



## Anxiety and Information Need in Women with Gynecological Problem before Operation\*

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### Abstract

This study was aimed to assess 1) level of anxiety and information need, 2) correlation between anxiety about anesthesia, operation, overall, and information need, and 3) comparison anxiety and information need between age group, education level, marital status, previous surgery experience, co-morbidity, and diagnosis before operation. Data were collected in 132 women with gynecological problem before operation admitted in Ramathibodi hospital. Two instruments were 1) the personal, disease and operation and 2) the Amsterdam preoperative anxiety and information scale (APAIS) Thai version.

Results found that women with gynecological problem before operation had low level of anxiety in anesthesia ( $\bar{X}=4.53$ ,  $SD = 1.96$ ) and medium level of operation anxiety ( $\bar{X}=6.47$ ,  $SD = 4.41$ ) but they had high level of information need ( $\bar{X}=8.13$ ,  $SD = 1.80$ ). Anesthesia, operation, and overall anxiety had medium significant relationship with information need ( $r = .30$ ,  $p < .01$ ;  $r = .40$ ,  $p < .001$ ; and  $r = .41$ ,  $p < .001$  respectively). Age group, co-morbidity, and operative experience had different anxiety component and information need with significant at .05 level but education level, marital status, and types of tumor had no different anxiety component and information need at .05 level. These findings can provide data about anxiety components and information need. Health care profession can use these data to reduce anxiety and add enough information in women with gynecological problem before operation effectively especially in younger women with comorbidity and without surgery experiences.

**Keywords:** anxiety, information need, pre operation

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