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AFTER CESAREAN SECTION

CHAYAPORN WAIYANETTA: PAIN EXPERIENCE AND PAIN  
MANAGEMENT IN WOMEN AFTER CESAREAN SECTION. THESIS  
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The purposes of this descriptive study are a) to compare pain severity among each of three days after cesarean section ; b) to compare pain's interference with patients' lifestyle among each of three days after cesarean section ; c) to identify pain management by physicians, nurses, and patients themselves in the first three days after cesarean section ; d) to measure patients' satisfaction with the results of pain management by professional health providers and patients themselves. The symptom management of Larson and others was used as the conceptual framework for this study. Purposive sampling was used to select 120 primigravidas women after cesarean section who were admitted at Postpartum wards of Rajvithi Hospital during December 1998 and February 1999. The instrument used for data collection was the questionnaire which gathered demographic data and pain data. The questionnaire was modified from Detroit Medical Center and Wayne State University.

The study found that the worst pain was most severe on the first day after cesarean section. The mean score of the worst pain was classified as a severe level (M = 9.48, SD = 0.935, Range = 7-10). The life style which was interfered with most was baby care. The pain management used most often by the patients was asking for pain medication and touching the abdomen. The physicians often used pain management by prescribing pain medication and paying attention to patients' pain, whereas nurses often used pain management by providing pain medication for patients and advise about proper breathing technique. Patients' satisfaction was assessed as moderate level of pain management by professional health providers and patients themselves.