

Thesis Title        The Effectiveness of Health Education Program on  
Mother's Behavior for Preventing Recurrent Acute  
Pharyngo-Tonsillitis in Children, Out Patient  
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### Abstract

At present, 4-17 percent of children, aged 0-5 years are reported of getting Acute Pharyngo-Tonsillitis. Also, it is found that respiratory tract infection is the most common disease and cause of death in children under 5 years of age. Mothers are key persons that can prevent their children from this disease. The main objective of this quasi-experimental research was to examine the effectiveness of health education program on mothers, behaviors in preventing recurrent Acute Pharyngo-Tonsillitis in children. Health Belief Model and Learning Theory were modified for conducting health education activities to mothers to learn how to take care their children.

The subjects were 105 mothers, having children aged 2-7 years, getting Acute Pharyngo-Tonsillitis and attended Out-Patient Department of Bhumibol Adulyadej Hospital, Bangkok. Of these subject, 52 mothers were assigned to experimental groups while the rest were in comparison group. The experimental group received

health education program, including demonstration relating to topid sponge, leaflet, child health daily report form and prompting by post card.

The instruments used for collecting data were interview schedule and child health daily report form. Data were collected before and after the experiment between April and July 1991.

Percentage distribution, arithmetic mean, standard deviation, Student's t-test, Paired Samples t-test, Z-test, Pearson's Product Moment Correlation Coefficient and Chi-Square were employed to analyse data.

The results of the study revealed that, after the experiment, the average scores of perceptions concerning susceptibility, severity, benefit and barrier to prevent children and their practice of the experimental group were significantly higher than the comparison group. The proportion of children in experimental group getting recurrent Acute Pharyngo-Tonsillitis was smaller than the comparison group. It was found that perceptions concerning susceptibility had positive relationship with practices and recurrence of this disease. Age, occupation, education of mothers and their family incomes had no relationships with their practices.

Results of this study suggest that health education program could help mothers to prevent their children from getting disease.