

Thesis Title The Effectiveness of Health Education Programme
on Mother's Behavior for Prevention and Control
of Acute Respiratory Infection in Children
(ARIC), in Bangkhaen, Bangkok.

Thesis Supervisory Committee

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Acute Respiratory Tract Infection in Children (ARIC) is one of the leading causes of death among children under five years of age. The incidence of this disease is closely related to the lack of knowledge and incorrect practice of mothers in taking care of their children. Thus, that quasi-experimental research was to study the effectiveness of health education programme applying health belief model and social support from the community personnel on ARIC and their mothers behavior at Bangkhaen. One hundred and seventeen mothers of children under 5 years of age were assigned into two groups, 60 to the experimental group and 57 to the control group. The experimental group was received health education program at the first week from the researcher, and received social support from the health volunteer and health communicator.

The instruments for collecting were the structured questionnaire and the recording form. The first one was used for evaluating the perception of the mother and the second one was for mothers to record their behaviors on preventive and control of ARIC.

The result of the study can be summarized as follows :

1. After the study, the experimental group gained significantly higher mean score on perception of susceptibility, severity and cost-benefit about ARIC than before the study ($p < 0.001$).
2. After the study, the experimental group gained significantly higher mean score on perceptions of susceptibility, severity, cost-benefit and practice of mothers for prevention of ARIC than the control group ($p < 0.001$).
3. After the study, incidence and relative risk of ARI in the experimental group was significantly lower than the control group ($p < 0.05$).
4. There was no relationship between the perception and practice of mothers in prevention of ARIC.
5. There was no relationship between the demographic characteristics of the samples: age, occupation, education level, income and the perception about susceptibility, severity and cost-benefit of the ARIC.

This study shows the effectiveness of the health education program applying health belief model and primary health care concept toward mothers' behavior in prevention and control of ARIC. It is also founded that the village health volunteer be able to assist the government health officer, but those people needed close supervision from time to time.