

Thesis Title

Anxiety, Self-Care Deficit and Patterns of
Nausea and Vomiting in Cancer Patients
Receiving Chemotherapy.

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Degree

Master of Science (Nursing)

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ABSTRACT

The purpose of this study, using Orem's self-care deficit theory, was to describe patterns of nausea and vomiting (N/V), the influence of some factors on N/V and the relationships among anxiety, self-care deficit and N/V that occurred during three consecutive cycles of chemotherapy. The purposive samples were 44 cancer patients receiving chemotherapy at Ramathibodi Hospital. The Spellberger State-Trait Anxiety Inventory Form X-I and X-II, the Rhodes Index of Nausea and Vomiting Form 2, the Self-Care Deficit Related to Nausea and Vomiting Assessment Form and the Rosenberg Self-Esteem Scale were administered to the patients. The latter was used to measure self-esteem which was a part of self-care deficit assessment.

The findings demonstrated that N/V was most severe in the first 12 hours after cisplatin injection. There were 5 patterns of N/V : 1) No N/V 2) Minimal N/V 3) Declining N/V 4) Latent N/V and 5) Intense N/V. Qualitative data revealed that patients who had no or minimal N/V had more positive attitude on chemotherapy, effective coping style, social support, hope, will to live and less stress than those who had intense N/V. Time of cisplatin administered was found to influence the severity of N/V. Administered time at 6 PM-10 PM., N/V in 36-72 and 36-48 hours after giving cisplatin were significantly higher than the time at 8 AM.-12 AM. and 12 AM.-6 PM. respectively. Patients receiving chemotherapy with concomitant radiotherapy had significantly more severe N/V than those receiving only chemotherapy. As to the relationships among anxiety, self-care deficit and N/V, it was found that trait anxiety was positively correlated with self-care deficit but not correlated with N/V. State anxiety was positively correlated with self-care deficit and N/V. Self-care deficit was positively correlated with N/V.

The findings seemed to support Orem's conceptualization and self-care deficit theory that explained the composition of self-care agency and the relationships among basic conditioning factors, self-care agency, therapeutic self-care demand and self-care deficit.