Acknowledgements

I would like to thank Prof. Don McNeil my advisor, Dr. Nittaya McNeil and Asst. Prof. Dr. Yupadee Chaisuksant my co-advisor for their kindness, support, valuable guidance, and encouragement during this research, together with their constructive criticisms for improvement of my thesis.

I also would like to express my thankfulness to Dr. Chamnein Choonpradub, Asst. Prof. Nongnuch Wongsinchuan and Dr. Nathavit Portjanatanti for their examining and helpful comments. And my thanks go to Dr. Phattrawan Tongkumchum and Dr. Metta Kuning for their encouragement and constructive guidance.

I would like to thank patients at Thai Traditional Medicine Clinic, in Khopho Hospital, Pattani Province for their interviewing cooperation. I also would like to thank Kokpho Hospital staffs who helped me with the information and data collection.

I would like to thank all the teachers and staffs of the Department of Mathematics and Computer Science, Science and Technology Faculty of Prince of Songkla University for giving my helpful advice, the Graduate Prince of Songkla University Scholarship Award for their financial support for this thesis. And thanks to my friends who helped my entire study.

Finally, I would like to thank my mother and my sisters very much for their support and encouragement in everything.

Saowapark Saengkaew