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THONGCHAI PATPITTAYA: FOOD SANITATION KNOWLEDGE AND PRACTICE OF FOOD ESTABLISHMENT ENTREPRENEURS ACCORDING TO THE LEGAL MEASURES. THESIS ADVISOR: DECHA DEJAKAISAYA, M.P.H., VAJIRA SINGHAKAJEN, M.A., CHAIYA MACHANG, M.Sc., PHANOM THIPAYACHAT, M.Sc., 142 p. ISBN 974-589-304-8

The objectives of this study were to assess knowledge and practice of food sanitation according to legal measures of food establishment entrepreneurs. The subjects of this study were 600 food establishment entrepreneurs with a size of 200 square meters or more. Direct interview and observation were used for data collection.

It was found that the majority of food establishment entrepreneurs had high level of knowledge and practice according to legal measures. Their scores of knowledge and practice on storing spoons, forks and chopsticks were moderate, while the level of their practice was to be improved. There was a significant difference on practices according to legal measures between the food establishment entrepreneurs who practiced correctly and incorrectly ($p < 0.0001$). Responsibility of the food establishment entrepreneurs was significantly related to their knowledge only. Their education levels were significantly related to their practice only. Area setting, building types and shop styles were significantly related to the entrepreneurs' knowledge and practice. Types of foods were significantly related to the practice only. The duration of their business, a number of operating hours per day, and receiving training and advice from sanitary officers were significantly related to knowledge and practices ($p < 0.0001$). The main problem and obstacle as related to the practice of food sanitation according to legal measures of the food establishment entrepreneurs was lack of information on legal measures. The food establishment entrepreneurs were unaware of the importance of proper clothing for food preparation.

It is suggested from the study that the government provide information on legal measures to the food establishment entrepreneurs widely and continuously.