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 JARATPRON KILATISAVEE : COMMUNICATION STRATEGIES FOR PSYCHOLOGICAL
 REHABILITATION OF THE MENTALLY ILL PATIENTS. THESIS ADVISOR : ASSO.PROF.
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This research aimed to study communication strategies for psychological rehabilitation of the mentally ill patients also to observe conversation situations both in hospital and family including studies of the patients themselves through group conversation in order to find fantasy themes about their expectation of their family, the social life in hospital. After that the data were integrated together with data from relevant documents to set up training activities entitled "communication strategies for psychological rehabilitation of the mentally ill patients." for 6 relatives who took care of each 6 patients. Then the activities were evaluated to find the level of acceptance by observing how the patients and their relatives could use positive communication and the adjustment of the patients. This research collected data using qualitative multiple methodology.

The results showed that :

1. Psychiatric teams used interpersonal communication strategies by adjusting them to the patient's symptom and to the situation thereby resulting in trust, confidence and good relationship between the team and the patients which helped the patient feel relaxed and better self – adjusted.
2. Fantasy themes of the patients showed expectations that they wanted to be accepted as valuable persons who could contribute to the family. They expected warm relationship in the family, acceptance from the society which encouraged better adjustment. In the hospital, the patients wanted more talk with psychiatric team and needed good treatment to them like relatives. They would like to feel comfortable so that this hospital would really be a place for rehabilitation of the mentally ill patients.
3. The relatives still had problems in managing the conflict. They still did not understand the patients and symptoms. The communication problems found were criticism, complaints and avoidance of communication with patients so they could not terminate misunderstanding mutually.
4. The researcher then summarized the data and set up activities to strengthen the relationship in the family. During the activities the members of the group cooperated well, contributing ideas, sharing experience and giving each other some advice. Evaluation after the training showed that the relatives understood communication for psychological rehabilitation of the mentally ill better. The follow-up evaluation found that the relatives could use the knowledge learned from the training in their daily lives to create good relationship between the patients and their family because of more positive communication and better understanding of each other's feelings. One important finding was that the patients wanted to be communicated with as normal rather than abnormal and problem-generating people.