

Thesis Title The Factors Related to The Child Rearing in
Mothers of Infants with and without Acute
Respiratory Infection
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ABSTRACT

Acute respiratory infection (ARI) in children has a high incidence and is the leading cause of morbidity and mortality in children under five years of age. It is one of the important health problems in developing countries. The most common disease is common cold, while pneumonia is the leading cause of death, especially in children under one year of age. ARI is not only the cause of morbidity and mortality, but also the cause of other complications and chronic lung disease which may interfere with the physical and mental growth, as well as the quality of life. Moreover, it also has economic impact. ARI in children is a preventable disease depending on child rearing in mothers. The objectives of this study were firstly to compare the child rearing practice in mothers of infants with and without ARI and secondly to investigate the relationship between the maternal factors

and health belief related to the child rearing in mothers of infants with and without ARI. The sample was composed of mothers who had infants between nine to twelve months old, reared the infants by themselves, and came to receive treatment at out-patient and in-patient departments and well baby clinic in Saraburi Hospital and community in the Saraburi municipality. The sample size was ninety-five mothers. Sixty-eight mothers who had infants with ARI were the study group. Twenty-seven mothers who had infants without ARI were the control group. Data were collected by using the interview of the mother's child rearing practice and the questionnaire of her health belief related to ARI. Statistical techniques were t-test and Pearson product moment correlation coefficient. The results were as follows.

1. The child rearing in mothers of infants without ARI was better than the child rearing in mother of infants with ARI, but there was no statistical difference at the .05 level.

2. There was a statistical positive correlation between the health belief related to the child rearing in mothers who had infants with and without ARI at the level of .001 ($r=.3272$)

3. There was a statistical positive correlation between age, education level and family income and the child rearing practice in mothers of infants with and without ARI at the levels of .05, .01 and .01 ($r=.2111$, $.2856$ and $.3085$ respectively).

4. Mother's occupation and family structure were found no significantly correlate with the child rearing in mothers of infants with and without ARI at the .05 level.

The results of this study indicated that the mothers who had right health belief, higher age and high family income demonstrated correct child rearing. Thus nurses should be aware of the importance of providing knowledge to mothers about child rearing in order to prevent ARI, especially those who had children with recurrent ARI. The method of providing knowledge may be individual and group or using other teaching media and bring the health belief model for guidance. Further study should be conducted in the one to three years old children and other provinces where health belief and child rearing practice were difference.