

Thesis Title Hope among HIV Infected Persons
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Abstract

This descriptive research aimed at studying hope among HIV infected persons including changing of hope, meaning and significance of hope, things they hope for, factors influencing hope, and strategies for maintaining hope. A purposive sample of 30 HIV infected persons was obtained from the Health Promotion Centre, Social Development and Service Department, the Church of Christ in Thailand. All of those persons were members of groups of persons living with HIV/AIDS in their communities. The quantitative and interview data was gathered between June-August 1998. The Herth Hope Index was used to measure hope scores 3 times within 6 weeks. The semi-structured interview was used to study aspects of hope.

Quantitative data of hope scores was analyzed to determine changes of hope during 6 weeks using oneway repeated measure ANOVA . The results indicated that most subjects in this study had a high level of hope and that there was no statistical significant change of their hope during 6 weeks.

Results from interviewing data show that most HIV infected persons describe hope as the right of a human being; hope is an essential for life; hope is a purpose of life and hope is self-motivated. Eight domains of things they hoped for included were good physical health; mental strength; prolonging life; making the most of the precious time they have; well-being of their

significant others; maintaining good relationships with others; adequacy of income; and effectiveness of medical treatment for HIV/AIDS.

Five factors related to hope reported by most of subjects were present health perception; sense of control; social support; sense of self-esteem; and religious-superstitious beliefs. Strategies for maintaining hope used by the subjects were self-motivation and finding new possible hope.

These findings can be used for developing a nursing model or guideline for nursing care plans to promote and maintain hope in HIV infected persons.