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RENAL FAILURE PATIENTS ON HEMODIALYSIS. THEMATIC PAPER  
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Chronic renal failure (CRF) patients on hemodialysis are affected by a long-term of illness caused by physical, psychological and social aspects. In caring for these patients, nurses must understand what the patients' needs are and assist them to meet their needs. The study is about nursing care needs of chronic renal failure patients on hemodialysis. The subjects were 50 chronic renal failure patients of The Kidney Foundation of Thailand, Priest Hospital chosen by accidental sampling. The data was collected by a questionnaire on nursing care needs of CRF patients on hemodialysis, adapted from Sathiraleela 's questionnaire and analyzed by percentage, mean and standard deviation.

The results of the study indicated that 5 categories of nursing care needs were at a high level. The highest need was the need to be given suggestions and explanations ( $\bar{X}= 3.46$  , S.D. = 0.68). The next was the need to be encouraged and comforted ( $\bar{X}=3.32$  , S.D. = 0.86). The following needs in order of importance were to solve health problems of the patients ( $\bar{X} = 3.27$  , S.D. = 0.75), to establish a reliable relationship ( $\bar{X} = 3.25$  , S.D. = 0.75) and to be respected ( $\bar{X} = 3.13$  , S.D. = 0.88).

Recommendations for this study are that nurses should have knowledge and understanding about the nursing care needs of the patients, especially, the need for suggestions and explanations. Nurses should develop their potential in order to provide various kinds of information that the patients need to improve the quality of nursing and improve the patients' satisfaction . A survey of nursing care needs of the patients should be continuously organized.