

KEY WORD : KNOWLEDGE / ATTITUDE / AIDS / HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS

WANEE PINPRATEEP : KNOWLEDGE AND ATTITUDE TOWARDS AIDS OF HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS IN PHITSANULOK PROVINCE 1991. THESIS ADVISOR : PROF. DR. PHAIRAJ DESUDCHIT, ASST. PROF. DR. PORNARONG CHOTIWAN, 127 PP. ISBN 974-581-369-9

This is a cross-sectional descriptive study of the knowledge and attitudes towards AIDS of high school students in Phitsanulok, 1991. The samples were selected from all high schools (6,616) in Phitsanulok province by a systematic random sampling technique. One in five of the students from every classroom were asked to cooperate in a self-administered questionnaire during October 20 till December 20, 1991. There were 1,200 responses or 18% of all students.

It was found that the students knowledge and attitudes on AIDS were fair. There was no difference in the knowledge between the urban and the rural students. Science students were better than the art students (average score 74.8% compared to 25.2% respectively, $p < 0.05$). There was also no difference between the knowledge of boys and girls. However, the students who achieved high grades in academic (grades 2.0-2.9) showed better knowledge in AIDS than any other groups ($p < 0.05$). When asked about sex experiences, 25.6% of boys and 1.7% of girls had ever had sexual intercourse (the average for both sexes was 12.3%). The Mathayom 5 students had the highest sex experiences (14.6%)

Television was the best medium of transmitting the AIDS knowledge to these students (67.9%) while radio and newspapers were the next (33.6%) The most frequent activity against AIDS in high school was displaying posters (94.6%). The "Two minutes against AIDS", a leaflet distributed by the Provincial Health Office, was observed by 38.1% of the students.

Concerning the attitudes towards AIDS, they thought they were not at high risk (81.2%)