I take this opportunity to thank my esteemed guides Dr. (Mrs.) Promila Vasudeva, Reader, Department of Psychology, Panjab University and Dr. (Mrs.) Lata Kumar, Associate Professor, Department of Pediatrics, Post-Graduate Institute of Medical Education and Research, Chandigarh. It is through their most valuable and expert guidance that I have been able to complete my research. They have been very encouraging and objective about my research work.

I express my gratitude to the authorities of PGI for permitting me to collect the data. Especially to Professor Malik, Head, Department of Chest Diseases; Dr. D. Behera, Assistant Professor, Department of Chest and all those doctors of this Institute for their cooperation and help in making available the subjects. I would like to thank all those patients who were the subjects of this study. Without their unconditional cooperation this work would not have been there.

I am immensely grateful to Dr. (Mrs.) Prem Verma, Reader, Department of Psychology, Panjab University for her valuable assistance in the statistical analysis and interpretation.