

Thesis Title	The Effectiveness of Health Education Program on Mother's Behavior for Prevention of Diarrhoeal Disease Among Pre-School Age Children in Bangpakong District, Chachoengsao Province
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Abstract

Diarrhoeal disease is one of major health problem in Thailand, and cause of morbidity and mortality among children under five years old. The incidence of this disease is high. It is given the first priority among the surveillant diseases. It is very susceptible and severe for children because it dose not only affect the children's growth, but also inhibits their brain development. The Diarrhoeal disease among children is closely related to their mother's health behavior. Thus, the health education program with social support provided effectively for those mothers could help them to prevent their children from diarrhoeal disease. The women with children age 2-5 years in Bangpakong district of Chachoengsao province were sampled

54 and 52 as experimental group and comparison group respectively, the experimental group was assigned to participate in health education program and received social support from the health volunteer during 12-week period. The interview technique with questionnaire, home visit, and record form were used for data collection.

The findings revealed that the women of experimental group significantly changed their perception of susceptibility, severity, and cost-benefit about the diarrhoeal disease among pre-school age children than did prior to participating in health education program as well as actual practice in diarrhoeal prevention. There was significant relationship between the mother's perceptions and their preventive behavior regarding diarrhoeal disease among those pre-school age children. According to the follow-up study, it was found that diarrhoeal morbidity rate of children looked after by mothers of experimental groups was significantly lower than of those in the comparison group. Regarding sociodemographic variables, there was statistical relationship between education level, income and actual practice of mothers in prevention of diarrhoeal disease.

According to the research findings, the health education program with social support was enable those mothers with children with age 2-5 years to carry on preventive behavior on diarrhoeal disease among their children. To whom it may concern should take into the consideration to conduct such systematic program of health education for mothers or care givers among children with age 2-5 years to prevent diarrhoeal disease.