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Table 1 Demographic profile

Demographic data	n	%	
Age (yrs.)			
< 20	8	6.8	
20-29	78	66.1	
30-39	31	26.3	
>= 40	1	0.8	
Total	118	100.0	
Range	18	-43	
Mean <u>+</u> SI	26.9	<u>+</u> 5.0	
Status			
Single	62	52.5	
Married	56	47.5	
Total	42	100.0	
Number of Children			
1	26	61.9	
2	13	31.0	
3	3	7.1	
Total	42	100.0	
Range	1	- 3	
Mean <u>+</u> SI	1.45	±0.63	

Table 1 Demographic profile (continued)

Demographic data	n	%	
Education level			
Primary	22	18.6	
Secondary	71	60.2	
Technical	15	12.7	
Bachalor degree	10	8.5	
Total	118	100.0	
Province at birth			
Central	74	62.7	
North-eastern	20	16.9	
North	17	14.4	
South	7	5.9	
Total	118	100.0	

Table 2 Distributation of income per month by type of work

Income	Tot	Total Indirect Labour		Labour	Direct	Labour
(Baht)	n	ď	n	ઝ	n	8
< 3,000	2	1.7	-	_	2	1.8
3,001 - 4,000	20	16.9	-	-	20	17.7
4,001 - 5,000	48	40.7	-	-	48	42.5
5,001 - 6000	28	23.7	1	20.0	27	23.9
6,001 - 7,000	6	5.1	-	-	6	5.3
7,001 - 8,000	_	-	-	_	-	-
8,001 - 9,000	_	-	-	-	-	-
9,000 - 10,000	4	3.4	2	40.0	2	1.8
> 10,000	2	1.7	1	20.0	1	0.9
Unknown	8	6.8	1	20.0	7	6.2
Total	118	100.0	5	100.0	113	100.0
Range	ge 2,338-15,000		5,500-15,000		2,33	8-15,000
Mean <u>+</u> SD	4,8	38 <u>+</u> 1,770	9,700 <u>+</u> 3,932 4,6		55 <u>+</u> 1,371	

Table 3 Experience on iron tablet consumption and weekly iron tablet consumption compliance during the intervention

Iron Tablet consumption	n	96
Experience of iron tablet consumption		
Never	74	62.7
Unsure	39	34.0
Ever	5	4.2
Total	118	100.0
Compliance during intervention		<u>-</u>
Regularly	106	89.8
Irregularly	12	10.2
Total	118	100.0
Number of iron tablets that were not taken		
1	5	41.7
2	1	8.3
3	1	8.3
12	1	8.3
16	1	8.3
Unknown	3	25.0
Total	12	100.0

Table 4 History of respiratory tract and gastrointestinal tract infections in previous 2 months pre and post the intervention

History of illness	Pr	:e	Post		
(episode)	n	%	n	96	
Respiratory tract infection					
0	31	26.3	66	55.9	
1	20	16.9	33	28.0	
2	21	17.8	15	12.7	
3	23	19.5	2	1.7	
4	9	7.6	2	1.7	
5	5	4.2	-	-	
>5	9	7.6	-	-	
Total	118	100.0	118	100.0	
Range	0 -	15	0	- 4	
Mean <u>+</u> SD	2.4	2.7	0.6	0.9	
Gastrointestinal tract infection					
0	47	39.8	87	73.7	
1	14	11.9	17	14.4	
2	22	18.6	5	4.2	
3	15	12.7	4	3.4	
4	3	2.5	-	-	
5	12	10.2	1	0.8	
> 5	5	4.3	2	1.7	
Total	118	100.0	118	100.0	
Range	0 -	20	0 -	10	
Mean <u>+</u> SD	2.0-	2.8	0.6	0.9	

Table 5 History of menstruation blood loss pre and after post the Intervention and history of abortion

