ABSTRACT

The objective of designing relaxing chair for elderly are 1.) to study elderly behavior, pattern of their living, and needs of chair 2) to generate guideline and design elderly chair for relaxation. This research began with studying multiple journals, papers, and website as reference for generating the research framework which this research focusing on elderly who had low income and lived in suburb area. In the second phase, researchers conducted a survey in selected area, experimented on materials and form of the chair, used questionnaire to discover elders’ needs, then, synthesized the gathered data into chair design selection criteria. Later, these 10 selected chair designs were evaluated by specialists, and 3 chosen chair designs were developed further. The result showed that most of elderly had health issues, e.g. diabetes, hypertension, multiple joints pain, muscle weakness, and also, these elders constantly took medicines, which affected their skeletal and muscle systems, reducing their abilities to do usual routine. Therefore, this chair design focused ergonomics of elderly in sitting posture and encouraged them to do other activities. Moreover, the relaxing chair would help in promoting the image and value of the bamboo material.

The result showed that the relaxing chair design with arms, adjustable back rest that elder can lay down, and adjustable leg rest got the highest satisfaction rate (\( \bar{X} =4.37, \quad \text{S.D.} =0.67 \) ) Also, The functionality and convenience aspects in this particular type of chairs got highest satisfaction rate (\( \bar{X} = 4.67, \text{S.D.}=0.58 \) )

Keyword : chair, relaxing, elderly