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PERFORMANCE OF HEALTH CENTER PERSONNEL IN PRIMARY SCHOOLS, RATCHABURI
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The important problems of dental health performance at primary schools in Ratchaburi province were that most of the students had tooth-decay and gingivitis for which health center personnel had very important roles and responsibilities. The objective of this research was to determine relationships between knowledge , attitude, administrative resources and dental health performance in primary schools in Ratchaburi province. Questionnaires were sent to 155 health center personnel and the returned rate was 93.0 %. The data were then analyse by using Chi-square Test and Pearson's Product Moment Correlation Coefficient.

The research findings were as follows. 80 % of samples selected for this study were female. 53.8% were thirty years old or younger. 62.1 % received graduate diploma. 37.9 % received an income of 6,001-9,000 bath per month. 60.0 % had duration of service of 10 years or less. 78.6 % had been the dental health experience in primary school of 10 years or less. 66.9 % worked as a community health officer. 49 % had 5-6 Post Classification (PC) level. In 1998, 53.8% received more training in dental health performance in primary school. The level of dental health performance of health center personnel in primary schools was good (67.6 %). 39.3% had an insufficient knowledge of oral health survey. 64.8% had a positive attitude toward their job. 62.1% stated that there was a lack of personnel in dental health performance in primary school. 80.7% revealed that health center received no budget. 57.2% revealed that health center did not receive enough materials and equipment to dental health performance in primary school. 69.7% stated that the management process (E.G., planning, organizing, staffing, directing and controlling) of health center was good. The knowledge of oral health survey was related to the dental health in primary schools ($p<0.05$).

The present study suggests that the administrators should organize an intensive training program on oral health survey at least once a year and provide handbook of dental health performance in primary schools for every Health Center in Ratchaburi province. Every health center personnel should be given an equal role in the dental health performance in primary schools. Means of transportation and materials should be provided. The administrators should give advice to health center personnel whose performance was not satisfied. The roles and responsibilities of health center personnel and health teachers should be stated clearly in writing. Health center personnel should go into primary school to teach dental health hygiene and tooth-brushing. Moreover, they should follow up for referral of students for treatment at least once a month.