

## CONTENTS

	Page
CONTENTS.....	ix
LIST OF TABLE.....	xiii
<b>CHAPTERS</b>	
1. INTRODUCTION.....	1
Background of the study.....	1
Objective of the research.....	5
Research questions.....	5
Conceptual framework.....	5
Definition of terms.....	6
Significance of the study.....	6
2. LITERATURE REVIEW.....	7
Overview of chronic illness.....	8
The incidence of chronic illness.....	8
Definitions of chronic illness.....	9
Stages of illness behavior.....	10
Impacts of chronic illness on individual.....	11
Overview of spirituality.....	15
Definition of spirituality.....	15
Spiritual well being.....	18
Spiritual healing methods.....	20

## **CONTENTS (Continued)**

	Page
Buddhist teachings.....	23
Meditation and prayer.....	29
Yoga.....	31
Taichi / qigong.....	33
Pranic practice.....	33
Universal energy.....	34
Johrei.....	35
Modification macrobiotics.....	36
Psychoneuroimmunology (PNI).....	37
Hermeneutic phenomenology.....	40
Definition of hermeneutic phenomenology.....	40
Background of phenomenology study.....	41
Establishment of trustworthiness.....	45
<b>3. RESEARCH METHODOLOGY.....</b>	<b>48</b>
Research design.....	48
Study context.....	48
Informants.....	49
Instruments.....	50
Data collection.....	52
Preparation phase.....	52
Intervention phase.....	54

## **CONTENTS (Continued)**

	Page
Ethical consideration.....	55
Trustworthiness.....	56
Data analysis.....	57
<b>4. FINDINGS AND DISCUSSIONS.....</b>	<b>60</b>
Demographic Data.....	61
Description of informants.....	64
Lived Experience of Chronically Ill Clients Using Spiritual Healing	
Methods.....	75
Perceived Meaning of “Spirituality”.....	76
Experiences of Chronically Ill Clients Using Spiritual Healing	
Methods.....	78
Outcomes of using spiritual healing methods.....	87
Discussions.....	92
<b>5. CONCLUSION.....</b>	<b>110</b>
Summary of the Study.....	110
Recommendations.....	111
<b>REFERENCES.....</b>	<b>113</b>
<b>APPENDICS.....</b>	<b>130</b>
A: Informed consent form.....	131
B: Informed consent from: Thai version.....	133
C: Demographic data record form.....	135

## **CONTENTS (Continued)**

	Page
D: Demographic data record form: Thai version.....	136
E: Open-ended interviews.....	137
F: Open-ended interviews: Thai version.....	139
G: Field notes.....	141
H: Field notes: Thai version.....	143
VITAE.....	145

## **LIST OF TABLE**

<b>TABLE</b>	<b>Page</b>
1. Characteristics of informants.....	61