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KEY WORD : THE EFFECTIVENESS OF THE DIARRHEA PREVENTION AND  
CONTROL / HEALTH CENTERS

JANTANA SUKRATAMORNKUL : THE EFFECTIVENESS OF THE  
DIARRHEA PREVENTION AND CONTROL OF HEALTH CENTERS IN  
CHACHOENGSAO PROVINCE. THESIS ADVISORS : SURAPHOL SRIVITTHAYA  
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Diarrhea is a major health problem in Thailand and the effectiveness of the diarrhea prevention and control is a concern of all health centers. The objective of this survey research was to assess the effectiveness of diarrhea prevention and control of health centers in Chachoengsao Province. The samples consisted of 86 health center personnel. The data were collected from health center personnel by using questionnaires. 79 completed questionnaires (91.9 %) were returned for statistical analysis. The statistical analysis of the data was done by using Chi-square and Pearson product moment correlation coefficient.

Results of this study showed that the health center personnel were male (67.1 %) with an average age of 29.8 years and an educational level lower than a bachelor degree (54.4 %). They had a median of work experience 4.0 years. The health centers had a median of 6.0 villages, an average population of 3,636.0, and an average distance of 13.5 kilometers. The effectiveness of diarrhea prevention and control was at a good level (54.4 %). Manpower was at a medium level (51.9 %) and the average number of health officers per health center was 2.8. The budget factors were at a low level (88.6 %) but the material factors were at a high level. The management process was found to be at a high level (94.9 %). The overall budget factors and each aspect of the sufficiency of budget factors were related to the effectiveness of diarrhea prevention and control. This research suggests that training courses to improve health center personnel's knowledge about diarrhea prevention and control, and budgets and materials for health centers should be supported.