

4037123 NSMC/M : MAJOR : MATERNAL AND CHILD NURSING ; M.N.S.

(MATERNAL AND CHILD NURSING)

KEY WORDS : MATERNAL BEHAVIORS / PRE-SCHOOL CHILDREN / ASTHMA
SUKANYA SRANGNOK: FACTORS INFLUENCING MATERNAL
BEHAVIORS IN CARING FOR PRE-SCHOOL ASTHMATIC CHILDREN. THESIS
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DEVELOPMENT) , VIRAT KLAIBUBPHA, M.Ed. 82 P. ISBN 974-663-532-8

A descriptive study was conducted to investigate factors influencing maternal behaviors in caring for pre-school asthmatic children. A purposive sample of 180 mothers of pre-school asthmatic children, were selected in the allergy clinic of four hospitals. A Demographic Data Form, Maternal Behavior in Caring for Pre-School Asthmatic Children Questionnaire, Maternal Perception of Asthma Questionnaire, and Social Support Questionnaire were used to collect data. Descriptive statistics and stepwise multiple regression were used to analyze the data.

The findings of this study showed that mothers of pre-school asthmatic children practiced caring for asthmatic children at a highly appropriate ($\bar{X} = 2.62$, $SD = .16$). But in one item of mother's behaviors (cleaning bedware of asthmatic children), mothers practiced at a lowly appropriate ($\bar{X} = .50$, $SD = .84$). Mother's education level, maternal perception of asthma, and mother's age were predictors of maternal behaviors in caring for pre-school asthmatic children. These variables accounted for 23.2% of the variability of maternal behaviors in caring for pre-school asthmatic children.

This study indicated that the nurses should undertake the role of health educator more in order to educate the mothers of asthmatic children. Especially, the mothers should be educated to perceive the risk or allergens of children's attacks, and the mothers should be promoted to practice behaviors in caring for asthmatic children in order to promote their children development.