QUALITY OF LIFE AMONG MASTECTOMY PATIENTS RECEIVING RADIOTHERAPY

LIANG XIAOKUN

A THESIS SUBMITTED TO THE GRADUATE SCHOOL IN

PARTIAL FULFILLMENT OF THE REQUIREMENTS

FOR THE DEGREE OF

MASTER OF NURSING SCIENCE
IN MEDICAL AND SURGICAL NURSING

GRADUATE SCHOOL
CHIANG MAI UNIVERSITY
MAY 1998

QUALITY OF LIFE AMONG MASTECTOMY PATIENTS RECEIVING RADIOTHERAPY

LIANG XIAOKUN

A THESIS HAS BEEN APPROVED TO BE A PARTIAL FULFILLMENT OF THE REQUIREMENTS FOR THE DEGREE OF MASTER OF NURSING SCIENCE IN MEDICAL AND SURGICAL NURSING

EXAMINING COMMITTEE

achara Intenthacan CHAIRMAN
(Assistant Professor Dr. Achara Sukonthasarn)
Chanokporn Sucamwang MEMBER (Assistant Professor Dr. Khanokporn Sucamvang)
(Assistant Professor Dr. Khanokporn Sucamvang)
C. Thoreclai MEMBER
(Associate Professor Chaweewan Thongchai)
Sukanya Parisunyakul MEMBER
(Associate Professor Dr. Sukanya Parisunyakul)
Lue Crigin MEMBER
(Professor Xue Wujun)

MAY 18, 1998

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

I would like to express my sincere appreciation and high regard to Assistant Professor Dr. Achara Sukonthasarn, my major thesis advisor, for her extraordinary help, guidance, and careful attention in all aspects of this study. I am very glad to have the opportunity to study under her guidance. Special appreciation is also given to Assistant Professor Dr. Khanokporn Sucamvang, my coadvisor, for her continuous supervision and kindly suggestion; and equally thank goes to my academic advisor, Assistant Professor Thiphaphorn Tungamnuay, for her kindly support and deeply concerns. Appreciation is also qiven Thongchai, Associate Professor Chaweewan Associate Professor Dr. Sukanya Parisunyakul, and Professor Wujun, my thesis examiners, for their suggestive and helpful comments.

Special appreciation is extended to the people in my home university: Dr. Ba Denian, the president of Peking Union Medical College (PUMC), Professor Shen Ning, Dean of the school of nursing, PUMC, and Professor Pan Mengzhao, Former Dean of school of nursing, PUMC, for their

recommendations that provide the opportunity to study this program and support throughout my study.

Most sincerely, I wish to express my appreciation to Dr. Carol Estwing Ferrans who is at the University of Illinois, Chicago, for giving me the permission to use her Quality of Life Index as the instrument as well as valuable comments and information for my study. I extend my gratitude to the staff of the outpatient department of radiotherapy at oncology hospital of Peking Union Medical College (PUMC), the first and second teaching hospital of Beijing Medical University (BMU) where this study was conducted, for their cooperation and assistance in data collection.

The China Medical Board of New York Inc. is acknowledged for providing financial support throughout the program. Chiang Mai University and Xi'an Medical University are also acknowledged for conducting POHNED program.

Deeply thanks go to my parents, for their support, love, and caring for my daughter throughout my study. My special thanks extend to my husband, Mr. Cheng Yongying, for his understanding, valuable guidance, assistance, and emotional support in making this study possible, and many

thanks to my pretty sweetest daughter, Chen Jing, who understands and supports her mother throughout the study.

Liang Xiaokun