Thesis Title　　　　Effect of Input Factors and Instructional Situation

Toward Problem Solving Ability of Nursing Students in

the Community Oriented Nursing Curriculum: Nursing

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ABSTRACT

The purposes of this research were to study the effect of input factors i.e. curriculum, teachers and students and instructional situation as the process toward problem solving ability of nursing students in the Community Oriented Nursing Curriculum. Also to study the relationships between these variables and to find out the prediction equations of the students' problem solving ability in three aspects:- daily life problems, general nursing problems and community nursing problems.

The sample were 250 fourth year students in academic year 1988 and 155 teachers in five nursing colleges under the jurisdiction of the Nursing Colleges Division, those are Bangkok Nursing College;

Buddhashinarat Nursing College, Pitsanuloke; Nakornratchasima Nursing College; Pra-Pok-klao Nursing College, Chantaburi and Song-khla Nursing College. In this study five research tools were used, they were the Curriculum Analysis Model, the Teacher Interviewing Form, the Instructional Situation Rating Scales: one for the teachers and one for the students, and the Students' Problem Solving Ability Test.

The Microcomputer and SPSS/PC + package programme were used for data analysis to find out the descriptive statistics of these variables; to analyze the relationships between these variables by x^2 test and Pearson Product Moment Correlation Coefficient and to find out the prediction equations of the students' problem solving ability by Stepwise Multiple Regression Analysis.

The research finding can be concluded as follows:-

1. In terms of currriculum analysis, it was found that the Community Oriented Nursing Curriculum was suitable for instruction to enhance the nursing students' problem solving ability.

2. In terms of teacher factor, it was found that most of the teachers had 11-20 years of teaching experience, 88 % of them used to study or be trained in educational courses and they had an average 24.2 teaching hours per week (theory and practice).

3. In terms of student factor, the students' background was found that: their fathers' occupation was mostly agriculture and their educational level was mostly elementary school and their mothers' occupation was mostly unemployed or housewives and their educational level was mostly elementary school; the average family income was 8,443 baht/month. Concerning the students' educational capabilities, it was found that their Entrance Examination Score and Grade Point Average throughout the course were average.

4. In terms of instructional situation that enhancing the students' problem solving ability; It was found that both the instructional situation percieved by teachers and students were at high level and had positively significant correlation.

5. The students' problem solving ability in three aspects i.e. daily life problem, general nursing problem and community nursing problem were all in high level and the last one got the highest score.

6. There were positively significant correlation between teaching experience, educational training experience and the instructional situation that enhancing the students' problem solving ability as percieved by the teachers. But there was no correlation between the teachers' teaching hour (neither theory nor practice) and the instructional situation.

7. There were no correlations between the fathers' occupation, mothers' occupation, fathers' educational level, mothers' educational level and any aspect of the students' problem solving ability. But there was positively significant correlation between the family income and the students' problem solving ability in daily life problem aspect.

8. The students' entrance examination score had positively significant correlation with the students' problem solving ability in general nursing problem aspect. Also the students' grade point average had positively significant correlation with all aspects of the students' problem solving ability.

9. There were no correlations between the instructional situation as perceived by the students and neither the students' grade point average nor their problem solving ability in any aspect.

10. The following variables were statistically significant for predicting the students' problem solving ability in daily life problem aspect: the family income, the dummy variable of agricultural mothers' occupation and the students' grade point average. And the coefficient of determination (R^2) of this equation was 9.40%.

11. The following variables were statistically significant for predicting the students' problem solving ability in general nursing problem aspect were the problem solving ability in daily life problem aspect and the dummy variable of fathers' educational level at Bachelor degree and higher. And the coefficient of determination (R^2) of this equation was 16.45 %.

12. The following variables were statistically significant for predicting the students' problem solving ability in community nursing problem aspect were the problem solving ability in daily life and general nursing problem aspect and the students' grade point average. And the coefficient of determination (R^2) of this equation was 26.74 %.