

## Acknowledgements

I would like to express my sincere gratitude and deep appreciation to Professor Don McNeil, Associate Professor Silom Jamulitrat and Dr. Yupadee Chaisuksant for their invaluable advice and helpful suggestions for the completing of this thesis. Miss Skulrat Ritsmitchai, Mrs. Metta Kuning, Dr. Phanchai Rattanasuwan and Miss Rebecca Oyomopito also gave helpful advice. I also wish to thank Assistant Professor Doctor Tiannan Vanitsuppavong and Assistant Professor Puangtong Pongbhai the examining committee and all the teachers in the master degree program. The Graduate School is also to thank for supporting the scholarship.

For their permission to collect the data for this study, my appreciation is also given to Dr. Luen Bujakorn, the director of Communicable Disease Control Regional 11, Nakhon Si Thammarat, Dr. Panumard Yarnwaidsakul, the officiate director of Zonal TB Center 11, Nakhon Si Thammarat, and also to all staff in Zonal TB Center 11 and community hospitals in Nakhon Si Thammarat for their co-operation.

Finally, I would like to express my deepest appreciation to my mother, my sisters, my brothers and my friends for their kind support, understanding and encouragement throughout the study.

Amornrat Chutinantakul