

4036716RAAN / M: MAJOR: ADULT NURSING; M.N.S.(ADULT NURSING)

KEY WORDS: CAREGIVING DEMANDS / STRESS / COPING / FAMILY/
CAREGIVER / CEREBROVASCULAR DISEASE

SUWALUK WONGJUNLONGSIN: CAREGIVING DEMANDS, STRESS,
AND COPING OF FAMILY CAREGIVERS OF PATIENTS WITH
CEREBROVASCULAR DISEASE. THESIS ADVISOR: YUPAPIN SIRAPO-
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PUTWATANA, B.Sc. (NURSING), M.S. (Trop.Med.), D.Sc. (Nutrition) 97p. ISBN
974-663-086-5

The purposes of this study were to explore caregiving demands, stress, and coping strategies of family caregivers of patients with cerebrovascular disease (CVD). Lazarus and Folkman's theory of stress, appraisal, and coping was used as a conceptual framework for this study. A convenience sample of 100 family caregivers who lived with, and provided the majority of care to patients with CVD, was obtained from the out-patient clinic at Prasat Neurological Hospital Institute from February 10, 1999 to April 30, 1999. Six instruments were used in this study: the Demographic Questionnaire, the ADL index (Modified Barthel ADL and Chula ADL), the Brain Impairment Behavior Inventory (BIBI), the Stress Scale, the Jalowiec Coping Scale (JCS), and the Set Test. The time frame during which the caregivers were asked to recall their caregiving demands, stress, and coping strategies was 2 weeks before responding. All data were collected by the researcher and analyzed by using SPSS for Windows program.

The caregivers reported that their caregiving demands included an average of 6.7 disabilities on the BAI, 4.6 disabilities on the CAI, and 12.4 behavior problems. The caregivers appraised low level of stress from providing care for BAI and CAI disabilities, and low to moderate stress from dealing with behavior problems. All caregivers used a combination of coping strategies from three coping subscales: confrontive, palliative, and emotive coping. The proportion of coping strategies the caregivers used from the highest to the lowest was confrontive, palliative and emotive strategies. The results can be used to plan specific nursing interventions for the family caregivers of CVD patients.