Menstruation blood loss	Pr	е	Post		
	n	%	n	8	
Duration of Menstruation (day)					
0	1	0.8	0	0	
1	1	0.8	0	0	
2	4	3.4	5	4.2	
3	51	43.2	50	42.4	
4	23	19.5	26	22.0	
5	23	19.5	22	18.6	
>5	15	12.7	15	12.7	
Total	118	100.0	118	100.0	
Range	0 - 3	10	2-	7	
Mean <u>+</u> SD	4.0 <u>+</u>	1.5	4.0 <u>+</u>	1.3	
Duration of heavy blood loss			T		
menstruation (day)					
0	1	0	0	0	
1	32	0	46	39.0	
2	44	4.2	53	44.9	
3	21	42.4	16	13.6	
4	4	22.0	2	1.7	
5	11	18.6	1	0.8	
>5	4	12.7	0	0	
Total	118	100.0	118	100.0	
Range	0 - 3	10	1-!	5	
Mean <u>+</u> SD	2.5 <u>±</u> 1.6		1.8+	0.8	
History of abortion					
Never	48	85.7			
Ever	8	14.3			
Total	56	100			

Table 6 History of worm infestation

History of worm infestation	n	26
Hookworm positive	3	2.5
Unknown worm positive	14	11.9
Worm negative	18	15.3
Unknown result (Never checked)	83	70.3
Total	118	100.0

Table 7 History of deworming

History of deworming	n	95
Never	89	75.4
Ever	29	24.9
Total	118	100.0

Table 8 Food frequency consumiption pre and post (*) intervention

Food item	Food Frequency Consumption						
	Everyday	4-6/week	1-3/week	< 1/week	Never	Unknown	Total
	n(%)	n(%)	n(%)	n(%)	n(%)	n(%)	n
Meat	75 (63.6)	21(17.8)	15(12.7)	4 (3.4)	1(0.8)	2(1.7)	118
*	74 (62.7)	29 (24.6)	15(12.7)	0(0.0)	0(0.0)	0(0.0)	118
Blood	1(0.8)	6 (5.1)	30(25.4)	51(43.2)	25 (21.2)	5 (4.2)	118
*	1(0.8)	6(5.1)	52(44.1)	42(55.6)	15(12.7)	2(1.7)	118
Liver	0(0.0)	12(10.2)	45(38.1)	43(36.4)	15(12.7)	3 (2.5)	118
*	1(0.8)	12(10.2)	58 (49.2)	37(31.4)	10(8.5)	0(0.0)	118
Offal meat	1(0.8)	10(8.5)	49(41.5)	41(34.7)	14(11.9)	3 (2.5)	118
*	2(1.7)	12(10.2)	46 (39.0)	47(39.8)	9(7.6)	2(1.7)	118
Green	67 (56.8)	34 (28.8)	12(10.2)	2(1.7)	2(1.7)	1(0.8)	118
leafy							
vegetable							
*	61(51.7)	37(31.4)	16(13.6)	4(3.4)	0(0.0)	0(0.0)	118
Fruit	62 (52.5)	29(24.6)	22(18.6)	2(1.7)	1(0.8)	2(1.7)	118
*	48 (40.7)	43 (36.4)	21(17.8)	3(2.5)	3(2.5)	0(0.0)	118
Tea/	7(5.9)	6 (5.1)	12(10.2)	34 (28.8)	51(43.2)	8 (6.8)	118
Coffee							
×	12(10.2)	6(5.1)	10(8.5)	17(14.4)	71(60.2)	2(1.7)	118
Milk*	5 (4.2)	14(11.9)	22(18.6)	43(36.4)	31(26.3)	3 (2.5)	118
	5(4.2)	19(16.1)	34 (28.8)	30(25.4)	30(25.4)	0(0.0)	118
Carbonated	9(7.6)	8(6.8)	30(25.4)	45(38.1)	25(21.2)	1(0.8)	118
drink							
*	6(5.1)	5(4.2)	23(19.5)	4 (36.4%)	36 (30.5)	5(4.2)	118
Soya Milk	8 (6.8)	10(8.5)	31 (26.3)	43(36.4)	23(19.5)	3 (2.5)	118
*	5(4.2)	11(9.3)	30(25.4)	44 (37.3)	27(22.9)	1(0.8)	118

