ABSTRACT

The purpose of this study was to find out the relationship between mother's socio-demographic factors, knowledge, perception and child care practices towards ARI with their children with ARI under five years of age.

A cross sectional survey was conducted at Ratchaburi Regional Hospital and Photharam District Hospital in indoor patients and outdoor patients of pediatric department, Ratchaburi Province, Thailand. Questionnaires were used for data collection. The sample size was 151 mothers of under 5 years children with ARI. For data analysis, descriptive statistical analysis was done to determine the frequency and percentage of variables. Regarding associations used chi-square test and p-value. The level of significance was 0.05.

After analyzing data, it was found that 14.6% of mothers had good knowledge, 71.5% had fair knowledge and 13.9% had poor knowledge on ARI. It was also found that 17.9%, 68.2% & 13.9% of mothers had good, fair and poor practice to their children respectively. The study results showed that there was a significant association between alive group of children and child care practices (p-value= 0.001), smoking of family member and child care practices (p-value= 0.044) and also person of smoking with child care practices (p-value = 0.047). Logically there is no association between smoking of the family member and smoking person with child care practice, only statistically showed relationship. Smoking act as a predisposing factors on the occurrence of ARI. But the results failed to show any significantly association between othes socio demographic factors, mother’s perception, knowledge with child care practices.

It was recommended that health education should be enhance to raise the mother’s knowledge and perception for good care of their children. Also activities of the health personnel’s should be more integrated with this aspect. Further studies were also recommended on this aspects selecting not only the hospital but it should include the community.