

Thesis Title Family Support Factors Affecting Self-Care Behavior of
Diabetic Patients

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ABSTRACT

This study examines family support factors affecting self-care behavior of diabetic patients and demographic factors that affect such family support.

The data were collected by structured interview of patients randomly selected from Nakornpathom Provincial Hospital from December 1996 to January 1997. The main part of questionnaire includes information on demographic background and self-care behavior of the respondents. Univariate and multivariate analyses were performed by using SPSS program.

The results showed that sex, education and number of the household members are the main factors affecting family support of the diabetic patients. Male with higher education and larger number of people in the household have more family support. Analyses shows a significant relationship between number of household members and the family support. It also explains that tolerability of the family members to the patients' complaints and problems affects the self-care behavior of the patients. Where members of the household supports the patients' needs by listening to

and understanding their problems, the patients tend to develop better self-care behavior.

Unlike other patients, diabetic patients must follow a set of strict rules as a means to maintain their health. Therefore, any attempt aiming to develop the patients' self-care behavior should take into account significance of the support .