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Factors predicting mental health levels of the elders with chronic illness living in Bantom Subdistrict, Maung Phayao Province

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This study aimed to describe mental health levels and to identify factors predicting mental health levels of the elders with chronic illness living in Bantom Subdistrict, Maung Phayao Province. Participants were 66 dependent older adults who were able to communicate and were willing to be part of the study. Research questionnaires composed of demographic characteristic data, health status perception, family, social and mental health services that were validated by three experts with 0.73, 0.84, 0.75, 0.90 and 0.74 reliability, respectively. Data were analyzed by using frequency, percentage, mean, standard deviation and multiple regression. Results revealed that mental health of the participants were lower than other people (67.6%). Health perception on family and social domains of the participants were at low level, whereas health service was at high level. The regression analysis reported that health perception, family, social and mental health service predicted mental health status in older adult accounted for 31.3%. The study concluded that the dependent older adults were at risk of mental health problems. Therefore, family members, social, community and related stakeholders who are responsible for taking care of the elderly should focus more on mental health support.

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