

## CHAPTER 5

### CONCLUSION AND RECOMMENDATIONS

A descriptive design was employed to describe the dependent-care performance of mothers for their children with any type of cancer based on Orem's theory in Chengdu, China. A purposive sampling method was used to select 50 mothers, and one instrument was used to collect data of demographic information and dependent-care performance of Chinese mothers. In this chapter, the conclusion of the findings are presented, implications and recommendations for nursing are also made.

#### **Conclusion**

Based on the findings of this study, the following conclusions are drawn:

1. More than half of Chinese mothers of hospitalized children with cancer performed dependent-care activities at a high level.

2. More than half of Chinese mothers had moderate levels of dependent-care performance in universal and developmental dimensions, and had high levels in health deviation dependent-care performance.

## **Implication of Findings**

### **Implications for nursing practice**

The findings of this study provide important implications for nursing practice. The findings provide information for nurses to better understand dependent-care performances of Chinese mothers for their children with cancer in different dimensions. Also, nurses can use the findings as guideline to assess dependent-care agent performance of mothers for children with cancer and to improve mothers' caring for their children both in hospital and at home. For instance, if the mother performs dependent-care activities at a high level, nurses should reinforce and encourage her consistently to maintain a high level of care. For moderate care, nurses should identify the causes of why the mother did not perform at a high level then establish nursing interventions such as establishing regular and systematic health education, encouraging and providing appropriate advice or assistance.

### **Implications for nursing education**

The findings of this study provide implications for nurse educators to stress the nurse's role in promoting the dependent-care performance of mothers, and also remind nurse educators to consider dependent-care in developing course content of pediatric nursing.

### **Implications for further nursing research**

The study results provide nurses with baseline information of dependent-care performance for further study of the factors influencing dependent-care performance of Chinese mothers for children with cancer.

### **Limitations of the study**

The sample was restricted to the mothers of hospitalized children with cancer in the two university hospitals of Hua Xi Medical University. The other limitation is the relatively small sample size. Therefore, the generalization of the findings is limited to this specific population.

### **Recommendations**

Recommendations with regard to further research are as follows.

1. Replication of this study with random selected samples, and larger sample sizes is recommended.

2. A study on dependent-care agent performance of mothers for children with one specific type of cancer especially leukemia is recommended to be done to provide more information for those children.

3. A comparative study on dependent-care performance of mothers and of other persons, such as

fathers, is needed to identify the difference in different dependent-care agents.

4. Correlation with other variables such as caregiver burdens was recommended.

5. Intervention study to promote dependent-care performance is recommended to be conducted.