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| Thsis Title | Social Support, Self-Care Agency and Outcome of Pregnancy |
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ABSTRACT

The health of mothers and their infants is the most desirable of pregnant women. Thus, finding the outcome of pregnancy relative factors is one of the goal of nursing. The capacity of social support and self-care agency to promote health has received increasing attention. The purpose of this prospective research was to examine the relationships among social support, self-care agency and outcome of pregnancy in antepartum, intrapartum and postpartum period in both mothers and infants. The purposive sample consisted of 299 pregnant women receiving care at antenatal care clinic and delivered at Ramathibodi Hospital. Self-care agency was measured by The Self-Care Agency Inventory developed by Samai Kanjanamayoun (1990). The perceived social support was measured by The Social Behavior Inventory developed by Brown (1986). The outcome of pregnancy tool was developed by the investigator.

Results of the study indicated that social support was positively correlated with self-care agency, but both social support and self-care agency were not significantly correlated with outcome of pregnancy. When social support and self-care agency were enter into the regression model to predict outcome of pregnancy in mothers and infants, no significant predictors were found.

The findings seem to support the validity of Orem's conceptualization of factor related to self-care agency. The limitations of this study, implications for practice and suggestions for further study were recommended.