

Thesis Title      The Influence of Maternal Perception on the Care  
                         of Acute Respiratory Infection in Children under  
                         5 years in Chon Buri Province.

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#### ABSTRACT

The objective of this survey research was to study the relationship between maternal perception and maternal factors with maternal behavior on the care of A R I in under 5 years children. The sample were 280 mothers of under 5 years children who brought their child to clinic at Somdej Sriracha Hospital in Chon Buri Province. Interview were used for data collection. Statistics used were frequencies, percent, mean, standard deviation, pearson's product moment correlation coefficient, spearman rank correlation and stepwise multiple regression.

The results revealed that at high level of maternal perception about A R I were perceived barrier of care, perceived susceptibility of A R I and perceived severity of disease 95.0,

86.8 and 51.8 percent respectively. Whereas perceived benefit of early care of A R I at home was at moderate level in 78.2 percent. Majority maternal behavior on care (69.3 percent) of A R I was at moderate level. Maternal perception and maternal factors which found to have statistically significant relationship with maternal behavior at the 0.025 level were messege about A R I from various sources, mother education, obtaining of health care service for minor symptoms of A R I, motivation of health, perceived benefit of early care of A R I at home, score of total perception on risk, severity, benefit of early care and barrier of care of A R I, experience on the care of A R I in children, obtaining of health care service for severe symptom and perceived severity of disease. (  $r = 0.32, 0.29, 0.28, 0.20, 0.19, 0.18, 0.14, 0.14$  and  $0.13$  respectively )

Factors which could predict 22.1 percent of maternal behavior on the care of ARI were Messege about ARI from various sources, obtaining of health care service for minor symptom of ARI, mother education, obtaining of health care service for severe symptom and experience on the care of ARI in children.