Table 9 Pre and post test and right answer of knowledge of iron-rich food

	Pre	test	Post	test	Right Answer		
73-4	36	T .v-	37-0			D	
Food item	Yes	No	Yes	No	Pre	Post	
	n	n	n	n	n	n	
	(%)	(%)	(%)	(%)	(%)	(%)	
Meat	67	51	96	22	67	96	
	(56.8)	(43.2)	(81.4)	(18.6)	(56.8)	(81.4)	
Blood	68	50	100	18	68	100	
	(57.6)	(42.4)	(84.7)	(15.3)	(57.6)	(84.7)	
Liver	95	23	111	7	95	111	
	(80.5)	(19.5)	(94.1)	(5.9)	(80.5)	(94.1)	
Offal meat	71	47	88	30	71	88	
	(60.2)	(39.8)	(74.6)	(25.4)	(60.2)	(74.6)	
Green leafy	58	59	95	23	58	95	
vegetable	(49.2)	(50.8)	(80.5)	(19.5)	(49.2)	(80.5)	
Fruit	43	75	83	35	75	35	
	(36.8)	(63.2)	(70.3)	(29.7)	(63.2)	(29.7)	
Tea	2	116	3	115	116	115	
	(1.7)	(98.3)	(2.5)	(97.5)	(98.3)	(97.5)	
Milk	67	51	62	56	51	56	
	(1.7)	(43.2)	(52.5)	(47.5)	(43.2)	(47.5)	
Carbonated drink	2	116	3	115	116	115	
	(1.7)	(98.3)	(2.5)	(97.5)	(98.3)	(97.5)	
Soya Milk	52	66	58	60	66	60	
	(44.1)	(55.9)	(49.2)	(50.8)	(55.9)	(50.8)	

Table 10 Pre and post test knowelege and practice on iron deficiency anemia

	-	Pre test			Post test	È	Right	Answer
Knowledge	True/	Unsure	False/	True/	Unsure	False/	Pre	Post
/Practice	Yes		No	Yes		No	test	test
	n	n	n	n	n	n	n	n
	(%)	(%)	(%)	(%)	(%)	(%)	(%)	(%)
1 Iron is an	113	5	0	11	7	Ō	113	111
important element	(95.8)	(4.2)	(0.0)	(94.1)	(5.9)	(0.0)	(95.8)	(94.1)
in red blood cell								
2 Red blood cell	100	15	3	97	20	1	100	97
carries oxygen to	(84.7)	(12.7)	(2.5)	(82.2)	(16.9)	(0.8)	(84.7)	(82.2)
every cell to								
give live								
3 Prolong iron	108	9	1	117	1	0	108	117
deficiency	(91.5)	(7.6)	(0.8)	(99.2)	(0.8)	(0.0)	(91.5)	(99.2)
causes anemia								
4 Iron deficiency	68	41	9	72	42	4	68	72
is not clinically	(57.6)	(34.7)	(7.6)	(61.0)	(35.6)	(3.4)	(57.6)	(61.0)
apparent								
5 Iron deficiency	96	21	1	95	20	3	96	95
anemia causes	(81.4)	(17.8)	(0.8)	(80.5)	(16.9)	(2.5)	(81.4)	(81.2)
fatigue				;				
6 Iron deficiency	67	45	6	85	31	2	67	85
anemia increases	(56.8)	(38.1)	(5.1)	(72.0)	(26.3)	(1.7)	(56.8)	(72.0)
respiratory tract								
infection								
7 Iron deficiency	50	58	10	66	39	13	50	66
anemia increases	(42.4)	(49.2)	(8.5)	(55.9)	(33.1)	(11.0)	(42.4)	(55.9)
gastrointestinal								
tract infection							- 0	

Table 10 Pre and post test knowelege and practice on iron deficiency anemia (continued)

