

**EDUCATION OF WOMEN AS A STRATEGY
IN THE CONTROL OF DENGUE FEVER IN SURIN**

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A Thesis Submitted in Partial Fulfillment of the Requirements

for the Degree of Master of Public Health

Health Systems Development Program

College of Public Health

Chulalongkorn University

Academic year 2001

ISBN : 974-03-0526-1

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Bangkok Thailand

I 20693382


Thesis Title : Education of Women as a Strategy in the Control of
Dengue Fever in Surin .

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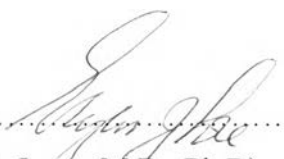
Accepted by the College of Public Health, Chulalongkorn University,
Bangkok Thailand in Partial Fulfillment of the Requirements for the Master's Degree

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Abstract

The first outbreak of dengue fever / dengue haemorrhagic fever in Thailand was reported in Bangkok in 1958, which then gradually spread from the urban to rural areas. By 1978, the disease had spread throughout the country and has persisted in an endemic form since then.

Education of women is a strategy for control of dengue fever in pre-experimental designs (one group, pre-test, post-test designs). The objective was to assess the level of knowledge of dengue fever / dengue haemorrhagic fever and level of community participation through a participatory learning program applied to a women group in order to reduce the incidence of dengue fever / dengue haemorrhagic fever in the community.

The study area was Kok Saad village, Kok Saad subdistrict, Prasat district, Surin province in Thailand. The reason to select this village was the highest number of dengue fever cases in Surin in 2000, compared with other villages in Surin. The target group and the sample size were 60 women aged between 15 and 60 years.

A base line data study and a larval density survey were conducted in order to assess the KAP (Knowledge, Attitude and Practice) of women and to determine the larval density in the community. In-depth interviews with key informants were held in

order to obtain more details about the prevention and control of dengue fever from the representatives of the women in the community.

It was found that the women do have sufficient knowledge about the prevention and control of dengue fever, but that this fact did not lead to a change in their behaviour (low participation in the control of dengue fever). The findings from the larval density survey showed a Breteau Index (BI) of 181.6 and a House Index (HI) of 81.6.

This can be interpreted as the community having a high risk to get dengue fever.

This conclusion will be used to prepare the participatory workshop.

Acknowledgements

I would like to express my profound appreciation to Professor Chitr Sitthiamorn for his creative guidance, interest and encouragement throughout the period of my study.

I would also like to express my heartfelt gratitude and appreciation to Ajarn Ratana Somrongthong, my advisor, for her valuable advise, guidance and support of my thesis. I have been very much impressed with her and I am very grateful.

I would like to thank Professor Love for his valuable comments and guidance to prepare my thesis.

I am very grateful and appreciative to Ajarn Watchrin Tanyanont and Ajarn Tanawat Likitkererat for their valuable advise on the data analysis.

I would like to extend my thanks to all my colleagues of this College of Public Health for their suggestions throughout my study period.

Finally, I wish to express my deepest gratitude to my husband, J.W.A Gelissen for his constant support, encouragement and patience. Without his continuous assistance my study would not have been possible.

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ACRONYMS AND ABBREVIATIONS

CFR	=	Case Fatality Rate
DF	=	Dengue Fever
DHF	=	Dengue Haemorrhagic Fever
KAP	=	Knowledge Attitude and Practice
MBR	=	Morbidity Rate
MTR	=	Mortality Rate
MOPH	=	Ministry of Public Health
PRA	=	Participatory Rural Appraisal
PLP	=	Participatory Learning Program
WHO	=	World Health Organization