
The purposes of this study were a) to study the interaction effect of the psychological and social characteristics on efficient psychiatric nursing behavior of nurses and b) to predict the efficient psychiatric nursing behavior from psychological characteristics and social characteristics and analyze at both the whole group and the subgroups levels, as classified by demographic characteristics.

Sample of this study was 235 psychiatric nurses selected by multi stage random sampling. In this study, two groups of independent variables were assessed. The first group was the psychological characteristics, consisting of four variables, namely, favorable attitude towards efficient psychiatric nursing behavior of nurses, four noble sentiments, professional role identity and coping with stress. The second group was the social characteristics, consisting of two variables, namely, nurse socialization and social support. The dependent variable was the efficient psychiatric nursing behavior which was classified into two dimensions, namely, therapy nursing behavior and rehabilitation nursing behavior.

Two important results were found. Firstly, based on the analysis of Two-Way ANOVA, the nurses with high perception of social support and high favorable attitude toward efficient-psychiatric nursing behavior had more efficient psychiatric nursing behavior than their counterparts. Secondly, from the Stepwise Multiple Regression Analysis, psychological and social characteristics predictors, a total of six variables could predict efficient psychiatric nursing behavior at 60.50%. They key predictors were favorable attitude towards efficient psychiatric nursing behavior, professional role identity, and coping with stress.