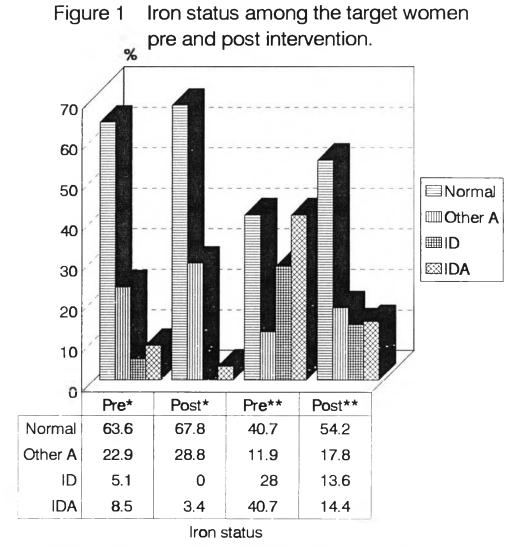
	Pre test			Post test			Pre test Post test Right Answer			Answer
Knowledge	True/	Unsure	False/	True/	Unsure	False/	Pre	Post		
/Practice	Yes		No	Yes		No	test	test		
1	n	n	n	n	n	n	n	n		
	(%)	(%)	(%)	(%)	(%)	(%)	(%)	(%)		
8 Iron deficiency	94	24	0	83	27	8	94	83		
anemia can lower	(79.7)	(20.3)	(0.0)	(70.3)	(22.9)	(6.8)	(79.7)	(70.3)		
work productivity								:		
9 Weekly iron	65	53	113	106	10	2	65	106		
tablet	(55.1)	(44.9)	(95.8)	(89.8)	(8.5)	(1.7)	(55.1)	(89.8)		
consumption is a										
preventtive										
procurement										
10 According to	61	47	10	104	11	3	61	104		
your perception,	(51.7)	(39.8)	(8.5)	(88.1)	(9.3)	(2.5)	(51.7)	(88.9)		
you are going to							:			
take weekly iron										
tablet]						
11 Among other	108	10	0	100	11	7	108	100		
groups, pregnant	(91.5)	(8.5)	(0.0)	(84.7)	(9.3)	(5.9)	(91.5)	(85.5)		
women is the										
most important										
group for				:						
consuming iron										
tablet										
12 Pregnant women	86	28	4	84	33	1	86	84		
is the most at	(72.9)	(23.7)	(3.4)	(71.2)	(28.0)	(0.8)	(72.9)	(71.2)		
risk group to be										
iron deficiency										
anemia										

Table 10 Pre and post test knowelege and practice on iron deficiency anemia (continued)

	Pre test			Post test			Right Answer	
Knowledge	True/	Unsure	False/	True/	Unsure	False/	Pre	Post
/Practice	Yes		No	Yes		No	test	test
,	n	n	n	n	n	n	n	n
	(%)	(%)	(왕)	(%)	(왕)	(%)	(왕)	(%)
13 Iron	75	39	4	76	40	2	75	76
deficiency anemia	(63.6)	(33.1)	(3.4)	(64.4)	(33.9)	(1.7)	(63.6)	(64.4)
pregnant women	(0000,	(00117)	,,	, , , ,				
are at risk to								
abortion								
14 Iron	73	44	1	80	35	3	73	80
deficiency anemia	(61.9)	(37.3)	(0.8)	(67.8)	(29.7)	(2.5)	(61.9)	(67.8)
pregnant women	(01.)	(37.37	(0.07	(07.07	(23.7)	(2.5)	(01.5)	(07.07
are at riska to								
deliver low								
birthweight								
newborns (<2,500								
gms.)								
15 Low	99	16	3	93	20	5	99	93
birthweight	(83.9)	(13.6)	(2.5)	(78.8)	(16.9)	(4.2)	(83.9)	(78.8)
newborns are		i .						
prone to be								
unhealthy and								
more								
susceptibility to								
illness								
16 Infants need	108	10	0	102	16	0	108	102
iron to develop	(91.5)	(8.5)	(0.0)	(86.4)	(13.6)	(0.0)	(91.5)	(86.4)
their brains								
		L			L		<u> </u>	

