

Thesis title A comparative Study of Knowledge, Attitudes and Administration of the AIDS Prevention and Control Program Among the Trained and Untrained Health Personnel in the Five Eastern Provinces of Thailand

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Date of Graduation 13 May B.E. 2535 (1992)

ABSTRACT

This research aims to study the knowledge, attitudes and administrative practice differences between the 2 groups of officers in the Ministry of Public Health: those attending a training course on the diagnosis and referral management of AIDS-infected patients and those receiving no such training. Both target groups comprise of physicians, dentists, together with their assistants, nurses, health officers and assistant officers in the five Eastern provinces of Thailand (Chonburi, Chachoengsao, Nakhonnayok, Prachinburi, and Rayong provinces). The total number of each study group was 133. Two hundred and sixty-six questionnaires (89.26%) were returned. The results were as follows:

In terms of knowledge, both groups were found to be moderately informed of the diagnosis and referral management of AIDS-infected patients. Comparison of their knowledge towards the control and prevention of AIDS, the two main groups differed significantly ($P < 0.05$)

When classified into various professions, the trained groups differed significantly ($P < 0.05$) in their attitude whereas their counterparts did not.

Concerning the administrative practices, there was a statistically significant difference ($P < 0.05$) between the trained and untrained personnel. A significant difference ($P < 0.05$) was found only among the former's professional groups but not among those of the latter.

In terms of the two main groups, the trained group versus the untrained group significant differences ($P < 0.05$) were found regarding their planning and organizational practices. They did not differ, however, in their Staffing, Budgeting, Directing, Coordinating and Reporting. In terms of professional groups, only the two groups of medical doctors, trained as opposed to untrained, were found to behave differently ($P < 0.05$) regarding their Planning, Organizing, Staffing and Budgeting practices.

A negative correlation ($P < 0.05$) was found between the attitudes and the overall administration practices, both in the trained and untrained groups. No other correlation was found among the other variables studied.

The problems encountered in the prevention and control of AIDS listed in order of importance were accommodations, facilities, Staffing, Budgeting and training.