

Thesis Title Relationship Between Hope and Coping Behaviors in
Cancer Patients Undergoing Radiotherapy

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ABSTRACT

The purpose of this study was to investigate the relationship between hope and coping behaviors in cancer patients undergoing radiotherapy. The sample consisted of 40 patients who were attended out-patient radiotherapy department in Maharaj Nakorn Chiang Mai hospital. The instruments used for data collection were interview form composed of three parts : demographic data, hope assessment form, and coping assessment form. Hope was evaluated by hope assessment form developed by Herth which the construct validity was approved by 7 specialists and reliability was examined and obtained by means of coefficient alpha with 0.954. Coping behaviors were collected by using coping assessment form developed by Somchit Hanucharurnkul and the reliability for this scale was 0.72. Data was analysed by

SPSS program using frequency, percentage, arithmetic mean, standard deviation, ranking, Pearson's product moment correlation coefficient and t-test.

The results of the study revealed that :

1. The positive relationship between hope and coping behaviors was .651, statistically significance at the level of .001 .

2. There was no statistically significant differences of hope between groups of known and unknown of cancer diagnosis.

3. The most frequent coping behaviors utilized by patients were as follows : selected to listen to or percieve only positive aspects, compliance, intentional forgetfulness, acceptance, doing their bests, and consolation (97.5, 95.0, 95.0, 95.0, 92.5 and 90.0 percents) respectively. The least frequent coping behaviors utilized by patients were projection on someone and something else (22.5, 20.0 percents) respectively.

4. There were no statistically significance differences between affective-oriented coping and problem-oriented coping behaviors.