Thesis Title	Infections and Associated Factors in Children at Donkaew Child Development Center Chiang Mai Province
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Abstract

Infections in children at day care center can preventable and be able to control if providers have adequate knowledge and good care practices. The purpose of this descriptive research was to study the incidence rate, the distribution of infections and associated factors in children at Donkaew Child Development Center Chiang Mai Province. The population consisted of 117 children attending at the center during May 1 to July 31, 1997. The instruments used for data

collection were child centers' record form, observational form and surveillance form. These forms were developed and the data were collected by the researcher. Data were analyzed by using descriptive statistics and content analysis.

The results of the study revealed that 112 children or 95 percent out of 117 children had been infected which was 406 times of infection, the incidence rate was 347 times per 100 children.

Toddlers (1- 3 years old) had been infected 284 times, the incidence rate was 405.7 times per 100 children, while preschool aged (more than 3 years old- 6 years old) had been infected 122 times, the incidence rate was 259.6 times per 100 children.

The most common infection was upper respiratory tract infection (common cold) 78.6 percent, followed by eye infection (conjunctivitis) 8.5 percent, skin and soft tissue infection (impetigo) 5.1 percent and gastrointestinal tract infection (diarrhea) 4.3 percent.

Associated factors to infections including nutritional status, vaccination, and caring behavior of provider were determined. It was found that children who were in normal nutritional status had been infected 95.3 percent, first degree malnutrition children had been infected 96.7 percent,and second degree malnutrition children had been infected 100 percent. For the vaccination, children who received complete vaccination had been infected 95.5 percent while those who were incomplete vaccination had been infected 100 percent. The caring behavior of providers, it was found that the activities of soiled clothes changing, food preparation, after using toilet, they performed correctly at 20, 25,and 30 percent respectively. The isolation of sick

children, food handling procedures, child's hygienic care and sharing of equipments were 100 percent incorrectly performed.

This study showed that infection in children was an important problem. Providers and health care personnel should pay more attention to this issue and take neccessary procedures to prevent infection in children at the center. By implementing the effective surveillance system and infection control program, rate of infection in children may be reduce.