

Thesis Title Factors Affecting Performance of Health
 Volunteers in the Promotion of Nutrition
 Programmes: A Study in Suphanburi Province

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ABSTRACT

A community-based cross sectional study which attempts to relate the personal characteristics of health volunteers to their performances with regards nutritional promotion was conducted in 2 districts of Suphanburi Province.

The research study involved 150 health volunteers, that is, the Village Health Communicators (VHCs) and Village Health Volunteers (VHVs) of Muang and Sri-Pra-Chun districts. The motivation behind such research

attempts to identify factors with significant relationship to performance of health volunteers was to seek out more insights and knowledge towards development of nutritional interventions by means of these volunteers. As the health volunteers is and continues to be the focal point of community-based nutrition and PHC activities, it is important not to lose sight of their strategic position.

Statistical analysis (Chi-square and frequency distribution) was employed for the purpose of assessing such relationship.

The results of the study revealed that performance of health volunteers is dependent upon these factors: age, occupation, income, training, exposure to nutrition informations through reading of printed materials, the use of educational materials during village health teachings and the provision of supplies and materials.

On the basis of these findings, a comprehensive development plan must be evolved with ways to improve the lot of these volunteers. It is our belief that this is a highly productive and cost effective way to approach the problem of the health care delivery crises and the continued involvement in a nutrition intervention effort.