(Medical and Health Social Sciences)

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Mother's Treatment Behaviours of Children

with Acute Respiratory Infection: A case

study at Siriraj Hospital

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well as sociological and psychological factors which relate to the mother's behaviours. The study was conducted among 276 mothers whose children (under 5 years old) were ill with acute respiratory infection and received treatment at the Infancy Department of Siriraj Hospital.

The method used in the study was based on a questionnaire set for the sample group of mothers. The questionnaire was set and

mothers with children who have acute respiratory infection (ARI)

The objective of this survey is to study the behaviour

for the sample group of mothers. The questionnaire was set and distributed by the researcher. Statistical analysis involved utilizing SPSS PC, determining percentages and stepwise multiple regression analysis.

The results of the study can be summarized as follows;

In treatment behaviour, the majority of mothers will observe their children's illness at home for 1-2 days before taking them to the hospital. It has been observed that the majority of mothers do not vary their children's diet. This is an unsuitable course of action. It has also been observed that the majority of mothers discontinue giving their children antibiotics once the latter become better. This too is an unsuitable course of action, as it is necessary to complete the antibiotic course.

Regarding mother's response to the severe level of the child's illness; the majority of mothers will not take their children to the hospital unless they feel that the child is moderately or severely ill.

Besides Siriraj Hospital, mothers choose one to five sources of treatment, including home treatment, drug stores, clinics, other hospitals and Public Health Centers.

The level of mothers' education and the perceived signs and symtoms of the acute Respiratory Infection (ARI) are the factors in their behaviour. Other factors which have not proven statistically irrelevant include the mother's age, child's age, treatment experience, knowledge, belief and the perceived severity of the acute Respiratory Infection (ARI).