Master of Public Health Public Health

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Factors Influencing Acceptance of Basic

Immunization Program Among Mothers In

Arunotai Village, Tambon Moang - Na.

Chiang Dao District, Chiang Mai Province

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Abstract

This study aims to describe the mothers' knowledge of the immunization program and the factors influencing the acceptance of this program. The difference in knowledge between mothers fully excepting the program and those not fully excepting the program will be evaluated. The relationship between education level, knowledge

of immunization, and successful vaccination will be described.

A sample of 92 mothers from Arunotai village tambon Muang - Na,

A sample of 92 mothers from Arunotal village tambon Muang - Na, Chiangdao district, Chiangmai, representing the Yunnanese minority

group, were chosen by the multi-stage random sampling method.

Interviews were conducted on mothers with infants, ages one to three

years old. The data was analysed and presented in percentage, mean, standard deviation and tested using unpaired t test and chi-square test.

The results reveal that the mothers' knowledge of the vaccination program and the types of vaccine was very low, 6.6% and 14.1% respectively. Health workers played an important role in influencing the acceptance of vaccination in mothers (70.0%).

The immunization coverage was 21.7% and the dropout rate with the BCG to measles vaccination was 21.3%. The study also found a significant difference between the knowledge of mothers fully accepting the program and mothers not fully accepting the program (p< 0.05).

The mothers' level of education related directly to their knowledge of the immunization program (p< 0.001). Also, there was a significant relationship between appointments scheduled by health workers and the mothers' acceptance of the vaccination (p< 0.001).

The author suggests several ways to increase the immunization coverage in the village. Health education materials should be crafted to better address Yunnanese mothers. Village health volunteers should assist in collecting the number of newborns delivered at home and reporting their findings to the health workers. Health workers in the health centers should play the crucial role of scheduling vaccination appointments, administering the vaccinations, and providing follow up on those who discontinue the vaccination program.