

Thesis Title	Program Development for Counseling in Diabetic Patients
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ABSTRACT

Diabetes is a chronic disease which causes both morbidity and mortality by its detrimental complications such as retinopathy, nephropathy, cardiovascular diseases and neuropathy.

Diabetes patients should be provided with massive information to achieve a better quality of life. Many health care providers are involved, for instance physicians, nurses, pharmacists and nutritionists. Those professionals have to provide their respective fields of expertise to a single patient. Consequently, those patients needing information may get lost due to time and even overloaded information from each health care provider.

In other countries, computer has long been used in diabetes management such as dosage recommendation, artificial intelligence for insulin pumps, diabetes databases for both patients and health care providers and computer-assisted instruction. Nevertheless, computer-assisted instruction programs for medical problems in Thailand are limited. Therefore, this multimedia program was developed under

collaboration between the Faculty of Pharmacy, Mahidol University, and Theptarin General hospital.

The diabetes counseling program was developed by using Authorware Professional for Windows which allows the developer to create a multimedia computer program. This program is separated into two parts; a diabetes context part and an asking the expert part. During development all program content which is divided into 6 chapters was well-evaluated by Prof. Dr. Thep Himathongkam.

A questionnaire was used as an evaluation tool. 22 users, varying in age, profession and relationship with diabetes were consulted. The diabetic counseling program got the satisfaction score of 79.0%, 83.6%, 89.0%, 88.8%, 89.0%, 89.8% and 87.2% in asking the expert, diabetes history, energy regulation, causes of diabetes, complications, drug and instruments used and principles of diabetic management chapters respectively.

In beneficial satisfaction scores, the program got 90.9%, 82.6%, 83.4%, 85.0% and 90.7% in context completeness, visual and audio amusement, entertainment, ease of use and getting knowledge respectively.

In conclusion, this diabetic counseling program provides desirable context and knowledge for users. However, there is a drawback in sound quality which can be corrected with newer microphone devices when the program is further developed.