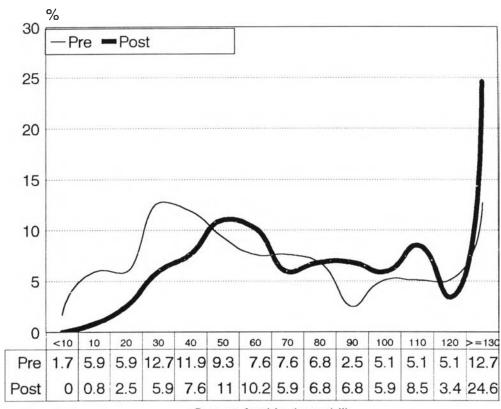
Table 10 Pre and post test knowelege and practice on iron deficiency anemia (continued)

	Pre test			Post test			Right Answer		
Knowledge	True/	Unsure	False/	True/	Unsure	False/	Pre	Post	
/Practice	Yes	i	No	Yes		No	test	test	
	n	n	n	n	n	n	n	n	
	(%)	(%)	(%)	(%)	(%)	(%)	(%)	(%)	
17 Women of	106	12	0	112	6	0	106	112	
reproductive age	(89.8)	(10.2)	(0.0)	(94.9)	(5.1)	(0.0)	(89.8)	(94.9)	
should prepare									
themselves for									
better iron									
storage for their									
later pregnancy									
18 Women of	65	50	3	92	19	7	65	92	
reproductive age	(55.1)	(42.4)	(2.5)	(78.0)	(16.1)	(5.9)	(55.1)	(78.0)	
should consume									
weekly iron tablet									
19 Iron tablet	44	64	10	61	48	9	44	61	
does not cause	(37.3)	(54.2)	(8.5)	(51.7)	(40.7)	(7.6)	(37.3)	(51.7)	
difficult									
deliverly due to				:					
big newborns									
20 Have you	14	22	7	30	11	2	14	30	
consumed iron	(32.6)	(51.2)	(16.3)	(69.8)	(25.6)	(4.7)	(32.6)	(69.8)	
tablet during your									
last pregnancy ?									
(married women=43)									



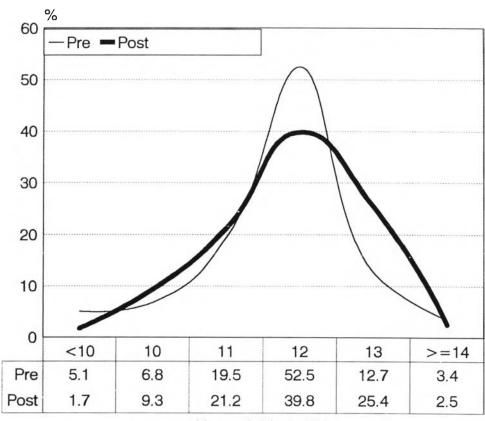
* ID&IDA = SF < 30 mcg/dl, ** ID&IDA = SF < 60 mcg/dl

Figure 2 Distribution of Serum Ferritin (mcg/dl) of the target women.



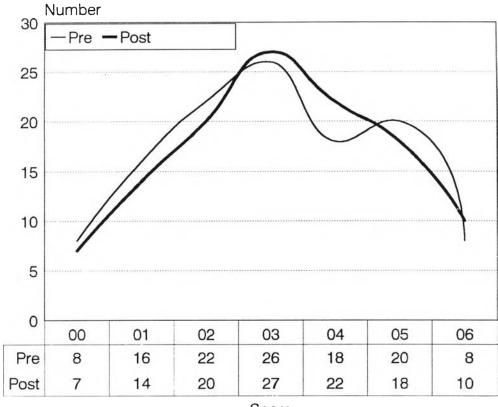
Serum ferritin (mcg/dl)

Figure 3 Distribution of pre anad post hemoglobin of the target women.



