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**KEY WORDS : HEALTH BELIEF , SOCIAL SUPPORT , PRACTICAL BEHAVIOR ,
HIV PREGNANT WOMEN.**

**RATANA VONGPITAKROJ : THE RELATIONSHIPS BETWEEN HEALTH BELIEF,
SOCIAL SUPPORT AND HIV PREGNANT WOMEN'S PRACTICAL BEHAVIOR : A CASE
STUDY IN NAKORN PATHOM HOSPITAL. THESIS ADVISORS : PIMPAN SILPASUWAN,
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The HIV pregnant women are subject to a severely critical condition probably leading to their own death and, that of their babies. The HIV disease has been rejected from the society. These cause various changes in the HIV pregnant women's practical behavior. These factors are important and ought to be investigated. The health belief and the social support were two main factors studied here including understanding, feeling's on social support. The target group was 75 HIV pregnant women who were diagnosed as HIV infected patients at Nakorn Pathom Hospital. The method of study was survey and qualitative interview. Data were gathered from June to December 1998. Pearson correlation, spearman rank, chi-square, multiple regression analysis and content analysis were used to analyze the data.

The results showed that the target group had moderate level of practical behavior and inappropriate practical behavior about dental check. The correlation between health belief, social support and practical behavior were positively significant at 0.01 level. There was a positively significant one way analysis of variance between social support and practical behavior at the 0.05 level. The results of multiple regression analysis showed that social support significant predictor accounted for 18.80% of the variance of the practical behavior. From interview, it was found that the economic problem caused by hard work to support their family had impacted their health. The employed group was pleased with husband's support and caring while the unemployed group was pleased with relatives' financial support. Moreover the most effect one indicated that some husbands did not use condom to control HIV infection.

The researcher would like to suggest that: Nurses should inform the right health belief to the HIV pregnant women as well as promote their husbands and cousins to provide help, support and encourage the HIV pregnant women to go on the right practical behavior in order to reduce and prevent complication while pregnancy and after delivery.