

4238461 ADPM/M : MAJOR : PRIMARY HEALTH CARE MANAGEMENT;
M.P.H.M. (PRIMARY HEALTH CARE MANAGEMENT)

KEYWORD : ROLES OF HEALTH CENTER PERSONNEL

JOKO SAPTO PRAMONO : ROLES OF HEALTH CENTER PERSONNEL IN
PRIMARY HEALTH CARE ACTIVITIES OF SUPHANBURI PROVINCE,
THAILAND. THESIS ADVISORS: PROF. PANTYP RAMASOOTA, Dr.P.H.,
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A cross sectional descriptive study was conducted to investigate the role perception among the health center personnels in relation to Primary Health Care activities, in 6 districts of Suphanburi province. Two hundred health center personnels were survey by closed-ended self-administered questionnaire. The response rate was 82%. The results showed that among health center personnel professionals, technical nurses comprised 51%, followed by community health personnel (48%), and only 1% was dental nurse.

The finding revealed that female were generally higher than male in perceiving the expected roles and the oldest age group as well as the low salary group had higher perception of expected roles than other group. Health personnels those belong to higher status in term of education, position, and profession were less perceived expected roles at high level than the lower status group.

In term of actual roles, more than half of health personnels perceived their actual roles at high level. Only among age group 40-49 and group with working experience 16-25 years that the proportion was less than 50%.

For socio-demographic characteristic the most salient characteristic related to high proportions of concordant between expected and actual roles were age, marital status and salary. Oldest health personnels (50-59 years), single as well as highest salary group (>15,000) showed most concordant. For working characteristics, those who had shortest and longest experiences tended to higher proportion of concordant between expected and actual roles.

The PHC activities were most perceived as their highly expected and actual roles i.e. health education, immunization, MCH/FP, basic medical treatment, dental health and health center administration. The activities that required more knowledge, skill, equipment, action, and risk taking such as collecting specimens for examination, destroying stray dog, giving rabies vaccine for dog, identify high risk groups person and follow up for HIV/AIDS, establishing for community rehabilitation and setting up for disaster accident control group were perceived as low expected and actual roles.

Most of respondents perceived as highly proportions of fairness and appropriateness, although in some activities such as collecting specimens for examination, giving vaccine rabies and destroying stray dogs and establishing for community rehabilitation were perceived as low proportions. More than half respondents felt as their overworked in activities such as collecting specimens for examination, giving rabies vaccine rabies and destroying stray dogs, recruiting necessary fund from private and government sector, conducting exercise activity, campaign to prevent and control addictive drug user follow up for HIV/AID cases and caring for rehabilitation psychiatric patient.