

Thesis Tittle            The Relationship between Spouse Support Perception  
                                 of Childbirth Experience, Selected Factors and  
                                 Maternal Adaptation in Cesarean Mothers

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#### ABSTRACT

A cesarean birth is performed when vaginal delivery is not possible or when the situation is not safe for the life or health of the mother and her fetus. When a woman has undergone on cesarean birth, she of course, feels of anxiety, guilt, loss of control and experienced lower self-esteem. The impact of cesarean birth has affected on the cesarean mother's physical and psychological well-being; thus it is difficult for cesarean mother to adapt themself to the situation after cesarean birth. Helping the cesarean mothers both in psychologically and physically is essential in order to increase their ability to adapt themselves into new situation. In caring of these patients, therefore, nurse should realize about the factors influencing the mother's adaptation in order to enhance their adaptability. In this study, the researcher used the Roy Adaptation Model as a theoretical framework to

study the relationship between spouse support, perception of child-birth experience, selected factors, and maternal adaptation among cesarean mothers. The sample was composed of 112 cesarean mothers who came to follow up at the postpartum clinic at Siriraj Hospital, Rajvithee Hospital, Ramathibodi Hospital and Seventh-day Adventist Hospital. Data were collected by using the personal data, the Spouse Support, the Perception of Child-Birth Experience and the Maternal Adaptation questionnaires. Data were analyzed by using SPSS<sup>X</sup> program for percentage, arithmetic mean, standard deviation, Pearson's Product Moment Correlation Coefficient, multiple correlation coefficient and the stepwise Multiple regression.

The results were as follows :

1. There was a significantly positive relationship between spouse support and maternal adaptation in cesarean mothers at the .001 level ( $r=.4435$ )
2. There was a significantly positive relationship between perception of child-birth experience and maternal adaptation in cesarean mothers at the .01 level ( $r=.2557$ )
3. There was no significant relationship between age, education level, income, past child-birth experience, and type of cesarean, and maternal adaptation in cesarean mothers.
4. The result of stepwise multiple regression analysis showed that 24.53 percent of the variances of maternal adaptation in cesarean mothers was accounted for by two significant predictors, that is, spouse support and perception of child-birth experience.

As the result of this study, it is recommended that, for nursing practice nurses should encourage the spouse to provide support and love to the cesarean mothers throughout this difficult experience. Furthermore, nurses should be promoting the cesarean mothers to gain positive cesarean birth experience by providing sufficient useful information and counseling in order that these mothers will be able adapt themselves to the experiencing situation.