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YUPA RATANAWERU: PATIENTS' RIGHTS PERCEPTION AND NEEDS OF HIV INFECTED PATIENTS IN ROI-ET PROVINCE. THESIS ADVISORS: SUPAWAN PHLAINOI, Ed.D., FARIDA IBRAHIM, M.S., PANNIPA BURAPACHEEP, M.S., 162 p. ISBN 974-04-2045-1

The objectives of this research were to study the perception level of patients' rights and needs of rights of HIV infected patients in Roi-Et Province, and to compare the perception of patients' right and needs of rights of HIV infected patients according to the following variables as age, educational level, marital status, occupation, income, stage of disease, method of knowledge received on patient's right, and frequency of advice received via studying 4 aspects of rights the right of decision making on service selection, the right of reception of equal health service, the right of protection of the sickness information of patients, and the right of being given individual information. The sample group was 205 HIV infected patients, and the questionnaire was used as a tool for data collection. Data was analyzed with percentage, mean, standard deviation, and One Way Analysis of Variance.

The results of the study were that the perception level of rights of HIV infected patients were at a high level, and the needs of rights of patients were at a high level as well. Variables of age, educational level, marital status, and method of knowledge received on patient's right caused differences in patients' rights perception at a statistically significant level of 0.05, while variables of educational level, marital status, method of knowledge received on patient's right, and frequency of advice received caused differences in needs of rights of patients at a statistically significant level of 0.05.

Suggestions from the research are that the agencies involved should hold promotions to help HIV infected patients to gain a perception of patient's rights. A service system that can respond to the needs and rights of patients by providing orientation to personal and information to patients should be arranged. Moreover, the storage system for documents relating to the results of HIV infection should be revised, and the work of the counseling clinic should be made clear and standardized to provide an effective service, because it is an important starting point of respecting the patients' rights.