

Independent Study Title Relationship Between Knowledge, Practice
During Pregnancy and Neonatal Birth Weight
in Reproductive Woman Workers at
Thanin Condenser Industry, Muang District,
Chiang Mai Province.

Author.

Miss Paranee Koowuttanasiri

M.P.H.

Public Health

Examining Committee :

Assist. Prof. Kannikar Pongsanit Chairman

Assist. Prof. Areewan Klunklin Member

Instructor Umpai Charuwatcharapaniskul Member

Assoc. Prof. Dr. Wichit Srisuphan Member

Assist. Prof. Ratre Opasa Member

Abstract

The purposes of this study were to study the relationship between knowledge, practice during pregnancy and neonatal birth weight in reproductive women workers at Thanin Condenser Industry, Muang distsict, Chiang Mai province. The study samples were purposively selected. The samples consisted of 75 reproductive women age 15 - 45 years old, having had experienced of being pregnant and giving birth within five years before the study. The instrument was the questionnaire developed by the researcher and approved by experts of the field. The data were analysed by using frequency, percentage, mean, standard deviation and chi- square test. The finding were as follow :

1. Only 34.7 percent of the samples had high score of knowledge on practice during pregnancy.

2. About 57.3 percent of the samples practiced correctly.

3. Approximately 62.7 percent of the newborns weight at birth less than 3,000 grams and were female more than male.

4. Regarding the relationship between knowledge, practice during pregnancy and neonatal birth weight, it showed that :

4.1 There was no relationship between knowledge and practice during pregnancy ($p > .05$); the samples with high score of knowledge did not practice during pregnancy differ from the samples with low score.

4.2 There was no relationship between maternal knowledge during pregnancy and neonatal birth weight ($p > .05$) ; regardless of the maternal score of knowledge during pregnancy, neonatal birth weight was not different.

4.3 There was statistically significant negative relationship between practice during pregnancy and neonatal birth weight ($p < .05$). The samples who practiced correctly had neonatal birth weight with the standard value but less than those newborns whose mothers practiced incorrectly.

The results of the study clearly indicated that neither knowledge nor practice during pregnancy seem to be good predictors of the neonatal birth weight. However, personnel in the health team should be aware of providing of knowledge, improving of correct practice pattern during pregnancy and providing of health care service for reproductive women workers in factories in order to improve a quality of life of mother and child.