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PROTECTIVE EQUIPMENT AMONG POLICEMEN

SUPARP CHAIYANIT : EFFECTIVENESS OF BEHAVIORAL PROMOTION
PROGRAMME OF USING EAR PROTECTIVE EQUIPMENT FOR NOISE
PROTECTION AMONG POLICEMEN IN BANGKOK METROPOLITAN AREA. THESIS
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The research objective based on Protection Motivation theory, was to promote personal protective equipment usage among Thai police officers in Bangkok metropolitan area. The intervention program consisted of periodic lecture, demonstration and focus group discussion. Sixty-four traffic police officers participated in the 10-week study : 32 as subjects and 32 as controls. Pre-and post-program questionnaires were collected and data were analyzed by using percentage distribution, arithmetic mean, standard deviation, Student's t-test and Paired sample t-test.

After 10 weeks, several safety behaviors were observed more frequently among the subjects than the controls at 0.05 significance level including perceived noxiousness, perceived probability, self-efficacy expectancy, response efficacy and personal protective equipment usage.

The result indicated that such intervention program was effective in promoting personal protective equipment usage among Thai police officers. Education and training should also include technical knowledge on occupational noise exposure and its impact on health. Periodic audiometric examination should increase risk perception and reduce the prevalence of noise-induced hearing loss among the officers.