

FAMILY SUPPORT AND QUALITY OF LIFE AMONG  
HEMODIALYSIS PATIENTS

ZHANG JINGPING

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  
CHIANGMAI UNIVERSITY

MAY 1997

FAMILY SUPPORT AND QUALITY OF LIFE AMONG  
HEMODIALYSIS PATIENTS

ZHANG JINGPING

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

EXAMINING COMMITTEE

*Warunee Fongkaew* ..... CHAIRMAN  
Assistant Professor Dr. Warunee Fongkaew

*Nitaya Pinyokham* ..... MEMBER  
Assistant Professor Nitaya Pinyokham

*Achara Sukonthasarn* ..... MEMBER  
Assistant Professor Achara Sukonthasarn

*Ratanawadee Chontawan* ..... MEMBER  
Assistant Professor Ratanawadee Chontawan

*Yang Lan* ..... MEMBER  
Associate Professor Yan Lan

*Tang Yi Fei* ..... MEMBER  
Professor Tang YiFei

May 19, 1996

### III

#### ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

First of all, I would like to express my deep appreciation and sincere gratitude to my major advisor, Assistant Professor Dr. Warunee Fonglaew, for her guidance and intellectual support throughout this study. I am very fortunate to be her student. Appreciation is also given to my co-advisor, Assistant Professor Nitaya Pinyokham for her kind support, and to my academic advisor Assistant Professor Dr. Puangpayom Panya for her kindness and support.

I would like to thank my home university advisor, Professor Dr. Wu Zhongqi and my advisors in Xi'an Medical University, Professor Tang Yifei, and Associate Professor Yan Lan,

I also thank Assistant Professor Dr. Ratanawadee Chontawan, Assistant Professor Dr. Sujitra Tiansawad, Assistant Professor Dr. Achara Sukonthasarn, my proposal and thesis examiners, for their meaningful comments and suggestions. I appreciate Miss Suthatip Upalabut and Ms Zhang Haiyan for their permission to use the instruments.

I would like to thank the people in my home university: Professor Zhou Changju, Professor Liu Huyou,

#### IV

Dr. Peng Youming, and Ms Li Lezhi for their valuable suggestions and help. I wish to thank all staff nurses from the hemodialysis unit of the First, Second, and Third hospitals of Hunan Medical University and Hunan People Hospital for their support. I appreciate Dr. Chai Taishen for his assistance in data analysis.

Very special thanks is extended to my husband, Mr. Shen Xianjun and my son for their understanding, love, encouragement and emotional support. My thanks also to my parents, my parents-in-law, my sisters, and my brothers for their love and great support throughout my study.

I extend my appreciation to the China Medical Board of New York for providing financial support throughout the program, and to all staff in the Faculty of Nursing of Chiang Mai University, Xi'An Medical University, and my home University for conducting this program.

Finally, the sincerest appreciation goes to the hemodialysis clients. Without their participation, I would not have been able to complete this study.

Zhang JingPing