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**KEY WORD : FACTOR / DISCHARGE PLANNING / PROFESSIONAL NURSE**

**JINTANA TANGCHAWALIT : FACTORS INFLUENCING THE PROFESSIONAL NURSES' DISCHARGE PLANNING IN PRIVATE HOSPITALS OF CHARITY FOUNDATIONS IN BANGKOK METROPOLIS. THESIS ADVISOR : THONGLAW DEJTHAI, D.H.Sc. VASON SILPASUWAN, Dr.P.H., PEERA KRUEKRUENJIT, M.Sc.(BIOS), NAPAPORN KAEWNIMITCHAI, R.N., Ed.D. 171 p. ISBN 974-589-476-1**

The objectives of this survey research were to study the professional nurses' discharge planning and to analyze relationships between demographic factors, job performance factors, hospital support factors and the professional nurses' discharge planning. In addition, selective factors were determined to predict the efficiency of professional nurses' discharge planning. A random sample of 176 professional nurses in four private hospitals of charity foundations in Bangkok Metropolis were included in the study. A self - administered questionnaire was designed to collect the data. Descriptive statistics, Pearson's product moment correlation coefficient, Chi-square and stepwise multiple regression analysis were also used to test the research hypothesis.

It was found that 58.3 percent of the professional nurses' discharge planning were in the middle level. Nurses' job performance and hospital support in terms of attitudes toward discharge planning, multidisciplinary team participation, hospital policies, nursing division structure, job description, leadership, communication, record system and work environment were positively correlated with the professional nurses' discharge planning. About 59.8 percent of the variance of the professional nurses' discharge planning could be significantly predicted by record system, multidisciplinary team, nurses' attitudes toward discharge planing, job description, and work environment.

It is recommended from the study that in order to increase the efficiency of discharge planning, nurse administrators should have clear policies on discharge planning. Improving nurses' attitudes toward discharge planning, and developing a record system must be focused on along with full support from head nurses and multidisciplinary teams.