

Thesis Title

The Comparative Study of the Effectiveness
of Health Education Programs Organized by
Housewives and Village Health Communicators
(VHCs) for Preventing Opisthorchiasis in
Ubon Ratchathani Province

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ABSTRACT

The purpose of this research is to compare the effectiveness of health education and social supports provided by housewives and village health communicators in preventing opisthorchiasis in Ubon Ratchathani province. The sampled population were household leaders / or representatives of the families in which their members are infected with opisthorchis viverrini in the district of Amnatcharoen, Ubon Ratchathani province. The sampled population of 172 were simple randomized. The samples were divided into 1 experimental group and 1 control group. The first group, 56 household leaders / or representatives, exposed to health education activities and social supports provided by housewives, the second group, 56 household leaders / or

representatives exposed to health education activities and social supports provided by village health communicators and the third group, 60 household leaders / or representatives, in the control group. In the control group, neither health education activities nor social supports were provided.

The data were collected through interview and observation by using questionnaires and observation form constructed by the author, including the use of the tool searching for *Opisthorchis* eggs. Stool examination for *Opisthorchis* eggs was done before and after the experiment. The statistic methods used for data analysis were : percentage distribution, mean, one-way-analysis of Variance and t-test.

1. Knowledge Regarding Opisthorchiasis:

1.1 The average score of the post-test knowledge regarding opisthorchiasis of the experimental group I and the experimental group II were significantly higher than of the pre-test ($P < 0.001$).

1.2 There was no significant difference of the average score of knowledge regarding opisthorchiasis of the control group, in the pre-and post-tests.

1.3 The average score of the post-test knowledge regarding opisthorchiasis of the experimental group I was significantly higher than of the experimental group II and the control group ($P < 0.05$).

1.4 The average score of the post-test knowledge regarding opisthorchiasis of the experimental group II was significantly higher than of the control group ($P < 0.05$).

2. Attitudes Toward Opisthorchiasis

2.1 The average score of attitudes toward opisthorchiasis in the post-test of the experimental group I and the experimental group II were significantly higher than of the pre-test ($p < 0.001$).

2.2 There was no significant difference of the average score of attitudes toward opisthorchiasis of the control group, in the pre-and post-tests.

2.3 The average score of attitudes toward opisthorchiasis of the experimental group I was significantly higher than of the experimental group II and the control group, in the post-test ($P < 0.05$).

2.4 The average score of attitudes toward opisthorchiasis of the experimental group II was significantly higher than of the control group, in the post-test ($P < 0.05$).

3. Values on Preventing Opisthorchiasis.

3.1 The average score of values on preventing opisthorchiasis in the post-test of the experimental group I was significantly higher than in the pre-test ($P < 0.001$).

3.2 There were no significant difference of the average score of values on preventing opisthorchiasis of the experimental group II and the control group, in the pre-and post-tests.

3.3 The average score of values on preventing opisthorchiasis of the experimental group I was significantly higher than of the experimental group II and the control group, in the post-test ($P < 0.05$).

3.4 The average score of values on preventing opisthorchiasis of the experimental group II was significantly higher than of the control group, in the post-test ($P < 0.05$).

4. Preventive Practice of Opisthorchiasis.

4.1 The average score of preventive practice of opisthorchiasis in the post-test of all three groups were significantly higher than in the pre-test ($P < 0.001$).

4.2 The average score of preventive practice of opisthorchiasis of the experimental group I was significantly higher than of the experimental group II and the control group, in the post-test ($P < 0.05$).

4.3 The average score of preventive practice of Opisthorchiasis of the experimental group II was significantly higher than of the control group, in the post-test ($P < 0.05$).

5. Fresh-Water Fish Consumption.

The experimental group I consumed fresh-water fish risky to opisthorchiasis less than the experimental group II and the control group, in the post-test. ($P < 0.001$).

6. Prevalence rate of Opisthorchis Viverrini infection in the experimental group I was lower than in the experimental group II and in the control group, in the post-test.

7. Reinfection rate of opisthorchis in the experimental group I was lower than in the experimental group II and in the control group, in the post-test

8. Incidence rate of Opisthorchis Viverrini infection in the experimental group I was lower than in the experimental group II and in the control group, in the post-test.