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WANNA RUANGLAPANUN : IMPACTS OF ASTHMA DISEASE ON SCHOOL-AGE ASTHMATIC CHILDREN AND FAMILY. THESIS ADVISORS : KAIMOOK WICHIENTHAROEN, Ed.D. (Curriculum Research & Development), RASHANEE SEEDA, M.Ed. (Measurement & Evaluation), SASITHORN WANNAPONG, M.S. (Physiology). 102 p. ISBN 974-663-448-8

The purpose of this descriptive research are to investigate the impacts of asthma on school-age asthmatic children and their families, and determine predictors of impact on asthmatic children and their families. The sample group were 120 school-age asthmatic children and 120 mothers of school-age asthmatic children, who were treated at the allergy clinic of Siriraj Hospital, Chulalongkorn Hospital, Queen Sirikit Institute of Child Health, B.M.A. Medical College and Vajira Hospital. Data was collected using questionnaires for the impacts on asthmatic children and their families and on the severity of asthma. The data was analyzed by percentage, mean, standard deviation and stepwise multiple regression analysis.

The results showed that most of the mothers were 36-45 year old, house-wife with family's incomes above 15,000 baht/month. Most asthmatic children were 6-8 year old. Precipitating factors in their asthma was house dust. The severity of asthma was mild, and duration of illness ranged from 1-5 years. Hospital admissions were from 1 to 5 time. The results showed that impacts of asthma disease on school-age asthmatic children and families were little. Severity of asthma, was predicted at 9.6 percent. The impacts of asthma disease on school-age asthmatic children was statistically significant ( $P < .01$ ). Severity of asthma was predicted at 7.0 percent. The impacts of asthma disease on families was statistically significant ( $P < .01$ ). These were the only reliable predictors in this study and showed that school-age asthmatic children who have severe asthma impact on themselves and their families

For decreasing the severity of asthmatic attack, these results suggest that nurses should educate school-age asthmatic children and their families about prevention of asthmatic attack, such as avoidance of precipitating factors, and nurses should educate caregivers about how to observe signs and symptoms of asthmatic attacks and how to provide primary care when children have an asthmatic attack.