

Thesis Title: The Relationship between Health Perception, Spouse Support and Adaption of the Post Cardiac Valvular Replacement Patients.

Name: Chanaiporn Chuenjairuang

Degree: Master of Science (Nursing)

Thesis Supervisory Committee

Sompan Hingjiran, B.Sc.(Honor),M.S.

Wanee Satyawiwat,B.Sc.,M.Ed.

Orapan Thosingha, M.S.N.

Date of Graduation 9 December B.E.2536 (1993)

ABSTRACT

The benefits of cardiac replacement are quite dramatic for most patients in terms of cardiac symptom relief, increased physical stamina and increased longevity. But after cardiac valvular replacement, the patients may experience various complications which affect their usual daily physical activities, works and their family and social roles. Therefore, they will have to adapt to the new situations after the surgery. Enhancing the patients' adaptation is an essential role of nurses. There are various factors that may influence the patients' adaption. Health perception and spouse support are ones of those influencing factors. Thus, in this study, the researcher used the Roy Adaptation Model as a theoretical framework to study the relationship between health perception, spouse support and adaptation of the post cardiac valvular replacement patients. The sample group was composed of 120

post cardiac valvular replacement patients who came for the follow-up treatment at the Out Patient Department of the Heart Surgery Clinic of Siriraj Hospital, Rajvithi Hospital, Chulalongkorn Hospital, Vajira Hospital and Central Chest Hospital. The instruments used in the study were questionnaires on demographic data, health perception, spouse support and adaptation of the patients with valvular replacement. Data were analyzed by using SPSS/PC⁺ program for percentage, arithmetic means, standard deviation, Pearson's moment correlation coefficient and stepwise multiple regression.

The results were as follow:

1. There was a positive significant correlation between health perception and adaptation ($r=.79$) at the .001 level.
2. There was a positive significant correlation between spouse support and adaptation ($r=.51$) at the .001 level.
3. The results of the stepwise multiple regression analysis showed that 67.11 percent of the variances of adaptation was accounted for by two significant predictors, i.e., health perception and post-operative functional class. ($p<.001$)

From the results of this study, it is recommended that nurses should promote the cardiac valvular replacement patients to gain positive perception by providing sufficient useful information and counseling in order to be able to adapt to the new situations after surgery. Furthermore, nurses should encourage patients' spouses and social networks to provide support and care to cardiac valvular replacement patients throughout these difficult experiences; especially in young, low-income and low post-operative functional class patients; since these groups of patients showed significant maladaptation.