

Thesis Title	Factors Associated with Maternal Behaviors about the Care of Acute Respiratory Infections in Children under Five Years in Urban and Rural Areas: Nakhon Ratchasima Province
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Abstract

This study used a cross-sectional study approach. The main purpose of the study was to determine differences in maternal behaviors related to home care of children under 5 years of age with Acute Respiratory Infections, between urban and rural areas in Nakhon Rachasima Province, and to study the factors associated with these differences. During the study period of June to December 1995, mothers with children under five years old with Acute Respiratory Infections were stratified into two groups:

- mothers with a residence in an urban area, attending Maharaj Nakhon Ratchasima Hospital (200 cases)
- mothers with a residence in a rural area (Chock Chai District), attending 9 health centers: 1. Plub-pla health center 2. Ta-aung health center 3. Dan-guaen health center 4. Ta-lad-kaua health center 5. Ta-ja-klung health center 6. La-lom health center 7. Pa-ko health center 8. Jod health center 9. Knong-prig health center (200 cases).

Descriptive data were collected through in-depth interviews with those mothers.

The results showed significant differences in maternal behaviors between urban and rural areas. By using Stepwise multiple regression, the analysis showed that significant factors were current residential area, maternal education, perception of severity of ARI in children, perception of benefit of treatment of ARI, receiving information from newspaper and television. Stepwise Multiple Regression Analysis was also used to examine factors associated with maternal behavior within each of the residential subgroups (urban and rural areas). This analysis showed that significant factors for mothers in urban area were maternal education, perception of benefit of treatment of ARI, perception of barrier to care seeking for ARI in children, receiving information from television, while the significant factors for mothers in rural areas were business occupation, perception of severity of ARI in children, receiving information from newspaper and health workers.