

20th International Conference on

Pediatrics & Primary Care

September 03-04, 2018 | Zurich, Switzerland

Suffering among mothers with low birth weight infants at sick newborn care unit

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This qualitative research was aimed to explore suffering among mothers with low birth weight infants. The participants consisted of 24 mothers with low birth weight infants at sick newborn care unit. In-depth interview was used to collect data at the regional public hospital in Eastern Thailand. Content analysis was performed for data analysis. The findings revealed five themes of mothers' suffering such as mothers' suffering characteristics: anxiety/stress, sadness, sleepless, and no appetite; causes of mothers's suffering: fear from complication and death of infants; factors affecting mothers' suffering: illness condition of infants, and family support; the means to soften suffering: creating hope, making merit, pray, and accepting infant's condition and; outcomes of softening suffering: living with suffering, suffering softened, and having hope. The findings enhance a basic knowledge about mother's suffering. Therefore, nurses involving with low birth weight infants and their mothers could develop the nursing intervention for soften suffering based on this findings.

Biography

Natchanan Chivanon is an Assistant Professor in the Faculty of Nursing at Burapha University and completed her PhD in Nursing in 2011. She is a Lecturer of Division of Pediatric who teaches both bachelor degree and master degree nursing students. She had published eight papers in nursing and this research funding is supported by Faculty of Nursing, Burapha University.

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