

Abstract

The purposes of this research were to study the adaptation of elderly people in urban and rural areas of Kamphaeng Phet Province and to compare adaptation between the elderly who lived in urban and rural areas. The subjects consisted of 400 elderly persons aged above 60 years, both male and female, with normal orientation. Subjects who met the criteria were selected by using stratified random sampling.

The research instruments used in this study were a demographic data recording form, the physiological mode form including physical examination and observation, and the interview form for physiological, self-concept, role function, and interdependence mode, which constructed by the researcher based upon Roy's adaptation model. Content validity was examined by specialists and content validity index was 0.77. The physiological mode form including physical examination and observation was tested by using interrater reliability, the reliability was 1. The interview form for physiological, self-concept, role function, and interdependence mode was tested by using Kuder-Richardson -21, the reliability was 0.79. Data were analyzed in terms of frequency, percentage, mean, standard deviation, and t-test.

The results of the study revealed that:

1. The overall adaptation of elderly people in urban areas was appropriated. The highest mean was the role function mode and the lowest mean was the self-concept mode.
2. The adaptation for physiological, role function, and interdependence mode of elderly people in rural areas were appropriate but the self-concept mode was inappropriate. The highest mean was the role function mode and the lowest mean was the self-concept mode.
3. The mean of adaptation for self-concept mode between elderly people in urban and rural areas were statistically significant different at the level of .01. The mean of adaptation for physiological, role function, and interdependence modes of elderly people in urban areas were not different from that of elderly people in rural areas.