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Prevention Program for Lower Secondary School Students in Khon Kaen Province.

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## **Abstract**

Motorcycle accident has been regarded as a prime cause of injury, disability and death among adolescent in Thailand. Driver's behaviour is among many factors associated with accident. So far, various measures have been taken to tackle this health and social problem. Until recently, life skills education has become widely accepted as an empowering approach. Particularly in the area of health promotion, life skills is believed to help young people to take positive actions to protect themselves and to promote health. Therefore, they can deal effectively with the demands and challenges of everyday life.

This research is a quasi-experimental and one group pretest-posttest design. It was aimed at developing a life skills program on motorcycle accident prevention for lower secondary school students. This study confined to four skills: critical thinking, social responsibility, decision making, and problem solving regarding motorcycle accident prevention. The life skills program was developed systematically based on the curriculum development process introduced by the Institute for the Promotion of Teaching Science and Technology of Thailand (IPST). Forty-four students (15 boys and 29 girls) were included in this study. The acquisition of life skills was based on learning through active participation. Methods used to facilitate active learning were brainstorming, group discussion, demonstration, games, and hand on experience. Test questions were used before and after the experiment. These data were analysed using paired sample t-test. All students was opened end question and 2 school teachers were interviewed and content analysis was used to analyse the information.

On the whole, the post-test scores for life skills were significantly higher than that of the pre-test (p < 0.05). When each test question was taken into account, it was found that the scores were varied significantly. Except for the decision making skill where little variation was observed before and after the experiment. Therefore the life skills program can help develop life skills on motorcycle accident prevention. However, the program poses a few weak points in series of lesson 2, 4 and 6. It can be concluded that this life skills program can help young students improving their life skills and that can be applied in other schools.