

The purpose of this research was two fold, 1) examine the relationships among social support, self-care agency, health status and basic conditioning factors and, 2) to determine whether health status can be predicted jointly by social support, self-care agency and basic conditioning factors in elderly person. The purposive sample consisted of 100 elderly persons who lived in Amphur Muang Pitsanuloke province, and attended Center of Elderly Health Promotion, Buddachinaraj Nursing College, Pitsanuloke province. Social support was measured by the Questionnaire developed by Brandt and Weinert (1981). Self-care agency was measured by the Appraisal of Self-Care Agency Scale developed by Evers, et al (1985). Health status was measured by Denyes Health Status Instrument developed by Denyes (1980).

Results of the study indicated that social support was positively correlated with self-care agency and health status ($r=.63$, $p<.001$; $r=.31$, $p<.01$) and self-care agency was also positively correlated with health status ($r=.49$, $p<.001$). When income, year of education, social support and self-care agency were entered into the regression model to predict health status, all variables accounted for

24.76% of variance in health status which was statistically significant. Social support appeared to be a significant predictor of health status indirectly through self-care agency.

The findings seemed to support the validity of Orem's conceptualization of basic conditioning factors related to self-care agency and health status. Limitation of the study, application of the findings in practice, education, and further research are recommended.