

Title Knowledge and attitudes toward Primary Health Care among the newly graduated midwives.

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Abstract

Midwife is an important health personnel who is involved in promoting Primary Health Care (PHC) in Community. The previous research showed that midwives did not have enough knowledge and

attitudes toward PHC. The purpose of this research was find out knowledge and attitudes toward Primary Health Care (PHC) of newly graduated midwives from 7 Colleges of Nursing and Midwifery belonging to the Department Ministry of Public Health. These study followed the principles laid down in community health curriculum (Public Health Midwifery 1983). The other purpose was to analyse the variance difference between colleges, occupations and education of the parents, incomes and location of the families.

This was and cross - sectional survey using questionnaires which required the subjects filling in the answer themselves. The Subjects consisted of 373 new midwives who graduated in September 1988 from 7 colleges. The questionnaires consisted of 3 parts, the first part had 7 questions concerning the characteristics of personal, the second part had 35 questions concerning knowledge of PHC and the last part had 35 questions concerning attitudes toward PHC.

The finding of this research showed that most of their parents occupations were farmers with education level of pratomsuksa 4 and their incomes were sufficient. The average score of knowledge of PHC was about 67.7 % and the average score of attitude toward PHC was 72.4 % respectively. The association of knowledge and attitude was significant at 0.05 level but the analysis for each college was not significant except Yala college. When the variance score of knowledge and attitude were analysed, all 7 colleges were significantly difference at 0.05 level. When the variance score of attitude was analysed, difference depended on the occupations and the education of the parents, the incomes and the location of families but these were not significant however.