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Thesis Title Coping pattern and perception
 of family well-being in mother of
 children with acute lymphoblastic
 leukemia

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Abstract

The purpose of this research was twofold, 1) to study coping pattern and perception of family well-being and 2) to determine the effects of selected factors of age, education, occupation, family income, and phase of antileukemia therapy on coping pattern. Purposive sampling was used to obtain 60 mothers of children with acute lymphoblastic leukemia who were hospitalized or attended for follow up at the hematology clinic of Ramathibodi and Chulalongkorn hospital during December 1989 till March 1990. Coping pattern was measured by Coping Health Inventory for Parent (CHIP) developed by McCubbin, et al. Which consisted of three patterns : 1) family integration and an optimistic definition of the situation 2) social support, self-esteem and psychological stability 3) communication with other parents and consultation with health team. Family well-being was measured by The Family Well-being Assessment developed by Caldwell which consisted of three components: 1) family structure 2) family role process 3) family vulnerability.

The results of the study indicated that mother used all three coping patterns significantly different ($p < .001$). Family integration and an optimistic definition of the situation was the highest, and the social support, self-esteem and psychological stability was the lowest. For The Family Well-being, the mother reported perceived the family structure component significantly higher than the family role and family vulnerability ($p < .01$). When the relationship of coping pattern with family well-being was examined, it was found that perceived well-being in family structure was positively correlated with coping pattern of family integration and an optimistic definition of the situation, $r(58) = .38$, $p < .01$, communication with other parents and consultation with health team, $r(58) = .22$, $p < .05$ and total coping pattern, $r(58) = .24$, $p < .05$. In addition coping pattern of family integration and an optimistic definition of the situation was positively correlated with perceived total family well-being, $r(58) = .26$, $p < .05$. There were no statistically significant difference in coping pattern among difference age group, education, occupation, family income, and phase of antileukemia therapy, except agricultural mothers used coping pattern of communication with other parents and consultation with health team significantly lower than other occupations.

The results of the study mostly support the conceptualization of family adaptation proposed by McCubbin, et al.