ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

I thank God Almighty for his love and care that he showered on me during my study.

With extreme pleasure I thank our Management and our respectful Thiru. V. R. Venkataachalam, Chancellor, Prof. J. S.N. Murthy, Vice- Chancellor, Prof. Dr. K.V. Somasundaram, Dean of Faculties, Prof. Dr. Vijayalakshmi Thanasekaraan, Controller of Examinations, Prof. S.P. Thyagarajan, Dean (Research), Thiru. N. Natarajan, Registrar and other authorities of the esteemed Sri Ramachandra University for all their extended help, insightful comments and for the hard question which incepted me to widen my research from various perspectives and also for sanctioning me the GATE young researcher grant.

I extend my heartfelt gratitude to my guide, an astute pulmonologist Prof. Dr. B. Hariprasad, M.B.B.S, DTCD, DNB., Department of Chest and TB, SRMC & RI Sri Ramachandra University, for the continuous support, motivation, patience and immense knowledge in guiding me throughout my study period. His guidance helped me in all the time of thesis writing and presentation of this thesis. I could not have imagined having a better advisor and mentor for my Ph.D study.

My sincere gratitude also goes to my co-guide Prof. Dr. Rajeswari Vaidhyathanathan, M.Sc.(N), Ph.D., Former Principal, Faculty of Nursing, Sri
Ramachandra University who has been an ever present source of support throughout the study.

I express my deep sense of gratitude to my Research Advisor Prof. Dr. Prasannababy, M.Sc.(N), Ph.D., Former Principal, Faculty of Nursing, Sri Ramachandra University for her valuable guidance and encouragement throughout the study.

I am indebted to Dr. B.W.C. Sathiyasekaran, Professor, Department of Community Medicine, Sri Ramachandra University, Chennai for correcting and guiding me in the right path during synopsis.

With a deep sense of gratitude, I record my thanks to Prof. Dr. B. Rajagopalan, MD., HOD, Department of Chest and T.B, Sri Ramachandra Hospital for permitting me to conduct the study in OPD and all the other faculties of Department of Chest and T.B for tool validation and guidance provided to me throughout the study.

I owe my sincere thanks to Dr. R. Shelly Lancaster, Ph.D, R.N., Associate Professor, University of Wisconsin, Oshkosh, USA for her excellent remarks and content validation of this study.

I express my gratitude to Dr. Santhu gosh, Lecturer, Department of Environmental Health Engineering, and Dr. Gayathri, Lecturer, Department of Community Medicine, Sri Ramachandra University, Chennai, Dr. Mahesh
Kumar, Lecturer, Department of Physiology, SRU and Ms. Jothilakshmi, Research Scholar, Department of Environmental Health Engineering, SRU for their excellent guidance in computing my data’s, analysis and interpretation of the study data through statistical representation.

With deep sense of gratefulness I express my heartfelt gratitude to my eminent mentor Prof. P.V. Ramachandran, M.Sc., (N), Former Chairman, Nursing Education, Faculty of Nursing, Sri Ramachandra University, for his constant encouragement, exemplary suggestions, enduring guidance and all his blessings for the successful completion of this thesis.

I remember here Prof. Dr. Mrs. C. Kanniammal, M.Sc.(N), Ph.D., Dean, SRM college of Nursing, Kancheepuram, and Dr. R. Revathi, M.Sc.(N), Ph.D., Assistant professor, a humble scholar and a great pragmatist who had directed my project to get along the set objectives. They have been the driving force for me in climbing the professional ladder. I thank the external experts for their valuable suggestions and for their great help in validating the content.

My sincere thanks to Mr. T.S. Thyagarajan, Deputy Registrar (Examination), Sri Ramachandra University for his kind support in directing me during the processes of thesis.

I acknowledge my sincere thanks to Mrs. Meryn Selvanayagam, B.Sc., B.Ed., M.A., Tutor in English, Department of Allied Health Sciences, Sri
Ramachandra University for editing the manuscript of the study and Mr. Sambandham, Tamil Pandit, D.R.B.C.C.C. Higher Secondary School, Thiruvallvur for the Tamil translation of my tools and booklet.

I thank my administrators Dr. S. Revathi, Principal, Dr. S. J. Nalini, Vice-Principal, Dr. S. Santhi, Dr. G. Neelakshi, Professors, All the department HOD’s and faculties, and the special thanks to the Department of Medical Surgical Nursing faculties and my fellow colleagues Ms. Sara Sapharina and all the faculty members and non-teaching staff, Faculty of Nursing, Sri Ramachandra University for their liberal freedom and encouragement, moral support enable me to complete this study.

I thank Ms. Maria Juliana, Staff Nurse, Vijaya Hospital, Mrs. Banu, Sister Incharge, Chest and T.B. OPD and Interns of B.Sc.(AHS) Respiratory Therapy for their kind co-operation and help rendered in selection of samples, PFT reports and follow-up of the samples.

I thank Dr. S. Sridevy, Asst. Professor, Mother Theresa Institute of Nursing, Puducherry, Dr. Vasantha, Principal, Shenbaga College of Nursing and Dr. Vijayalakshmi Anbu, Lecturer, Department of Allied Health Sciences, SRU and all the experts who validated the tool and the booklet and for their valuable suggestions.
I am grateful to my **study participants** for their kind co-operation and interest in successful completion of this study.

Last but not the least, I owe an affectionate gratitude to My dear mother National Florence Nightingale awardee Mrs. K. Kasthuri, M.A (Soc, Pop. Studies), SHN and My father Mr. A. Manivannan, M.A (Soc, Pop. Studies), STS, RNTCP, My dear sister Mrs. M. Bhavani, (Ph.D), Research Scholar, Department of Human Genetics, SRU, My husband Mr. G. Jayakumar, SSA, Target (USA) and my in-laws and My dear children Master Krithik and Sanjay for their support and kind co-operation extended throughout the period of study.

**Ms. MALARVIZHI.M**