

**DIARRHEA PREVENTIVE BEHAVIOR OF MOTHERS WITH
CHILDREN AT AGE BETWEEN TWO AND FIVE YEARS
OLD AT SAO MAI SCHOOL, CAU GIAY DISTRICT,
HANOI CITY, VIETNAM**



**A THESIS SUBMITTED IN PARTIAL FULFILLMENT OF
THE REQUIREMENTS FOR THE DEGREE OF
MASTER OF PRIMARY HEALTH CARE MANAGEMENT
FACULTY OF GRADUATE STUDIES
MAHIDOL UNIVERSITY
2009**

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ABSTRACT

This cross-sectional study was performed to explore the diarrhea preventive behavior of mothers with children age 2-5 years old at Sao Mai school Cau Giay district in Hanoi city, Vietnam.

Two hundred and sixty mothers were interviewed face- to- face during January, 2009. The interview included information about socio-demographic factors, perception related to diarrhea, cues to action on diarrhea preventive behavior and diarrhea preventive behavior.

The analysis indicated that the majority of mothers were 30-39 years old (59.2%), and had graduated with bachelor's degree (55%). Also 46.1% of them had a family income between \$300 and \$499 per month. Most of them were company employees (65.3%) with a small family size (4 people or less) (85%) and 68% of mothers had only one child age between 2-5 years old in the family. Most of mothers had positive perception concerning the prevention of diarrhea. Also, they had a good understanding on the susceptibility of diarrhea diseases, and they understood the severity of diarrhea, but most of the mothers had a poor understanding about barriers preventive diarrhea, 63.4% of the mothers had a high level of understanding concerning cues to action related to diarrhea preventive behavior. The results showed that there was an association between the mother's diarrhea preventive behavior and mothers' understanding about benefits of preventive behavior (p-value=0.01), and source of information about preventive diarrhea, both health education program (p-value=0.013) and health personnel (p-value=0.033). It is suggested that childhood diarrhea preventive behavior at Sao Mai school should be promoted and the negative perception concerning barriers toward preventive behavior should be changed through various mean that are effective among this group.

KEY WORD(S) : DIARRHEA/ MOTHERS/ PREVENTIVE BEHAVIOR/ CHILDREN AT AGE BETWEEN TWO AND FIVE YEARS OLD.

90 pages.