

THESIS TITLE : SELECTED FACTORS EFFECTING ON SOCIAL SUPPORT OF  
MOTHERS DURING POSTPARTUM PERIOD.

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## ABSTRACT

The purpose of this study was to investigate selected factors effecting on social support of mothers during the postpartum period social support and source of social support.

The sample composed of 296 postpartum mothers who come to follow-up postpartumly at Songklanakarin Hospital and Had yai Hospital during November 1990 - February 1991. The instruments used in this study were social support and source of social support questionnaires. The data was analysed by using Chi-square test, Pearson's Product Moment Correlation and Stepwise Multiple Regression.

The results of the study indicated that :

1. The relationship between selected factors and social support of mothers during the postpartum period were :

There was significant correlation between educational level, occupation, family income, types of birth and social support at  $p < 0.05$ . ( $r = .41$ ,  $X^2 = 15.91$ ,  $df = 1$ ,  $r = .31$  and  $X^2 = 7.34$ ,  $df = 1$  respectively).

There was no significant correlation between age, types of family, birth order, experienced of child care and social support but there was significant correlation with some types of social support.

There was positive significant correlation between age and appraisal support. ( $r = .18$ ,  $p < .001$ )

There was significant correlation between types of family and instrumental support. ( $X^2 = 5.32$ ,  $df = 1$ )

There was negative significant correlation between birth order and emotional support. ( $r = -.18$ ,  $p < .001$ )

There was significant correlation between experienced of child care and emotional support. ( $X^2 = 5.87$ ,  $df = 1$ )

2. Total score of social support of mothers during the postpartum period and subscore of informational support, instrumental support, appraisal support were at the moderate level. The subscore of emotional support was at a high level. Mostly source of social support which mothers received came from spouses, mothers and relatives respectively.

3. Prediction of social support of mothers during the postpartum period by stepwise regression model, only educational level and family income could significantly predict social support of mothers during postpartum period with the explained variance of 18.84%.