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A Comparative Study of Infant Development Between

Mothers Who Receive and Not Receive Early

Thesis Title

## ABSTRACT

Quality of child are the base of quality of adult and society. If six-year-child's development has delayed, it may effect their development when they grow up. Early intervention after birth, is necessary for infant to learn and for the highest potential development of a child.

The purpose of this study was to compare mother's knowledge and practices concerning early intervention and infant development between two groups of receiving and not receiving teaching early intervention at The Maternal and Child Hospital of Health Promotion Center Region 7 Ratchaburi Province. The samples were 53 post-partum mothers having first infant, twenty five couples constitute experimental group and twenty eight couples were the control group.

Research instruments developed by the researcher, included a lesson plan, video, developmental testing instrument and maternal manual for early intervention. Data was collected using interviewing forms about mother's knowledge and behavior concerning early intervention, Developmental Screening Inventory (DSI), observation recordforms caring infant behavior and environment by home visit. The experimental group consist of mothers who recieved early intervention and toy before being discharged from hospital. The researcher visit the sample at home of both groups when the infant are after 1 and 5 months to observed mother's behavior and family environment. The infants' development when they were 2, 4 and 6 months at Well Baby Clinic were test. Data was analyzed by using the SPSS\* program computer, the statistics were Mann-Whitney U-test, t-test, paired t-test and One Way ANOVA. The result could be summarized as follows.

- 1. Mean Score of the knowledge of early intervention, the experimental group was higher than the control group with statistical significance at 0.001.
- 2. Mean Score of the behavior of early intervention, the experimental group was higher than the control group with statistical significance at 0.001.
- 3. The infants'development scores, the experimental group was higher than the control group with statistical significance at 0.05.
- 4. The infants' development, there was no significant difference between normal labour infant and operative labour infant.

Recommendation, nurse should teach early intervention to mothers who delivery at hospital and give them the maternal manual for practice at home. Additional, the nurse should plan to visit and care them at home continuously.