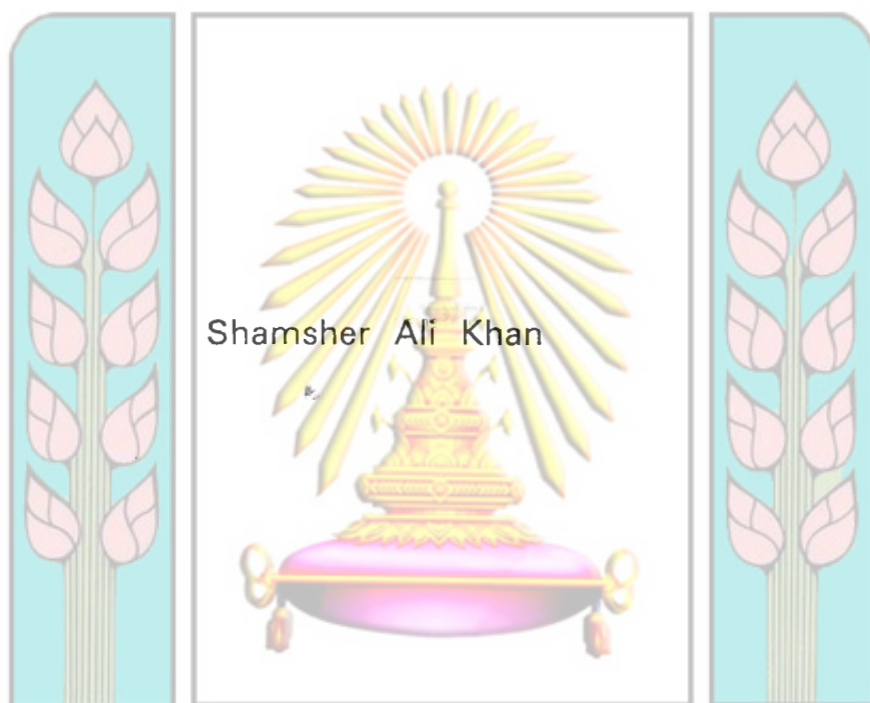


ACUTE RESPIRATORY INFECTIONS IN UNDER FIVE CHILDREN:  
A STUDY OF KNOWLEDGE AND PRACTICES OF MOTHERS  
IN URBAN COMMUNITIES, DHAKA.



วิทยาลัยวิทยาศาสตร์สาธารณสุข  
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## Abstract

Acute respiratory infections in under five children: A study of knowledge and practices of mothers in urban communities, Dhaka, Bangladesh.

**Objectives:** This study will assess the existing level of knowledge and care seeking of mothers of under five children with ARI, the ability of mothers to recognize important signs of severe ARI.

**Methods:** Data will be gathered, in a community based cross sectional descriptive study, in urban communities of Dhaka city. Data will be based on a sample of 750 urban mothers who have under five children with ARI. Sample size will be taken from different wards of Dhaka city on simple random basis.

**Data exercise:** A pilot study, a data gathering exercise, a qualitative and quantitative approach, which includes open ended interview was done, for exploring the feasibility of my proposed research study. Eleven mothers and eleven health care providers were interviewed.

**Results:** Most mothers had traditional beliefs as to the cause of ARI, with only a minority knowing the cause. Few mothers knew signs and symptoms of pneumonia, the majority had not experienced the danger signs, fast breathing and chest indrawing and could not utilize it. Health care providers think majority mothers considered ARI as a serious illness, but at same time majority mothers could not recognize the signs of ARI.

**Conclusion:** This study suggests :-

1. Mothers need more education and training for their behavioural change.
2. Health workers should be encouraged to visit household in their assigned areas.
3. Mothers home care management should be encouraged.