

# The Effect of a Supportive - educative Nursing Program on Maternal Behavior in Care for Children with Acute Respiratory Infection

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## ABSTRACT

**Purpose:** Effect of a supportive-educative nursing program on maternal behavior in care for children with acute respiratory infection.

**Design:** Quasi-experimental research.

**Methods:** The sample comprised 47 mothers who had children aged less than five years with acute respiratory infection. These children were admitted to Pediatric Departments at Prapokklao Hospital. The 23 mothers in the control group received routine nursing care and the 24 mothers in the experimental group received the supportive-educative nursing program consisting of 2-day meetings with the researcher, distribution of a booklet of the care for children with acute respiratory infection, and a telephone follow-up after the meeting. Data were collected by using a maternal care behavior questionnaire and analyzed using frequency, percentage, chi-square, and t-test.

**Main findings:** The mean scores of maternal care behavior in the experimental group were significantly higher than that in the control group ( $t = -11.13, p < .001$ )

**Conclusion and recommendations:** The supportive-educative nursing program effectively improved maternal behavior in care for children with acute respiratory infection. It is very important to implement the program on the first day of the admission. Good relationship between nurses and mothers built on the first day will help enhance continuous learning and confidence in providing care.

**Keywords:** acute respiratory infection, self-care behavior, supportive-educative nursing system