

The Relationship Between Health Beliefs, Selected Factors,
And Duration of Breast-Feeding in the Mothers Delivered
At Maharaj Nakorn Chiangmai Hospital.

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Abstract

The purpose of this study was to investigate the relationship between health beliefs, selected factors, and duration of breast-feeding. The sample was composed of 192 mothers delivered at Maharaj Nakorn Chiangmai Hospital. The results revealed that 80.4 % of mother breastfed at least 6 months. From this data, 43.7 % intended to continue breast-feeding until at least 12 months but less than 12 months for 36.7 %. The duration of breast-feeding was associated significantly with these variables : the perception of health importance ($P < .01$), education ($P < .01$), family income ($P < .01$), home location ($P < .05$), employment ($P < .01$), maternal leave ($P < .01$), wanted-unwanted pregnancy ($P < .05$), and breast-feeding intention ($P < .01$). The results of this study suggested that we should concern and promote breast-feeding carefully in the mothers with these factors : low perception of health importance, high education, high family income, being in urban area, employment, short duration of maternal leave, unwanted pregnancy, and intention to breastfeed shortly.