

Thesis Title                      The Study of Health Perception, Self-Care  
Behavior and Health State of the Post Cardiac  
Valvular Replacement Patients

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ABSTRACT

After cardiac valvular replacement ; the patients may experience various complications that affect both physical health and Psycho-social health as complicated from using oral anticoagulant drug, prosthetic valve endocarditis and congestive heart failure, etc.

The post operative complications can be prevented by effective self-care behavior. It was found that there are many factors influenced self-care behavior, as demographic factors and health perception are the significant factors.

The purpose of this study were to investigate the relationship between health perception and self-care behavior, and the relationship between self-care behavior and health state of the post cardiac valvular replacement patients. The sample group are composed of 100 post cardiac valvular replacement patients who were follow up at heart clinic in the out patient department at Siriraj Hospital, Chulalongkorn Hospital, Central Chest hospital and Rajvithi hospital. The instruments used for data collection including demographic

data form, The Health Perception of the patient with valvular replacement questionnaire, The Self-care Practice of the patient with valvular replacement questionnaire and The Health Status of the patient with valvular replacement scale. Statistical Techniques were implemented in the process of data analysis including percentage, arithmetic means, standard deviation, Pearson's Product Moment Correlation Coefficient and Stepwise Multiple Regression of using t-test significance testing.

The results revealed as follows :

1. There was a positively significant correlation between health perception and self-care behavior of the patients with valvular replacement. (  $r = .2035$ ,  $P < .05$  )

2. The multiple regression analysis showed that 4.14 percent of variance of self-care behavior of the patients with valvular replacement could be predicted by one significant factor : health perception. (  $P < .05$  )

3. There was no statistically significant correlation between self-care behavior and health state of the patients with valvular replacement. (  $P > .05$  )

From the results of this study, the recommendation are that nurses should be the person who provide information of disease and medical regimen as well as self-care behavior for the post cardiac valvular replacement patients. The further study should be compared self-care behavior between the patients who have differentiated health perception.