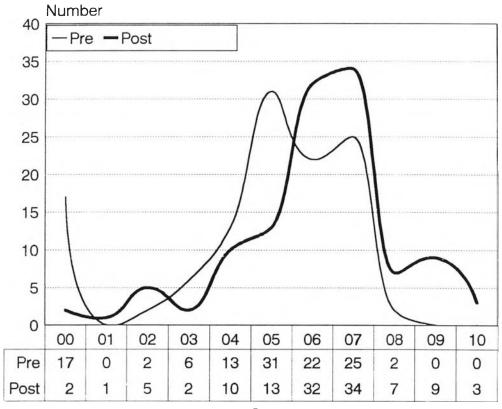
Hemoglobin (g/dL)

Figure 4 Distributation of pre and post score of correct practice on iron-rich food consumption of the target women



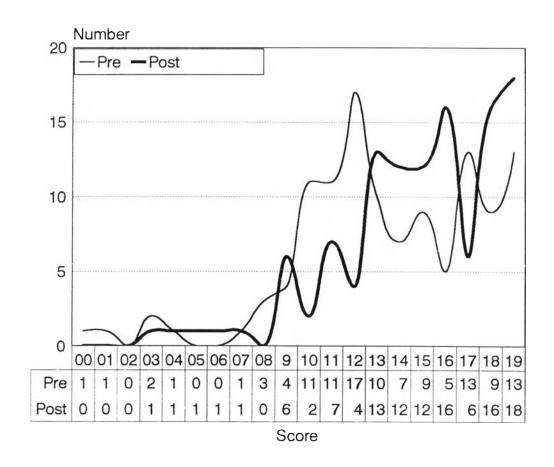
Score

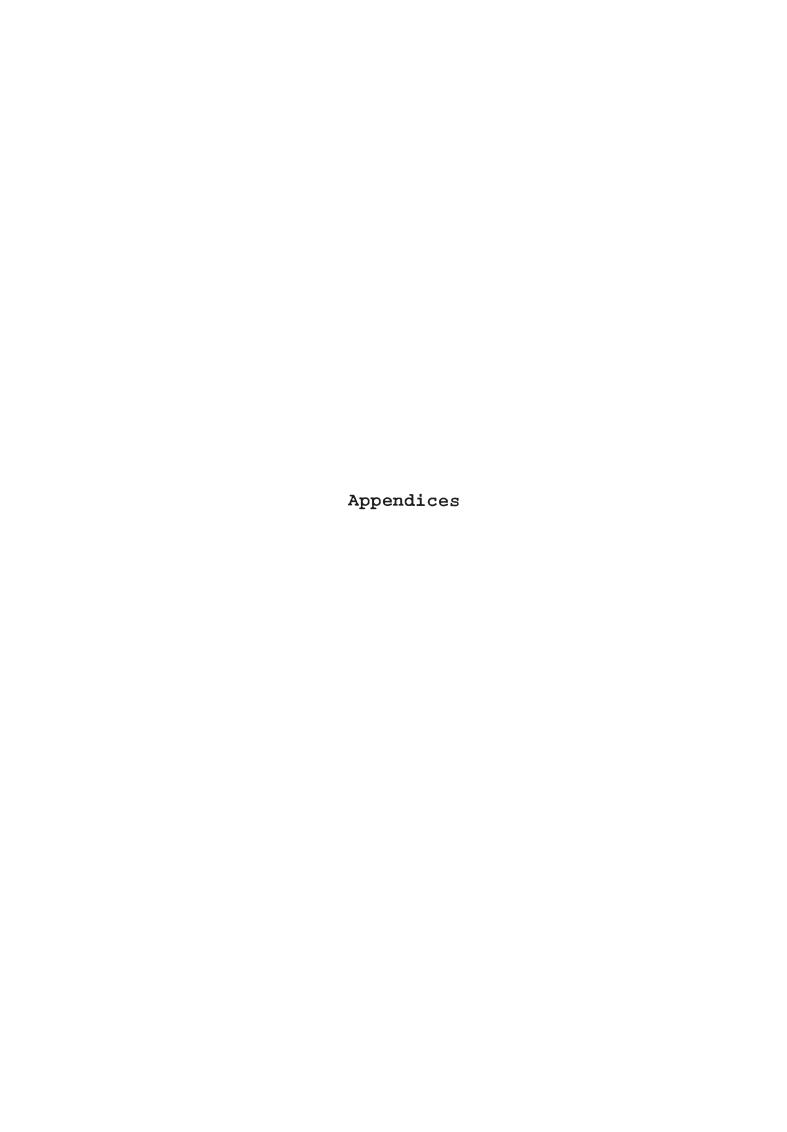
Figure 5 Distributation of pre and post score of Knowledge on iron-rich food of the target women



Score

Figure 6 Distributation of pre and post score of correct knowledge of the target women





Blood examination

Hemoglobin Determination

Hemoglobin is used to assess the presence and severity of anemia.

