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MANOCH TUBMANEE : DEPRESSION AND DEMENTIA IN THE THAI COMMUNITY DWELLING ELDERLY IN BANGKOK. THESIS ADVISOR : KANOKRAT SUKHATUNGA, M.ED., M.S., CHIRDSAK KOWASINT, ED.D., YAJAI SITTIMONGKOL, PH.D. (NURSING), M.S. (PSYCHIATRIC NURSING), RAVIWAN NIVATAPHAND, M.D. (THAI BOARD OF PSYCHIATRY) 98 P. ISBN 974-589-620-9

The purposes of this study are to survey the prevalence of depression and dementia among Thai community dwelling elderly in Bangkok, determine the relationship of depression and dementia with some demographic data and examine the relationship between depression and dementia in this population. The random sample consisted of 370 elderly who participated in the geriatric society administered by the Public Health Service Center. Thai Geriatric Depression Scale (TGDS), Thai Mental State Examination (TMSE) were used to screen for depression and dementia respectively. Descriptive and analytic statistics were computed by using the SPSS/PC<sup>+</sup>.

The results show that the prevalence obtained for depression was 35.1%, and for dementia was 27.3%. Among the various demographic data, householder, sources of income, income satisfaction, the presence of physical illness, health status, exercise, being consultant were correlated with depression at the 0.01 level and age, sex, marital status, perceived adequacy of support from offsprings, being a member of network were also positively correlated with depression at the 0.05 level. Employment and number of family members were not significantly related to depression ( $P > 0.05$ ).

Significant relationships were found between age, presence of physical illness, health status, being consultant and dementia ( $P < 0.01$ ) and a positive relationship was found between depression and dementia (Contingency coefficient = 0.286).

The finding from the study can be used to provide accurate information about the factors promoting mental health and preventing depression and dementia in the elderly.