

ABSTRACT

RESEARCH PAPER : Health Officials' Knowledge and Role in Working with Tambon
Administration Organization : A Study of Surin Province
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This research aims at studying health officials' knowledge, roles and their problems in working with the Tambon Administration Organization (TAO). The major instrument for data collection is questionnaire distributed to 198 samples working as health center chiefs and health technical officials in the district health offices and health centers. Data received were later analysed statistically.

Important findings are briefly presented below :

More than one-half of the health officials studied reported of having high facilities for working with TAO.

More than 93 percent of the samples possess enough knowledge in working with TAO.

In working roles with TAO, more than one-half of the samples reported of having moderate role, followed by high and low role playing respectively. As a whole, the average role of health officials is moderate ($\bar{x} = 2.62$).

In hypotheses testing, it was found that age, working facilities and knowledge of the health officials relate significantly to level of work performance with the TAO.

Problems and obstacles in working with the TAO are lack of coordination between TAO and the health center ; many TAOs emphasize on

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structural development more than the public health work; members of TAO conceive of their roles wrongly and inadequate health officials available.

Recommendations emerged from this study, among others, are the health center should train TAO's members about public health issues regularly, and better co-operation between the two organizations.