

CHAPTER 5

RECOMMENDATION

The outcome of this project has been greatly satisfied and successful. However, there are some limitations of this study such as the small number of students and were limited to the medical students from the Narasuan University and the short period of implementation (two weeks). As a result, the power of this study may not have been great enough to find strong association between early exposure to rural community and subsequent practice location. Future research in this area is necessary so that integrated pollicies of the OCPIRD to increase the numbers of rural doctor can be developed. Following points are recommended to improve the potential of the project:

1. Background of the students should be taken into account. For example, two batches of students each from rural and urban background are compared to observe whether the positive attitudes toward community develop from their rural background or from their rural training/ community exposure during their study.
2. Size and conditions of rural community should be defined in the study and at what level it influences attitude change of the students.

3. There should be ongoing projects to evaluate attitudes towards rural communities of medical students every year and for longer period of time.
4. The long-term effect after graduation of these students should be assessed e.g. where do they choose to practice after graduation.
5. There should be a follow up survey on the sustainability of rural community practice, ease of working with community people resulted from early exposure to real world rural community during the medical study year.
6. The information on annual activity calendar of community obtained from this study may help to develop a suitable timetable for future community study of students. That is, the best time for students to experience and learn about the community is when there are maximum cultural, traditional and social events in the community, providing that it fits with students' normal academic time.
7. The next plan of this project should be details of following study :
 - 7.1 Increasing the number of the student from 7 University for good representative of the sample size.
 - 7.2 Study the positive attitude of the student toward the community project.
 - 7.3 Measure the attitude of the student by place of longest stay
 - 7.4 Select: the 24 Stud. as a Preceptor
 - 7.5 Send the Manual to the target group before implementation one month
 - 7.6 Expand this project to the Medical student year 2