

4036693 RAMN/M : MAJOR: MATERNITY AND NEWBORN NURSING;

M.N.S. (MATERNITY AND NEWBORN NURSING)

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PRANEE PONGRUA: EFFECT OF NURSING SUPPORT ON ANXIETY
OF PREGNANT WOMEN WITH PREGNANCY – INDUCED HYPERTENSION.

THESIS ADVISORS: ORAPIN CHAREONPOL, B.Sc., M.Ed., MALEE

LERDMALEEWONG, B.Sc., M.N. 78 P. ISBN 974-663-832-7

The purpose of this quasi-experimental research was to determine the effect of nursing support on anxiety of pregnant women with Pregnancy-Induced Hypertension (PIH). Lazarus and Folkman's stress appraisal, and coping theory was used as the conceptual framework for this study. Purposive sampling was used to select 60 pregnant women with PIH who were admitted in the Obstetrics and Gynecology Department, Faculty of Medicine, Ramathibodi Hospital, during June to November, 1999. All participants signed consent forms. The samples were divided into control and experimental groups with 30 subjects in each group. The experimental group received both nursing support and usual nursing care, whereas the control group received only usual nursing care. State anxiety was measured twice by the State Trait Anxiety Inventory (STAI form Y-1) (Spielberger, et al., 1977). The first measurement was taken within the first day of hospitalization. The second measurement was taken on the third day of hospitalization. The data was analyzed with SPSS/FW program.

The findings showed that the mean score of anxiety in the experimental group, after receiving nursing support and usual nursing care was statistically significantly less than before receiving nursing support ($p < .001$). The mean score of anxiety in the experimental group after receiving nursing support and usual nursing care was statistically significantly less than in the control group ($p < .001$). Therefore, the effect of nursing support could reduce anxiety in hospitalized pregnant women.