

Wanatphong Benjaphong 2009: Analysis Recreational Therapy and Occupational Therapy in Contemporary Society of Thailand. Master of Science (Recreation), Major Field: Recreation, Department of Physical Education. Thesis Advisor: Assistant Professor Suvimol Tangsujjapoj, Ph.D. 203 pages.

Purposes of this study were: - 1) to compare the attribute between recreational therapy and occupational therapy in Thai society and theoretical concepts of internationalized recreational therapy and occupational therapy; 2) to compare competencies of practice between recreational therapy and occupational therapy; and 3) to analyze the attribute between recreational therapy and occupational therapy in contemporary of Thai society. Subjects were 56 practitioners who were selected by purposive sampling from 25 recreational therapists, 25 occupational therapists, and 6 from recreational therapy and occupational therapy specialists, 3 for each.

Research instruments were two self – administered questionnaires of recreational therapy and occupational therapy in Thai society. Their content validity were approved by 5 experts. Both index of congruence were in the range of 0.8 -1.0. The reliability by Kuder Richardson method were .751 and .753 respectively. Data of both questionnaires were analyzed by using frequency and percentage. Meanwhile using focus group to analyze the attribute between recreational therapy and occupational therapy in contemporary of Thai society

Findings were found that :- 1) 92% of recreational therapy and 88% of occupational therapy in Thai society were congruent internationalized theoretical concepts of recreational therapy and occupational therapy; 2) competencies of practice between recreational therapy and occupational therapy were differences in intervention plan, developing program, and implementation program; and 3) the attribute of recreational therapy were similar to occupational therapy in terms of service, process and code of professional ethics. On the other hand, they were not only differences in participants and service goals, but also in activities, and developing programs.

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Thesis Advisor's signature