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KASORN WONGWATTNAKII : THE OPINION AND PARTICIPATION OF
COMMITTEE MEMBERS OF SUBDISTRICT ADMINISTRATION ORGANIZATION
(SAO) IN THE COMMUNITY HEALTH DEVELOPMENT. THESIS ADVISORS : SOMMAI
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The purpose of this research was to study the levels of opinion and participation of Subdistrict Administration Organization (SAO) members in community health development and to study factors affecting opinion and participation. Among the factors studied were demographic, economic and social characteristics, knowledge about health system and supportive factors. Data were collected by self response questionnaires completed by 219 SAO committee members in Nakornpathom and Samutsarkorn provinces. The t-test and ANOVA were employed in data analysis.

The research revealed that most of the SAO committee members had high degree of agreement (98%) and moderate degree of participation (41.1%) in community health development. The t-test and ANOVA show that duration of residence, other position in community, having received information and knowledge about community health were significant factors in explaining the different opinions ($P= 0.006, 0.005, 0.003, 0.000$ respectively). The status, other position in community, having received information knowledge about community health and work load and revenue of SAO were significant in explaining the different degree of participation ($P= 0.001, 0.005, 0.000, 0.004, 0.003$ respectively). It is recommended that the misistries of Public Health and the Interior should provide appropriate training to promote knowledge and understanding of community health for the SAO committee members. The preparation of a community health manual for SAO committe members and the provision of health information by through various media are needed.