

Thesis Title                    The effectiveness of Health Education Program on  
Dental carries and gingivitis preventive behavior  
among the sixth grade students in Ongkarak  
District, Nakornayok Province.

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Degree                         Master of Science (Public Health)  
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### ABSTRACT

Dental carries and gintivitis are one of the most common health problem in` community. In Nakornnayok province in 1990, the prevalence of this disease was reported 76.5 percent in children age under 12 years. According to malpractice in oral health care, the trend of this disease is stable increasingly. Therefore, this study will focus on ways to reduce the prevalence rate of the disease, through the application of Roger's Protection Motivation theory. A simple random sampling was employed to obtain 129 school children

attended grade sixth in primary school in Ongkarak district, Nakornnayok province as the final chosen sample. A quasi-experimental research design was used in this study. The 68 students from Wat Chiew Osot were assigned to be an experimental group, and were participated in health education program. While other 61 students from Wat Ampa Siri Wong school were assigned to be a comparison group, and were not allowed to participate in any program. An interview questionnaire and dental survey form were to collect data before and after health education program implementation, in the period of 10 weeks. T-Test, MCA., and Chi-Square test were used for testing the hypothesis.

The finding shows that often the experimental group participated in health education program, change in the perception of threat appraisal, coping appraisal, oral health practice and dental health situation, occurred with significant more and higher than the comparison group. It was also found the factors of threat appraisal and coping appraisal significantly affect oral health practice. Chi-square test that the sex was significantly correlated with oral health practice, but the family income variable was not.

This study concludes that health education program and dissemination of information on the dental health in primary school grade sixth by using Protection motivation theory has proved to be an effective model for generalization throughout the province and the country.