

SOMPHONG PETBORISUIT : KNOWLEDGE AND ATTITUDES TOWARD PRIMARY HEALTH CARE AMONG THE NEWLY GRADUATED JUNIOR HEALTH WORKER. THESIS ADVISOR : ASSO. PROF.PIROM KAMOLRATANAKUL, THESIS CO-ADVISOR : ASST. PROF.BODI DHANAMUN. 126 PP. ISBN 974-578-739-6

The objective of this research, conducted by applying the survey technique, was the study of the level of knowledge and attitudes toward the primary health care and the relationship between the two factors among the group of public health officers recently graduated from 4 regions of public health colleges. The samples comprised of 343 junior health worker who were ready to work in December 1990.

Data were collected by using questionnaires, including general information, knowledge and attitudes toward primary health care.

We found that most graduates (29.2%) came from the North of the country. Most of them (67.7%) were young adult (19-21 years) and budhists (95.6%). Approximately, half of their parents completed primary school. Forty percents of their parents were farmers with low income who living in the rural area.

Their knowledge and attitudes toward primary health care were fair and there were some correlation ($p < 0.05$) between these 2 variables among the newly graduated health workers from the Northern part ($r = 0.40$) Central part ($r = 0.48$) and Southern part ($r = 0.34$) respectively. We also found that, educational level of their fathers, occupation of their parents and their birth place associated with knowledge level, whereas educational level of their fathers and saving practice of the family associated with attitude level.