

Thesis Title

Knowledge and Perception concerning AIDS
and Drug Addiction Affecting Methadone
Taking Behavior

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ABSTRACT

The objectives of this study were to describe knowledge and perception concerning AIDS and drug addiction, and to investigate factors affecting methadone taking behavior of intravenous drug user (IVDUs). The Sample consisted of IVDUs who had been taken methadone detoxification from Taksin Hospital and Vajira Hospital. 309 IVDUs were interviewed by using a structure questionnaire. Data was also collected from patient's medical records. The data were analyzed by using Chi-square, T-Test, Pearson's product correlation and Multiple regression.

The results of this study indicated that most of IVDUs had correct knowledge concerning AIDS, perceived severity and susceptibility of infected AIDS and also perceived that they could prevent themselves from AIDS by taking methadone as scheduled (self-efficacy). Half of IVDUs had correct knowledge about methadone detoxification, perceived severity of drug addiction and perceived their own ability to stop using drug (self-efficacy).

By using Pearson's product correlations, education (years) was significantly related to knowledge about AIDS, knowledge about methadone detoxification and perceived susceptibility of AIDS. Income (baths) was also significantly related to perceived susceptibility of AIDS. Besides these, duration of drug use showed significantly related to the perceived self-efficacy in stopping using drug ($P < 0.05$).

Analyses on relationships between knowledge, perception concerning AIDS and knowledge, perception concerning drug addiction showed that knowledge about AIDS was significantly related to knowledge about Methadone detoxification. Perceived severity of drug addiction was significantly related to perceived severity of AIDS and perceived susceptibility of AIDS ($P < 0.05$).

Stepwise multiple regression analysis revealed that perceived severity of AIDS and perceived self-efficacy of taking methadone affected to methadone taking behavior. Besides these, the analysis of knowledge and perception of drug addiction indicated that perceived self-efficacy of taking methadone had a positive effect on methadone taking behavior.