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PAIRAT SUWANNAKE : THE ASSESSMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH TASKS PERFORMED BY PUBLIC HEALTH OFFICERS AT SUB-DISTRICT LEVEL IN REGION 8. THESIS ADVISORS : PIYATHIDA TRIDECH, Dr.P.H., JUNYA PATTARAARCHACHAI, Sc.D., SURACHAT NA NONGKHAI, LL.B.,M.A., PERAPON SUTTIWISEJSAK, M.D. 129 p. ISBN 974-662-415-6

As public health officers at sub-district level have changed their positions from their previous jobs as community health officers, evaluation of work is essential. The purpose of this study is to assess the public health tasks performed by public health officers at sub-district level in Region 8. For data collection, 141 public health officers at sub-district level in Region 8 were asked to complete a questionnaire and those in Nakhon Sawan Province were interviewed in detail. One hundred thirty-two questionnaires were returned (93.62%). The statistics used for data analysis were t-test, one-way ANOVA, Mann-Whitney U-Test and Kruskal Wallis Test.

It was found that concerning the levels of the coverage of work according to task groups under the responsibility of public health officers at sub-district level in Region 8. 35.7 of officers were at very good level and 34.8% were at average level. Officers' completion of the activities for which they were responsible was at very good level, 41.7%. It was also found that by comparing the means which were used to analyze the public health officers' performance at sub-district level based on different economic status, it showed statistical significance at P < 0.05 level. Moreover, regarding work motivation, it was found that more than 90% fell in the moderate the high levels of agreement regarding the lack of basic research handbooks, whereas more than 80% showed that being responsible for too many tasks given was a barrier to success in proper job performance. In addition, not receiving a per diem resulted in lack of motivation when doing field work. This study suggested that basic research handbooks should be made and all public health officers at sub-district level should be trained and supervised accordingly. Furthermore, suitable reimbursement as well as welfare should be provided to officers.