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POL.CAPT. AEMON MOOKDASANIT; THE RELATIONSHIPS BETWEEN
SELECTED FACTORS AND ADAPTATION OF THE POST CORONARY ARTERY BYPASS
GRAFT PATIENTS. THESIS ADVISORS: SOMCHIT PADUMANONDA, M.PH. (P.H.N.),
Dr.P.H.; CHANYA SIENGSANOR, B.Sc. (P.H.N.), M.P.H. (SOCIAL MED.); SUNEE
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Coronary arterial disease remains a global health problem. CABG (coronary artery bypass graft) is a surgical operation to correct conditions of this disease and to prolong life. However, it will not cure the patient. Post-operatively, patients have to take care of their own health to prevent complications. The purpose of this study was to determine the ability to self-adapt and to obtain correlation factors regarding the adaptation of patients to post-operative CABG. These factors include patient's age, marital status, level of education, family income, post-operative intervals, level of cardiac functions, family relationships, knowledge of post-operative self-care and attitude towards surgery. This study used the Roy Adaptation theory. A sample size of 150 patients (both male and female) was studied by following up on post-operative CABG for a period of 2 months to 1 year in the CVT (coronary vascular thoracic) clinics at Chulalongkorn and Siriraj hospital. Tools used in this study were questionnaires about personal information, family relationships, knowledge of postoperative self-care, attitude towards surgery and self adaptation. By using Pearson's Product Moment Correlation Coefficient and Stepwise Multiple Regression, the results from different questionnaires were analyzed. The results of this study showed that most patients were well adapted to all aspects to CABG. Correlative factors to adaptations were statistically significant (p < 0.05). The level of education, family income, post-operative intervals, level of cardiac functions, family relationships, knowledge for post-operative self-care and attitude towards surgery were positively correlated. On the other hand, age was negatively correlated with CABG. Family relationships, attitude towards surgery, post-operative intervals, knowledge of post-operative self-care and the level of cardiac functions contribute to explain the difference in post – operative adaptation up to 48.5 %.

These results suggest that nurses should be more aware of patients who have poor family relationships, an unfavorable attitude towards surgery, fewer post-operative intervals, low knowledge levels of post-operative self-care and cardiac functions. In these instances nurses should provide further, information to patients' to enhance the patients' adaptation.