

## Abstracts

This descriptive research study is on the relationships between readiness of community public health nursing practice and mental health. The sample consisted of 42 of 2<sup>nd</sup> class nursing students, Kasem Bundit University. The data was collected during 28-31 March 2016. Tools in this study consisted of 2 parts ; 1) Mental health screening developed by Apichai Mongkol, Dr. (2009) and 2) Readiness of community public health nursing practice questionnaire 2.1) Evaluated self-directed learning readiness with Questionnaire of Self-Directed Learning Readiness Scale (SDLRS) which belonging to Gluglielmino that developed by Kanchana Janprasert (npp.) and 2.2) Evaluated nursing practice skill with Questionnaire of nursing practice developed by Sirijit Juntan and Tunyaluk Bunlikitkul (2012). Data was analyzed, using descriptive statistics of average , percentage, standard deviation, maximum and minimum for patient characteristics and Pearson's correlation for study the relationships between readiness of community public health nursing practice and mental health. It revealed that most of the samples had mental health scores of normal people 61.9% (26 person) and scores of higher people 26.7% (13 person). The average score for mental health was 106 (total scores 162). The average score for accessibility to mental health services was 49 (total scores 60), the maximum scores achieved was 57, minimum scores was 37 and the S.D. was 3.915. The average score for readiness of community public health nursing practice was 222 (total scores 285), the maximum scores achieved was 252, minimum scores was 184 and the S.D. was 17.344. The relationships studied found that readiness of community public health nursing practice related to mental health ( $p < .01$ ,  $r = .414$ ) The results of this study gave an idea for developing the method of teaching community public health nursing by using self-directed learning and team functioning technique for the better of nursing students' mental health through readiness preparing of public health nursing practice. Also further model developing of readiness of community public health nursing practice research should be done to support the result.

**Keyword:** Mental health and Readiness of community public health nursing practice