

Thesis Title	Depression in Old Age : The Study of the Old Age From Home of The Age Banthamapagorn, Nakohnratchasima Province.
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## ABSTRACT

The purposes of this study were to investigate and to compare the degree of depression among older persons of different sex, age, and marital status in Thailand.

The sample subjects consisted of 137 males and females aged over 60 living in The Home of The Age Banthamapagon, Nakohnratchasima Province.

The instrument used in this study was the interview schedule divided into two parts-background information and structured interview refined or adapted from Beck Depression Inventory. The degree of depression were divided into 4 levels according to the range of scores as follows:-

0 - 15 non-depression

15.01. - 30 mild depression

30.01 - 45 moderate depression

45.01 over severe depression

The criterion of comparison was 15 marks.

The statistic analyses used were percentage, t-test and F-test.

### The Results

The findings of the study were as follows:-

1. 51.92 per cent of the males were in the range of non-depression, 47.06 per cent of the females were in the range of mild depression. Considering the total subjects, 45.99 per cent of the respondents were in the range of mild depression.

2. The degree of depression of respondents was significantly higher than the criteria at .05 level.

3. There were not significant differences in depression among the respondents both male and female at .05 level.

There were statistically significant differences at .05 level in five symptoms, namely emotional, cognitive, delutional, physical and volitional symptoms.

Moreover, when considering each item, there were significant differences in depression at the .05 level from 15 items out of 21. There were: defect mood, hopelessness, sense of failure, sense of punishments, negative feelings toward self, self-blame,

suicidal impulses, crying spells, irritability, indecisiveness distorted-image, retardation, fatigability, weight loss and loss of libido.

4. There were not significant differences in depression among the respondents of different range of age at .05 level.

However, there were statistically significant differences at .05 level in one of the five symptoms. It was a physical symptoms.

When each item was analyzed, there were statistically significant differences at .05 level in two items out of 21. There were deject mood and retardation.

5. There were not significant differences in depression among the respondents of different marital status at .05 level.

When considering each symptoms, depression among them were not statistically significant differences at .05 level.

Furthermore, when each item of depression was analyzed, there were significant differences at .05 level from one item out of 21. It was "crying spells".