

Thesis Title Knowledge, Perception and Care of
the Mothers on the Occurrence of
Acute Respiratory Infection (ARI)
among under 5 Children in Taksin
Hospital at Bangkok, Thailand

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ABSTRACT

The objective of this study was to find out the relationship between mother's knowledge, perception and care on the occurrence of acute respiratory infection (ARI) among the under five children.

A hospital based cross sectional study was conducted at Taksin Hospital in Bangkok, Thailand. Using structured questionnaires one hundred and fifty mothers of under five children attacked with acute respiratory infection (ARI), who came to the hospital during the period from 5th May to

21st May 1995, were interviewed.

After analyzing data in Epi info and SPSS/pc program of the computer. It was found that though the mother had knowledge but they are not exercising it in the care of their children and they are poor in care. It was also found from this study that 42.7% and 40.3% mothers had good and fair knowledge respectively with equally 40.7% good and fair perception but only 26.0% mothers had good care to their children, though 31.3% mothers had poor care. In spite of that, it was also found that only 62.4% mothers got information from health personnel. The study didn't show any statistically significant association between the occurrence of ARI and socio-demographic factors or environmental factors or maternal factors or children's factors. But it was shown that there was a significant association between mother's knowledge and care, between mother's knowledge and perception and also between mother's perception and care of the mothers towards their children.

It was recommended that health education should be enhance to raise the mothers knowledge and perception for the good care of their children. Beside these the activities of the health personnel should be more integrated with this aspects. Further studies were also recommended on this aspects selecting not only the hospital but it should include the community.