

Thesis Title Stressors and Coping Behaviors of Infertile
Couples

Author Mrs. Jirawan Deelua

M.N.S. Maternal and Child Nursing

Examining Committee :

Assoc. Prof.Dr. Sukanya Parisunyakul	Chairman
Assoc. Prof. Kannika Kantaruksa	Member
Asst. Prof.Dr. Ratanawadee Chontawan	Member
Asst. Prof.Dr. Wipada Kunaviktikul	Member
Asst. Prof.Dr. Seepan Kantawang	Member

Abstract

The purpose of this research was to study stressors and coping behaviors of infertile couples. The sample consisted of 85 infertile couples who attended infertility clinic of Maharaj Nakorn Chiang Mai hospital.

The instrument used for collecting data was a questionnaire, composed of three parts : a demographic data, the Infertile Stressor Scale developed by the researcher, and the Coping Behaviors Scale,

modified from Jalowiec Coping Scale (1988). The content validity was assessed by 5 experts. The reliability of the Infertility Stressor Scale and the Coping Behaviors Scale, obtained by Cronbach's alpha coefficient, were 0.94 and 0.91 respectively. Data were analyzed by using frequency, percent, the mean, standard deviation, and independent t-test.

The results of the study revealed that :

1. The total mean score of stress experienced by infertile women was at a moderate level. The endogenous stressors sub-scales was higher than the exogenous stressors sub-scales.
2. The total mean score of stress experienced by infertile men was at a mild level. The endogenous stressors sub-scales was higher than the exogenous stressors sub-scales.
3. The infertile women used coping behavior at a moderate level. The palliative coping behavior was the most frequently used, followed by the confrontive and the emotive coping behaviors respectively.
4. The infertile men used coping behavior at a moderate level. The confrontive coping behavior was the most frequently used, followed by the palliative and the emotive coping behaviors respectively.
5. The infertile women had significantly more stress from exogenous stressors caused by spouse, than men ($p < .05$). There were no significant differences among the stressors from total, endogenous, and exogenous: family, economics, sociocultural, religious, and health care system.

6. The infertile women used the total coping behavior and the palliative coping behavior significantly more than men ($p < .05$ and $p < .001$) but the confrontive and the emotive coping behavior showed no significant difference.