ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

It is my privilege to be a part of this esteemed institution and express my honor to the management of Sri Ramachandra University, Porur, Chennai for providing opportunity to conduct my research.

My sincere gratitude to Dr. J. S. N. Murthy, Vice Chancellor, Dr. K. V. Somasundaram, Dean of Faculties and Dr. Vijayalakshmi Thanasekaran, Controller of Examinations, Sri Ramachandra University, Porur, Chennai for their greatness on my successful completion of the research work.

My wholehearted gratitude to Dr. K. Balaji Singh, Associate Dean of Students, Professor of Surgery, Sri Ramachandra University, for sparing his precious time and providing valuable guidance and extensive support to complete the thesis.

I express my sincere thanks to Dr. Prof. Rebecca Samson, Dean, College of Nursing, Pondicherry Institute of Medical Sciences, Puducherry, for her constant support and motivation for the glorious completion of the research work.

I owe a great deal to Dr. P. S. Lalitha, Reiki Consultant, Bharathiraja Speciality Hospital & Research Centre, Chennai, and express my heartfelt gratitude for her valuable suggestions and encouragement to do this study.

I express my deep sense of gratefulness to Prof. P.V. Ramachandran, Chairman, Nursing Education, Faculty of Nursing, Sri Ramachandra University, for his exemplary suggestions and blessings which has been the driving force for the successful completion of this thesis.

My profound feelings of reverence to Prof. Dr. Prasannababy, Principal, Faculty of Nursing Sri Ramachandra University and Prof. Dr. Rajeswari Vaidyanathan, for their expert guidance.

I am highly obliged to Dr. B. W. C. Sathyasekaran, Professor in Community Medicine, for directing me for the proper presentation of statistical analysis.

I acknowledge with much appreciation for the crucial role of Dr. Prof. G. Neelakshi and Dr. S. Rajeswari, Reader, Faculty of Nursing, Sri Ramachandra
University, for their support and encouragement throughout my accomplishment of the research work.

My special acknowledgements to all patients for their participation and cooperation in the research endeavor.

I am greatly indebted to my betterhalf, Mr. V. Murugan. He was always beside me during the happy and hard moments to push me and motivated me to accomplish the task.

Words fail me to express my appreciation to Mr. M. Naveen Rahul and Ms. M. Madhusree who accepted my separation during the completion of the study.

My words are short to express my gratitude to my father, mother, in-laws and all my family for their continuous love and their supports.

I expand my thanks to Mrs. Cinthiya Milton and Mrs. L. Vidhya who shared their knowledge in editing the manuscript.

I am thankful Dr. S. Porchelvan, Biostatistician, for his extensive statistical analysis of this study.

I am extremely thankful to Dr. Prof. S. Santhi, Dr. S. Aruna, Dr. A. Porkodi, Dr. A. Seethalakshmi and Dr. N. Bamini Devi for their support in the successful completion of the research work.

A special thanks to my team mates of Community Health Nursing Department, Mrs. R. Poongodi, Mrs. Lisy Joseph, Mrs. Umadevi and Mrs. D. Kiruthiga for their hearty help and understanding extended throughout the completion of the research work.

I would like to pay high regards to Mrs. E. Sujitha, Mrs. J. M. Jency, Mrs. D. Geetha and all my friends, Faculty of Nursing, Sri Ramachandra University who willingly had been source of inspiration in the successful completion of this study.
My sincere appreciation to all the experts for validating the tools used in this study.

I praise and thank Lord Almighty for showering abundant blessings and enabling to do this study successfully.

(G.SASIKALA)