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DEPENDENCE

SUKUMA SAENGDUENCHAI : THE EFFECTIVENESS OF
EMPOWERMENT FOR RELAPSE PREVENTION OF AMPHETAMINE DEPENDENCE
AT THANYARAK HOSPITAL. THESIS ADVISORS : TASSANEE NONTASORN, Ph.D.,
CHANYA SIENGSAANOR, M.P.H., SUNEE LAGAMPAN, Ed.D., NITTAYA
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The spread of amphetamine abuse in Thai is a serious and growing problem. Studies have shown that even after treatment for amphetamine dependence, many former dependants return to the habit. Much of this is due to the fact that many amphetamine dependants lack the necessary will-power to kick the habit and re-enter normal society

The purpose of this project is to study the effectiveness of empowerment to prevent relapse for former of amphetamine dependants at Thanyarak Hospital. The study sample was 30 subjects divided into an experimental group of 14 subjects and a comparison group of 16 subjects. The experimental group got the empowerment program. Both groups lived normally in the hospital. The empowerment questionnaire was used for data collection, pre-test, post-test and follow-up.

The study result showed that after the program the experimental group had preceived seriousness of amphetamine and ability to prevent relapse of amphetamine use higher than before participating in the program and higher than that of the comparison group, statistically significantly. However self esteem was not statistically significantly different between these two groups. In follow up, the self esteem, preceived seriousness of amphetamine, ability to prevent relapse of amphetamine use and the urine amphetamine of the two groups were not significantly different.

In conclusion, in order to pervent relapse of amphetamine use more effectively, the application of an empowerment program should be extended into the follow up period of former amphetamine dependants treatment.