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Thesis Title	Utilization of ORS by Mothers in the Treatment of Acute Diarrhoeal Diseases Among Children Under 5 Years of Age
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Date of Graduation	12 May B.E. 2540 (1997)

ABSTRACT

A cross-sectional descriptive study was conducted in Nakorn Pathom Province at Regional Hospital (govt.) and Srivichai Hospital (pvt.) during the period of 13 March to 4 April 1997. The study sample was 107 mothers who had children under 5 years of age suffering from diarrhoeal diseases who attended OPD and clinic during the study period. The data was collected by using structured questionnaire.

The general objective of the study was to identify the utilization of ORS by mothers in the treatment of acute

diarrhoeal diseases among children under 5 years of age. The specific objective was to identify the factors affecting the utilization of ORS including demographic/socio economic characteristics of mothers, knowledge, attitude and practice of mothers, perception of mothers regarding the availability of ORS, and perception of mothers towards advice/information on ORS given by health workers/mass media.

In this study, it was found that ORS utilization by mothers for treating diarrhoea was influenced with mothers knowledge & attitude towards ORS and also with mothers perception about advice/information on ORS given by health workers/mass media along with mothers' knowledge about diarrhoea irrespective of highest ORS utilization (94.4 percent).

Therefore, this research study strongly recommends that education and training to mothers along with the health workers for appropriate and adequate utilization of ORS in the management of diarrhoeal diseases is a must.