The degree of reliability varies with methods. The most reliable method is hemiqlobincyanide method.

Serum Ferritin

Measurement of serum ferritin is widely used as a test for iron deficiency anemia and iron overload. A method based on immonoassay has been recommended by ICSH.

In normal adults the serum ferritin concentration is in the 15-300 mcg/L range. In an adult a level less than 15 mcg/L indicates an absence of storage iron.

Peripherial blood smear

The examination of the pheripherial blood smear is one of the most important laboratory tests in the evaluation of the anemia. This simple test provides valuable information;

variable information,	
Abnormal Rbc Morphology	Associated Clinical
Conditions	
Macrocytes	Megaloblastic anemia (folate or
	Vitamin B12 deficiency), liver
	disease
Microcytes	Iron deficiency, thalassemia,
	sideroblastic
Hypochromia	Iron deficiency, thalassemia,
	sideroblastic
	anemia; sometimes in anemia of

chronic inflammation

Questionnaire: Pre-test

An Action Research to Control and Prevent Iron Deficiency Anemia In Women of Reproductive Age in a Factory in Chachengsao Province

Name of Factory Chicony Electronics (Thailand) Co. LTD.
1 Name Mrs Miss Family Name Income Baht/month. 2 Adress 3 Province of Birth
4 Status 1 Single
2 Marriage
l No. of children
2 No. of abortion
3 Method of birth control
l Permanent birth control
2 No birth control/temporary
5 Education level 1 Primary 2 Secondary 3 Technology
4 Bachalor Degree 5 Higher than Bachalor Degree
6 Iron tablet consumption history
☐ 1 Never
2Yes Time of last iron tablet takenday(s)month(s)year(s)
3 Not sure
7 During previous 5 months l Episode of fever (Catch cold, running nose etc.)
2 Episode of diarhoea (>3 time/day)
8 Duration of Menstruation Day Duration of heavy blood loss menstruation Day(s)
9 Cronic blood loss at this moment
10 Worm infestation history
3 No 4 Not sure
11 Deworming history 1 Never
2 Last time of deworming tablet consumptionday(s) month (s) year(s)
12 Please check $$ in the block of food frequency consumption according to your practice during last month and please check $$ in the block of iron rich food according to your knowle

Food item		Food free	Iron-rich food					
	Everyday	4-6/week	1-3/week	<1/week	Never	Yes	Not sure	No
Meat								
Blood								
Liver								
Offal meat								
Green leafy vegetable								
Fruit			-					
tea/coffee								
Fresh milk								
Carbonated drink								
Soya milk								

13 Please tick √ in the block according to your knowledge and practice

Questionnaire	True/Yes	Unsure	False/No
1 Iron is an important element in red blood cel			
2 Red blood cell carries oxygen to every cell to give live			
3 Prolong iron deficiency causes anemia			
4 Iron deficiency is not clinically apparent			
5 Iron deficiency anemia causes fatigue			
6 Iron deficiency anemia increases respiratory tract infection			
7 Iron deficiency anemia increases gastrointestinal tract infection		-	
8 Iron deficiency anemia can lower work productivity			
9 Weekly iron tablet consumption is a preventtive procurement			
10 As your perception, you are going to take weekly iron tablet			
11 Among other groups, pregnant women is the most important group for consuming iron tablet			
12 Pregnant women is the most at risk group to be iron deficiency anemia			
13 Iron deficiency anemia pregnant women are at risk to abortion			
14 Iron deficiency anemia pregnant women are at riska to deliver low birthweight newborns (<2,500 gms.)			
15 Low birthweight newborns are prone to be unhealthy and more susceptibility to illness			
16 Infants need iron to develop their brains		-	
17 Women of reproductive age should prepare themselves for better iron storage for their later pregnancy			
18 Women of reproductive age should consume weekly iron tablet			
19 Iron tablet does not cause difficult deliverly due to big newborns			
20 Had you consumed iron tablet during your pregnancy?			

