

THESIS TITLE : STUDY ON THE FACTORS AFFECTING  
 ORS UTILIZATION OF MOTHERS IN  
 DIARRHOEAL DISEASES OF CHILDREN  
 UNDER 5 YEARS OF AGE IN NAKHON  
 PATHOM PROVINCE.

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#### ABSTRACT

The purpose of this study was to determine the association between the factors of interest, including mother's knowledge on diarrhoea, mother's knowledge and attitude on ORS, advice on ORS, availability of ORS, socio demographic factors and ORS utilization of mothers for treating diarrhoeal diseases of children under 5 years of age in Nakhon Pathom Province of Thailand.

A cross sectional survey was conducted at Well Baby Clinic and Out Patient Department of Nakhon Pathom Provincial Hospital. A standard interview questionnaire was used for data collection. By systematic random method 130 mothers, who had children with diarrhoea or past history of diarrhoea, were selected as study

sample.

For data analysis, the descriptive statistical analysis was used to determine the frequency and percentage of variables. Regarding association, used chi-square test and the test for different test proportion with one tail hypothesis used z test. The significance level was set at 0.05.

The result of the study showed that approximately 55 percent of mothers used ORS for treating diarrhoea among children under 5 years of age, while one third of mothers ( 33.1 %) had good knowledge on ORS, Approximately 51 percent of mothers had positive attitude toward ORS and approximately 57 percent of mothers received advice on ORS given by health workers or mass media.

This study found significant association between mother's knowledge on diarrhoea, mother's knowledge and attitude toward ORS, Advice on ORS by health workers or mass media, availability of ORS, flavor of ORS, mother's education and ORS utilization by mothers for treating diarrhoea among children under 5 years of age. But mother's age, occupation, income, number of children, marital status and distance of health center or drug store did not show any significant association with ORS utilization by mothers.

Therefore, it is strongly recommended that the strengthening of health education programme of MOPH is of urgent importance for improving ORS utilization by mothers in diarrhoeal diseases of children under 5 years with proper supervision and follow up.