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KEY WORD :ENVIRONMEATAL CIGARETTE SMOKE / RECURRENT  
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NITAYA AKAWAT : ENVIRONMANTAL CIGARETTE SMOKE EXPOSURE  
AND RECURRENT ASTHMATIC ATTACK IN CHILDREN. THESIS ADVISOR:  
JAYANTON PATUMANOND, M.D., M.P.H., D.Sc. NATCHAPORN PICHAINARONG, Ph.D.  
VIZIZ CHAVEEPOJNGUMJORN, M.P.H. THUNYANOT BUNNAG, M.D. 119p. ISBN 974-  
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A hospital-based case-control study was conducted at Chulalongkorn hospital and Queen Sirikit National Institute of Child Health, during the period of August 1996 to January 1997, for studying the association between environmental cigarette smoke exposure and recurrent asthmatic attack in children. The study subjects comprised 183 pairs of cases, selected from asthmatic children who had recurrent asthmatic attack and controls who had no recurrent asthmatic attack within one year, matched for gender and age. Data were obtained by questionnaire interview.

Multiple logistic regression analysis, controlling for potential confounding factors, environmental cigarette smoke exposure was associated with recurrent asthmatic attack in children. Children exposed to household smoking, father smoked, family member indoor smoking and one cigarette smoked daily, were 1.50, 3.01, 3.17 and 1.08 times to develop recurrent asthmatic attack, respectively. The out door cigarette smoke exposure was also associated with recurrent asthmatic attack. For children exposed to out door environmental cigarette smoke, the exposure to cigarette smoke at bus stop area and one exposure per week, were 1.58, 2.39 and 1.39 times to develop recurrent asthmatic attack, respectively. These findings suggest a significant relationship between environmental cigarette smoke exposure and recurrent asthmatic attack in children. Asthmatic children's parents should be aware of and protect their children from cigarette smoke exposure.