

FACTORS INFLUENCING CONCERN ABOUT DEATH AND DYING, COPING
WITH DEATH AND DYING, AND SATISFACTION WITH LIFE AMONG
ELDERLY THAI AND CHINESE

Shanya Wanasphitaksakul

ABSTRACT

This study was conducted to examine the factors influencing concern about death and dying, coping with death and dying, and satisfaction with life among elderly Thai and Chinese in Bangkok. This quantitative research is descriptive, multivariate, and cross-sectional in design. A total of 300 elderly respondents were obtained, through convenience sampling. The research instrument consisted of five parts: Demographic variables and psycho-social variables questionnaires; Concern About Death and Dying Checklist (CADD); Coping Checklist (C); and Satisfaction With Life Scale (SWLS).

Results revealed the following findings: 1) that the elderly Thai respondents employed significantly more coping techniques than the elderly Chinese respondents; 2) the demographic variables (gender, age, living arrangement) on their own were not found to be significant predictors of elderly Thai respondents' concerns about death and dying; 3) respondents' age and their perception of social support are significant predictors of their coping behavior; 4) living arrangement, age, and self-efficacy are significant predictors of the elderly Thai respondents' life satisfaction; 5) self-efficacy is a significant predictor of the elderly Chinese respondents' concerns about death and dying; 6) neither the demographic variables nor the psychosocial variables are significant predictors of the respondents' coping techniques; and 7) social support and self-efficacy are significant predictors of the respondents' life satisfaction.