

## CHAPTER I

### INTRODUCTION



#### BACKGROUND AND RATIONALE

Recently, AIDS is the most important sexually transmitted disease in the world, including Thailand. Actually, health professionals should take care of these patients. Unfortunately, because of its fatal disease in nature without any specific treatment, nurses seem to be unwilling to take care HIV - infected patients.

In Cholburi Hospital, health personnels take care of approximately 470 cases per year (from 1988-1992) of the HIV positive patients. From pilot study, we found that the mean attitude scores among the 10 sampling nurses were 126 out of the total score of 190 which were very low.

In Japan, (Nobuhiro M,1993) they use the new health paradigm, particularly to "living with AIDS" called General Networking Training (GN) to change the attitude towards AIDS patients in health personnel. This technique may be an alternative strategy to improve the attitude of nurses in Cholburi Hospital.

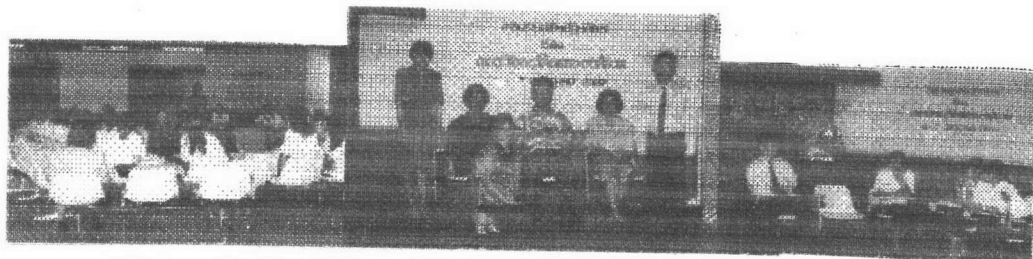


Figure 1 Dr. Maruchi, his team and his teaching.

**RESEARCH QUESTION**

Can General Network Model improve Cholburi Hospital nurses' attitude towards AIDS patients ?

**RESEARCH OBJECTIVES**

**General Objective :**

To develop a training model by using holistic approach for nurses to improve their attitudes in taking care of AIDS patients.

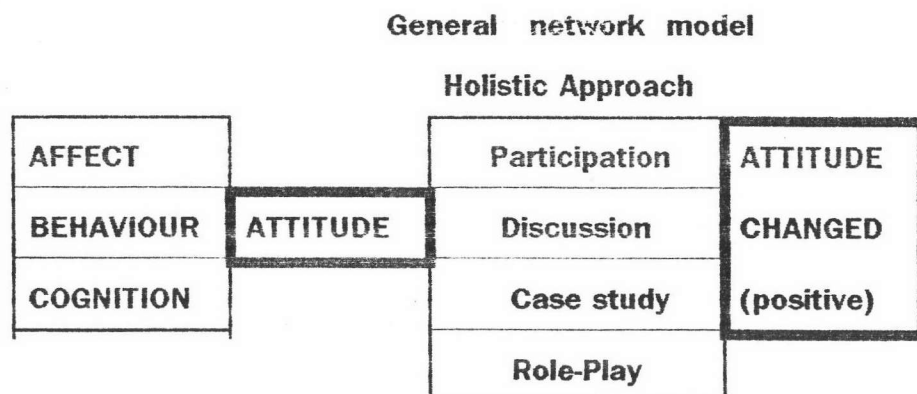
**Specific objective :**

To apply the General Network (GN) Training Model in changing nurses' attitude towards AIDS patients.

**RESEARCH HYPOTHESIS**

**Ho :** General Network Model can not improve Cholburi Hospital Nurses' Attitude towards AIDS patients.

**HA :** General Network Model can improve Cholburi Hospital Nurses' Attitude towards AIDS patients.

**CONCEPTUAL FRAMEWORK**

**ASSUMPTION**

Nurses who participated in this study are representatives of nurses in Cholburi Hospital.

**KEY WORDS**

Hospital nurses' attitude, AIDS patients, General Networking Model.

**OPERATIONAL DEFINITION**

Attitude : A state of mind or opinion regarding AIDS.

AIDS : Acquired Immuno Deficiency Sndrome by Human  
Immunodeficiency Virus (HIV)

General Networking Training (GN): An alternative techniques of training developed by Dr. Maruchi to approach the variety of basic unity of human being by unifying the "THEORY" and "PRACTICE" or "TWO IN ONE CONCEPT" such as "CONCRETE" and "ABSTRACT", "PHYSICAL" and "MENTAL".

**ETHICAL CONSIDERATION**

Considering the nature of this study we think that there is no any ethical problems.

**LIMITATION**

Some variables in this study are subjective. They are rather difficult to be measured with validity and reliability.

**UTILIZATION OF RESULTS**

Expected benefit and implication of this study are as follows:

1. It will be useful to know the level of attitudes towards AIDS' patients of nurses in Cholburi Hospital. From their attitudes we can estimate the caring of the AIDS patients, in macro and micro view and know the problems and methods to solve them.
2. It will be more effective to use the new training method that is two-way communication (from patients to nurses and from nurses to the AIDS' patients). The researcher will know the result of training and attitudes of the nurses.
3. It will prove whether GN training can change the attitudes or not. The nurses will give some ideas for systematization solving which we call "Holistic Approach". If the nurses' attitudes towards AIDS are good, the AIDS patients will receive the proper services.

#### PROBLEMS THAT ARE EXPECTED TO HAPPEN DURING THE RESEARCH

The clients may not tell the truth of their feelings because they are anxious.

#### THE WAY TO SOLVE THE PROBLEM

The way to solve the problem depends on the leader.

1. Many interviewing techniques will be used to cope with those problems, e.g. accept all of the clients' thinking, always mention that their ideas regardless of whether they are wrong or right, are the best information for this study.
2. Not interrupting, being passive, keeping the questions short and simple and using non-directive question encourage the group conversation.
3. The conversation will be recorded. If there is any interesting topic the group will discuss it later.