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KHOMKID ANTARASENA : THE STUDY OF THAI TRADITIONAL  
MEDICAL SERVICES: A CASE STUDY OF THAI TRADITIONAL MEDICAL CLINICS  
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The objective of the research was to study the system of Thai Traditional Medical services, types of disease factors influencing the use of Thai traditional clinics, their problems and obstacles in Muang district, Songkhla province. The research was qualitative, using indepth interviews with six traditional healers and forty patients and the clinics' service observation. The retrospective technique was also used.

The result found that there was only one legal, two illegal Thai traditional clinics and three herbal shops. The legal one had a service system like western medical clinics. Their main tasks were selling herbs and herbal drugs. The problems of the Thai traditional medical clinics were (1) very few patients (2) herb was rare and more expensive (3) not enough investment fund and (4) the process of the traditional drug registration was rather complicated.

It was also found that almost all of the traditional healers were very well known in the province and nearby provinces, they had good relationships with the patients and were accepted by them. Female patients used the clinic four times more often than males. Almost all of them were in the reproductive period. Their educational backgrounds were lower than secondary level, working as merchants, earning 4,000-10,000 baht per month. Almost all of them lived in Songkhla province. They went to see the traditional healers for treatment of chronic symptoms. The diseases found among the female patients were Phedlerd (menstruation disorders) and paralysis among male ones. The factors influencing the use of the traditional medical services were the efficacy and recommendations from their social network. The patients' expectation was to recover from the symptoms.