

Thesis Title            The Relationship Between Body Image and  
                         Adaptation in Amputees

Name                    Khaneungnich Anuroj

Degree                  Master of Science ( Nursing )

Thesis Supervisory Committee

                         Tassana Boontong , B.Ed.,M.S.,Ed.D.

                         Mayuree Kaewchantr , B.Ed. ,M.Sc. ( Nursing )

                         Wannee Satayawiwat ,B.Sc.,M.Ed.

Date of Graduation    29 December B.E.2535 (1992)

### **ABSTRACT**

Amputation of lower limb may be the result of a number of disorders , including infections , neoplasms , and traumatic injuries. Most of them , however ,are the result of peripheral arterial diseases. When a person underwent on amputation , they of course , feel lost forever the sense of wholeness or the sense of being an intact person. The impact of amputation affects the amputee's physical and psychological well-being , somatic identity , sexuality , occupational identity , and social role. Helping the amputees in psychological and physiological rehabilitation are essential in order to increase their abilities to adapt themselves. Caring of these patients ,nurses should be aware of factors which may influence

the amputees' adaptation in order to promote and enhance their adaptabilities. In this study, the researcher used the Roy Adaptation Model theory as a theoretical framework to study the relationship between body image, demographic variables ( i.e. age, marital status, length of being the amputee, level of amputation ) and adaptation in amputees. The sample was composed of 150 outpatient amputees who came to follow up at the orthopaedic outpatient department or the prosthetic clinic at Siriraj, Pramongkutklao, Lerd Sin and Bhumibol Adulyadej Hospital. The instruments were 3 questionnaires, i.e. demographic data, body image and adaptation questionnaires. Data were analyzed by using SPSS<sup>x</sup> program for percentage, arithmetic mean, standard deviation, Pearson's product moment correlation coefficient and the stepwise multiple regression.

The results were as follows.

1. There was a significantly positive correlation between body image and adaptation at the .001 level (  $r=.8005$  )
2. There was a significantly positive correlation between marital status and adaptation at the .001 level (  $r=.2686$  )
3. There was a significantly positive correlation between length of being the amputee and adaptation at the .001 level (  $r=.4184$  )
4. There were no significant correlation between age, level of amputation and adaptation (  $p>.05$  )
5. The result of stepwise multiple regression analysis showed that 66.97 percents of the variances of adaptation

was accounted for by two significant predictors , there are , body image and length of being the amputee.

From the result of this study , nurses should encourage the amputee's family and health team to provide support and also promote their body image. Nurses , furthermore , should co-operate with the physical therapist and occupational therapist in teaching and supervising the amputees to adapt their activities so that they are able to have good life. Further studies should be conducted on other factors influence adaptation , e.g. social support , perception about handicap of amputee. Furthermore the studies about sexuality , psychological problem and quality of life in these patients are also suggested.