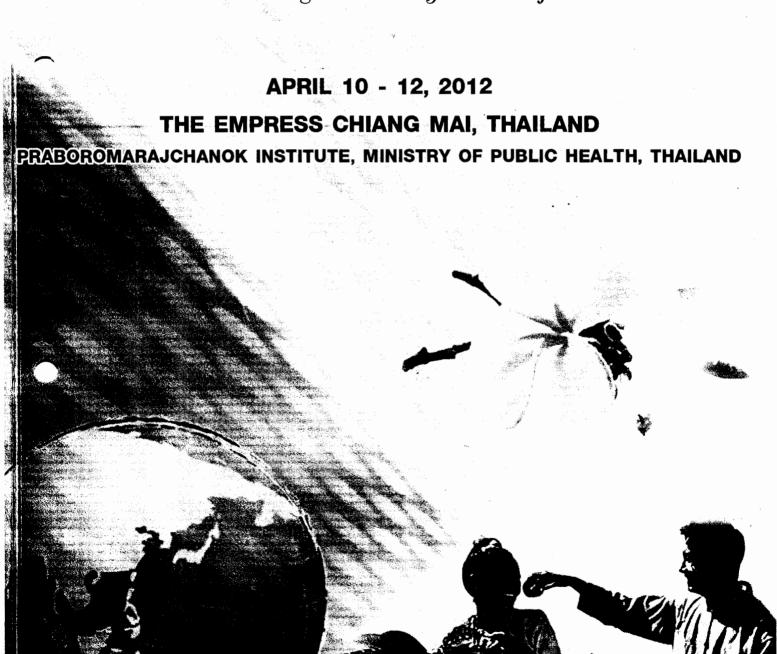






Working Together for Health Security

4 th International Nursing and Public Health Conference Thailand























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OB303: Success Factors in Caring People with Physical Disability to Have Quality of Life: A Study in Three Sub-Districts in Thailand

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Abstract

Backgrounds: Recently, Thai government has driven the policy of improvement the quality of life of disabled people. However, the information in quality of life of those is rare. Objectives: This study aimed to examine quality of life among people with disabilities living in Kungnumwon, kungkratin, and Banrai Sub-districts, Ratchaburi province and to explore success factors influencing their quality of life. Methods: This is a descriptive study using mixed methods. The samples were 72 people with disabilities, family care-givers, community leaders, health providers, and village health volunteers (VHVs). Quality of Life questionnaire and semi-structure interviews were used in collecting the data. The researcher asked 42 disabled people using simple random sampling to rate the questionnaires. Twelve disabled people, 12 family care-givers, 6 community leaders, 4 health providers, and 8 village health volunteers (VHVs) participated in the interview sessions those were selected by using purposive sampling. The quantitative data were analysed using percentage, mean, and standard deviation. Qualitative data analysed using thematic analysis. Results: The findings showed that people with disabilities rated their quality of life at medium and good levels. Four themes of success factors were emerged: individual, family, community, and social. Firstly, the persons who lived with disabilities longer, accepted their lives, tried to live independently presented that they had good level of quality of life. Secondly, the family care-givers helped much in living. Thirdly, the community had participation through the government officers, friends, and neighbours. The rural farm surrounding helped in seeking food easily. Lastly, beliefs in Karma Doctrine helped in accepting the disability situations. Thai culture of gratefulness to the parents and older people led the offspring to look after the older persons with disabilities. Conclusion: The disabled people, families, communities and cultures were supporting factors in developing quality of life. Recommendations: It is recommended that the government have policies such as career training and study for those living with disabled persons equally. The people with disabilities, families, and communities should be empowered in improving the quality of life.

Keywords: disabilities, quality of life, family caregivers, culture

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