUALITY OF LIFE OF PLWA IN SANPATONG  
HOSPITAL AND SANSAI HOSPITAL IN CHIANGMAI PROVINCE. THESIS ADVISOR :  
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The objective of this study is to assess the level of the quality of life of people living with AIDS (PLWA) and its relationship with the following factors : demographic-economic characteristics (sex, age, marital status, education, occupation and income) the illness (severity of diseases, symptoms occurring after HIV+ve within previous month, frequency of hospital admission ) and social support received in Sanpatong Hospital and Sansai Hospital, which are community hospitals in Chiangmai province. Survey research technique was used. One hundred and twenty PLWA who visited the outpatient clinics were selected by purposive sampling technique. Subjects were interviewed by using structured questionnaires. Data were collected in March 1997. The data were analyzed by using statistics frequencies, percentages, means, standard deviations, t-test and multiple regression.

The results of this study indicated that the quality of life of PLWA was at a moderate level. There exists a significant relationship between sex, marital status, severity of diseases, symptoms occurring after HIV+ve within previous month, frequency of hospital admission, social support and quality of life of PLWA. The influencing factors statistically significant (  $P < .00$  ) to quality of life of PLWA were marital status, symptoms occurred within last month and social support.

This study shows that marital status, symptoms and social support are factors influencing the quality of life of PLWA, which should be used in planning support for quality of life of PLWA in their life expectancy.