

TABLE OF CONTENTS

	Page
Acknowledgements	iii
Abstract (Thai)	v
Abstract (English)	vii
Table of Contents	ix
List of Tables	xii
List of Figures	xiv
Chapter 1 Introduction	1
Background and significance of research problem.....	1
Objectives of the study.....	7
Research questions.....	8
Definition of terms.....	8
Chapter 2 Review of Literature	12
Intensive care units and intermediate care units.....	12
Cost of intensive care.....	19
Length of ICU stay.....	30
Factors influencing cost of intensive care and length of ICU stay.....	33
Conceptual framework of the study.....	57
Chapter 3 Methodology	61
Design of the study.....	61
Research setting.....	61

TABLE OF CONTENTS (Continued)

		Page
	Population and sample.....	62
	Instrumentation.....	63
	Quality of the research instruments.....	68
	Ethical considerations.....	70
	Data collection.....	71
	Data analysis.....	75
Chapter 4	Findings and discussion.....	85
	Demographic description of the sample.....	85
	Findings of the research questions.....	92
	Research question 1.....	92
	Research question 2.....	97
	Research question 3.....	97
	Research question 4.....	99
	Research question 5.....	103
	Research question 6.....	108
	Discussion.....	113
Chapter 5	Conclusion, implications, recommendations and limitations	131
	Conclusion.....	131
	Implications and recommendations.....	135
	Limitations.....	140
	References.....	142

TABLE OF CONTENTS (Continued)

	Page
Appendices	167
Appendix A Demographic data form.....	168
Appendix B Simplified Acute Physiology Score II.....	170
Appendix C Nurse staffing data form.....	171
Appendix D Health personnel cost data form.....	172
Appendix E Medical care cost data form.....	174
Appendix F Guideline for completing data collection forms	177
Appendix G Consent form for the participants.....	179
Appendix H Approval letters.....	181
Appendix I The analysis of depreciation costs of buildings and equipments in the study.....	183
Appendix J A summary statement of ICU personnel money's allowance for FY 2005.....	184
Appendix K A summary statement of hospital operating costs and revenues for FY 2005.....	185
Appendix L Bivariate correlations.....	186
Appendix M The distributions of residuals.....	189
Appendix N Lists of experts.....	194
Curriculum vitae	195

LIST OF TABLES

Table		Page
Table 1	Dummy variables used in the multiple regression analysis of the study.....	83
Table 2	Demographic characteristics of the study sample.....	88
Table 3	Number and percentage for nurse staffing measures of the study sample.....	91
Table 4	Range, mean and percentage of ICU personnel working time allocated to the sample for one day.....	91
Table 5	Summary of patient costs per day.....	92
Table 6	Patient costs per patient day of surviving and non surviving patients.....	95
Table 7	Patient cost per survivor for top five diagnoses.....	96
Table 8	Summary of nursing personnel costs per day.....	97
Table 9	Length of ICU stay by types of patients.....	98
Table 10	Length of ICU Stay for surviving patients by diagnostic groups.....	98
Table 11	A summary of the stepwise multiple regression model of nursing personnel cost per patient day.....	102
Table 12	A summary of regression coefficients for the stepwise multiple regression model of nursing personnel cost per patient day.....	102
Table 13	A summary of the stepwise multiple regression model of logarithmically transformed medical care cost per patient day.....	107

LIST OF TABLES (Continued)

Table	Page
Table 14 A summary of regression coefficients for the stepwise multiple regression model of logarithmically transformed medical care cost per patient day.....	107
Table 15 A summary of the stepwise multiple regression model of logarithmically transformed length of ICU stay.....	112
Table 16 A summary of regression coefficients for the stepwise multiple regression model of logarithmically transformed length of ICU stay.....	112

LIST OF FIGURES

Figure	Page
Fig 1 Donabedian's structure-process-outcome (SPO) model.....	57
Fig 2 Conceptual framework of this study.....	59
Fig 3 Mean costs and percentage of different components of costs within health personnel costs per day.....	93
Fig 4 Mean costs and percentage of different components of costs within medical care cost per patient day.....	94
Fig 5 Scatterplot of regression standardized predicted value of nursing personnel cost per patient day and regression standardized residual.....	189
Fig 6 Normal probability plot of regression standardized residual following regression with nursing personnel cost per patient day (dependent variable) and the average ratio of RN to patient, the average ratio of RN to other nursing staff, ICU types and day of patient admission (independent variables).....	189
Fig 7 Scatterplot of regression standardized predicted value of original medical care cost per patient day and regression standardized residual.....	190

LIST OF FIGURES (Continued)

Figure	Page
<p>Fig 8 Normal probability plot of regression standardized residual following regression with original value of medical care cost per patient day (dependent variable) and severity of illness, groups of lymphocyte count and the average ratio of RN to patient (independent variables).....</p>	190
<p>Fig 9 Scatterplot of regression standardized predicted value of logarithmically transformed medical care cost per patient day and regression standardized residual.</p>	191
<p>Fig 10 Normal probability plot of regression standardized residual following regression with logarithmically transformed medical care cost per patient day (dependent variable) and severity of illness, groups of lymphocyte count and the average ratio of RN to patient (independent variables).....</p>	191
<p>Fig 11 Scatterplot of regression standardized predicted value of Original length of ICU stay and regression standardized residual.</p>	192
<p>Fig 12 Normal probability plot of regression standardized residual following regression with original value of length of ICU stay (dependent variable) and types of ICU, severity of illness, the average ratio of RN to patient, groups of albumin level, groups of lymphocyte counts, day of patient admission and time of patient admission (independent variables).....</p>	192

LIST OF FIGURES (Continued)

Figure	Page
<p>Fig 13 Scatterplot of regression standardized predicted value of logarithmically transformed length of ICU stay and regression standardized residual logarithmically transformed length of ICU stay and regression standardized residual</p>	193
<p>Fig 14 Normal probability plot of regression standardized residual following regression with logarithmically transformed length of ICU stay (dependent variable) and types of ICU, severity of illness, the average ratio of RN to patient, groups of albumin level, groups of lymphocyte counts, day of patient admission and time of patient admission (independent variables).....</p>	193