

Thesis Title Factors Related to Depression of Rural Elderly :
 Study in Banphotphisai District, Nakornsawan Province

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Abstract

The objectives of this study were to determine the prevalence of depression of the elderly and related factors to depression such as the demographic factors in which were age, sex, marital status and education; the socio-economy factors which were occupation, income, hobby, kind of family, family relation and social participation; and the health factor which was physical health status; and to examine the predictive ability of age, sex, marital status, education, occupation, income, hobby, kind of family, family relation, social participation and physical health status on depression of the rural elderly. The studied samples consisted of 350 rural elderly, aged sixty and over who lived in Banphotphisai District, Nakornsawan Province in 1991. The samples were selected by stratified random sampling. The data were collected by interviewing questionnaires. The statistics of chi-square and stepwise multiple regression were employed for the data analysis.

The results revealed that the prevalence of depression was 67.4%. Factors related to depression in this study were age,

occupation, income, hobby and physical health status with statistically significant associated to depression at p -value < 0.05 but sex, marital status, education, kind of family, family relation and social participation were not associated to depression. Income was the strongest predictive value on depression of the elderly at approximately 21%; and physical health, hobby and family relation could predict at 6%, 2% and 1% respectively and all together they could predict depression approximately 30%.