



CHAPTER III

METHODOLOGY

3.1 Introduction

The objective of this study on Hypertension among elderly in Dinudom Subdistrict, Lumtap District, Krabi Province is in order to find the Prevalence and Determinants of Hypertension among elderly in Dinudom Subdistrict, Lumtap District, Krabi Province. The research also studied the relationship of Prevalence and Determinants of Hypertension among elderly in Dinudom Subdistrict, Lumtap District, Krabi Province. The researcher specified the research methodologies as followed:

3.2 Research Design

Study Population is 360 of elderly in Dinudom Subdistrict, Lumtap District, Krabi Province.

3.3 Variable

Independent Variable refers to gender, age, marital status, income, education, congenital disease, dietary, exercises, and illness condition.

Dependent Variable refers to Hypertension.

3.4 Instrument

3.4.1 Interview: the interview method of research was conducted by the researcher.

The questionnaire contains three parts:

Part 1 General information of elderly consists of gender, age, marital status, education, occupation prior to retirement, income sufficiency, source of income, Hypertension, and illness condition. Physical examination included Hypertension, weight, and height measurement. The questions relate the risk behavior to Hypertension in the past and present, dietary, drinking, exercise, and the open-ended questions on Hypertension and Tsunami disaster confrontation.

Part 2 The questionnaire relate to practical activities which evaluate 10 basic daily routine activities of elderly. Which activities can be practically performed by the elderly within 24-48 hours? The observer or the time keeper should not involve in this process. Otherwise, it will affect the score. The score will be =0=, if the elderly become unconscious.

Level of score

- 0-4 = Very low Initial score (total score)
- 5-8 = Low initial score (severe dependence)
- 9-11 = Intermediate initial score (moderately severe dependence)
- 12+ = initial high (mildly severe dependence; consideration of discharging home)

Part 3 The questionnaire relates to Operational Efficiency of continuously daily routine performance. The questionnaire consists of 5 questions of

which activities can be practically performed by the elderly in 2 weeks? The observer or the time keeper should not involve in this process. Otherwise, it will affect the score. The score will be =0=, if the elderly become unconscious. It is the open-ended questions which allow the elderly and the caretaker to express their opinion on their needs.

3.4.2 Digital Blood Pressure Meter: Scales for weighing in standing position and measuring tapes in centimeters.

3.4.3 This study which explored the hypertension prevalence of the elderly made use of data collected from hypertension screenings which were solely conducted by the researcher.

3.5 Assumption

1. Blood pressure monitor for this research is Digital Blood Pressure.
2. For this research, the caretaker is around to provide the information on behalf of the elderly, in case of the fact that the elderly are unable to provide the information by themselves

3.6 Key Words

The elderly, Hypertension

3.7 Operational Definition

1. The elderly refer as the person who age 60 or over, including male and female who live in Dinudom Subdistrict, Lumtap District, Krabi Province.
2. Hypertension refer as a blood pressure greater than or equal to 140 mm Hg systolic pressure or greater than or equal to 90 mm Hg diastolic pressure. (The JNC 7, 2003) : The elderly will be in the sitting position (they can lie down if they cannot sit) and left arm is needed for two hypertension screenings. The second screening will be 10-15 minutes after the first and results of both screenings will be calculated for the mean score.

3.8 Data Collection

1. Data Collection was conducted by the researcher, started from to April-May 2005.
2. The researcher verified the corrective and completion of the data prior to Household data collection.
3. Data entry and Data Analysis

3.9 Data Analysis

The researcher checked the data for accuracy and completion from the questionnaire. Then, the data analysis is prepared with SPSS V.11 as an analytics tools. The analysis categorizes are as follow:

Table 3.1: The analysis categorizes

Statistics	Subject	Variable	Method
1.Descriptive statistics	- General information such as age	Qualitative Data	Average Standard Deviation Percentage
	- General information such as gender, education, marital status, and illness condition	Qualitative Data	Frequency by percentage
2. Inferential statistics	The relationship between Independent Variable and Dependent Variable	Qualitative Data	Chi-square test

3.10 Ethical Consideration

This research is Descriptive Research which is not included intervention or any other kind of irrelevant experiment with the study group. Therefore, it is expected that non-ethical issue incurred.

3.11 Limitations of the Research

The respondents are the elderly in the rural area. The research result may not be able to represent as the reference for the elderly who live in the city or other areas.

3.12 Obstacle and Strategies the Problem

The respondents are the elderly. Some encounter the hearing, reading, and memory difficulty. According to those problems, the caretakers are allowed to answer the questions for those elderly who are unable to answer the questionnaire.