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NIKOM KASIVITUMNOUY : RISK FACTORS OF DIARRHOEAL DISEASE IN CHILDREN LESS THAN 5 YEARS OF AGE IN RATCHABURI PROVINCE. THESIS  
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This study examines risk factors of diarrhoeal disease in children less than 5 years of age in Ratchaburi province. The study was conducted between 15 May and 31 August 1998. The sample consisted of 630 caretakers. 210 of these had children less than 5 years of age diagnosed with diarrhoeal disease. Data was collected by interviews and analyzed by frequencies, percentage, mean, standard deviation, t test, Chi – square test, odds ratio and 95% confidence interval of relative odds ratio.

The results indicated that the risk factors statistically associated to diarrhoeal disease were: cleaning hands without soap after defecation (OR = 3.10 , 95 % CI 2.09 – 4.61), cleaning hands with water and soap after defecation occasionally, cleaning hands without soap after child's defecation (OR = 2.32 , 95 % CI 1.60 – 3.37) , cleaning hands with water before food preparing and feeding occasionally (OR = 3.52 , 95 % CI 1.42 – 10.47), poor sanitation of child's feces (OR = 1.63 , 95% CI 1.15 – 2.31) , not warming over food (OR = 1.71 , 95% CI 1.04 – 2.83) , age of children caretakers lower than 25 years old (OR=2.03, 95% CI 1.31 – 3.13) and no experience in child care. (OR = 1.70 , 95% CI 1.14 –2.52) There was no statistical significant associated in education , income , relationship between caretakers and child , cleaning hands with water and soap before food preparing and feeding occasionally, nonuse of soap for cleaning hands before breast feeding , no breast cleaning before breast feeding and cleaning hands with water and soap after child's defecation occasionally. These results suggest that more health education has to be established by all means to prevent diarrhoeal disease such as ; aseptic technique training programme for caretakers, promoting health education about prevention the disease in all people.