Questionnaire Post-test An Action Research to Control and Prevent Iron Deficiency Anemia In Women of Reproductive Age in a Factory in Chachengsao Province

Name of Factory. C	hicony Elec	ctronics (Th	nailand) Co	. LTD.	ID				
1 Name Mrs 2 Frequency of iron 0 l Once a	tablet consu	imption	Fami	ly Name					
2 Less th	an once a w	eek Noti	fy reason						
3 During previous 5 m	onths 1		er (Catch col	d, running no	ose etc.)				
4 Duration of Menstrua	ation D	ay Dura	tion of heavy	blood loss me	enstruation	1 D	Pay(s)		
5 Cronic blood loss at the	his moment	☐ 1 No	2 Yes, car	used by					
6 Please check √ in during last month		check √in		of iron rich				knowledg	;e
	Everyday	4-6/week	1-3/week	<1/week	Never	Yes	Not sure	No	
Meat									
Blood				1					
Liver									
Offal meat									
Green leafy vegetable					1				

Fruit
tea/coffee
Fresh milk
Carbonated drink
Soya milk

11 Please tick $\sqrt{\ }$ in the block according to your knowledge and practice

Questionnaire	True/Yes	Unsure	False/No
1 Iron is an important element in red blood cell			
2 Red blood cell carries oxygen to every cell to give live			
3 Prolong iron deficiency causes anemia			
4 Iron deficiency is not clinically apparent			
5 Iron deficiency anemia causes fatigue			
6 Iron deficiency anemia increases respiratory tract infection			
7 Iron deficiency anemia increases gastrointestinal tract infection			
8 Iron deficiency anemia can lower work productivity			
9 Weekly iron tablet consumption is a preventtive procurement			
10 As your perception, you are going to take weekly iron tablet			
11 Among other groups, pregnant women is the most important group for consuming iron tablet			
12 Pregnant women is the most at risk group to be iron deficiency anemia			
13 Iron deficiency anemia pregnant women are at risk to abortion		-	
14 Iron deficiency anemia pregnant women are at riska to deliver low birthweight newborns (<2,500 gms.)			
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16 Infants need iron to develop their brains			
17 Women of reproductive age should prepare themselves for better iron storage for their later pregnancy			
18 Women of reproductive age should consume weekly iron tablet			
19 Iron tablet does not cause difficult deliverly due to big newborns			
20 Had you consumed iron tablet during your pregnancy?			

Curriculum Vitae

Name: Utoomporn Sittisingh

Present address: Nutrition Division, Department of Health

Ministry of Public Health

Date of birth: 20 March 1949

Place of birth: Bangkok, Thailand

Citizenship: Thai

Religion: Buddist

Marital status: Married

Education:

1984 Bachelor of Arts (English)

Ramkamhaeng University, Bangkok, Thailand

1990 Bachelor of Education (Food & Nutrition)

Rajchapat University

(Suan Dusit Teaching College)

Bangkok, Thailand

1993 MCN (Master of Community Nutrition)

University of Queensland, Australia

Experience:

1991 Survey for the prevalence of iron

deficiency anemia in preschool children in

Thailand

1993 Survey for the prevalence of iron

Deficiency anemia in pregnant women in

Thailand

1994 Survey for the prevalence of iron

Deficiency anemia in school children in

Thailand

1995 Effectiveness and compliance on iron

tablet supplementation in pregnant women

1996 Improve nutrition education at ANC clinics

1997	Iron supplementation, iron-rich food in
	school lunch programme and nutrition &
	health education among school children in
	a district in Chumporn province
1997	Empower health workers to control and
	Prevent iron deficiency anemia
1998	Create awareness among villagers to
	Control and prevent iron deficiency anemia
1999	Weekly iron tablet supplementation in
	Kanchanaburi, Rayong and Chachengsao
	Provinces
2000	Weekly iron tablet supplementation
	in adolescent girls in Chachengsao
	province
2001	Weekly iron tablet supplementation
	Among vegetarians in Bangkok Metropolitan