

**Thesis Title** Maternal Technology Influencing Nutritional Status of Pre-school Children in Agricultural Family in Chaiwan District, Udonrthanee.

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**ABSTRACT**

This case-control study searched for maternal technology influencing nutritional status of pre-school children age 12-36 month in agricultural family in Chaiwan district Udonrthanee province. The purposes were to study maternal technology of milk and meal feeding, health care, and sick care, as well as maternal knowledge of nutrition and child rearing. Sample of 265 mothers (102 of malnutrition and 165 of normal nutrition children) were selected by simple random sampling technique. Data collection consisted of physical examination of children and interview mothers using questionnaires. Data were analysed by chi-square, multiple logistic regression, t-test and multiple correlation as appropriated.

The results indicated that mother of normal nutrition children possessed higher score on maternal technology, maternal knowledge of nutrition and child care than those of mothers of malnutrition children. These scores were positively related. Other characteristics of maternal technology that were also positively related to nutritional status of preschool children included daily milk drinking (OR=65.03), age at first start of supplementary feeding and weaning, vegetable and meat consumption, control of snack and sweet. Concerning children's health care, The maternal technology of the followings found to be negatively related to child's nutritional status, they were, lacked of boiling drinking water(OR=11.57), failed to wash hand before feeding, absent of health care and appropriate practice for growth monitoring. The negative maternal technology such as malpractice of mothers in handling sick children was 3.13 time more likely to have malnutrition children than those mothers of proper practice.

Based on the findings, it is recommended to encourage mothers with less technology to learn and adopt the appropriate one from mothers with technology. Changing of health education approach is also suggested to provide development and modification of maternal technology.