

Abstract

The research on the operation of Chonburi's tambon administration organizations [TAOs] on health care for the elderly people has formulated the objectives to study the operation of tambon administration organizations on health care for the elderly people, and also study the factors that have relationship with the operation of tambon administration organizations on health care for the elderly people. The population for the studies includes 70 chairpersons or representatives of 70 tambon administration organizations in Chonburi province with the use of especially- designed questionnaire. Percentage, means, standard deviation have been applied for use to analyze the data in narrative approach, while Pearson's Product Moment Correlation Coefficient has also been used to analyze the data to examine the relations between the factors that have relationship with the operation of tambon administration organizations on health care for the elderly people.

The study results on general information of tambon administration organizations have discovered that most of the tambon administration organizations are small-sized tambon administration organizations with the number of 5-7 villages in the areas, and comprises 10-15 members in the tambon administration organization's council, 5-10 tambon employees and 10-20 workers. The total population under its responsibility ranges from 5,000-10,000 people including less than 500 elderly people. Government's nursing facilities are health centers and most of the tambon administration organizations also have health promotion centers as social service facilities.

Overview work of the tambon administration organizations' on health care for the elderly people has reflected the operation of health care at little level. When being considered individually in 3 issues, promotion of health care, prevention of diseases, and health rehabilitation are all at the medium level.

The study of factors for the operation of tambon administration organizations on health care has revealed that most of the tambon administration organizations have their total income ranging from 10,000,000–20,000,000 baht, have general knowledge

about development of elderly people at medium level, and also have public health care and medical experiences at the medium level. tambon administration organization's data survey and development planning for elderly people as a whole are at medium levels. When being considered in 6 sub-issues, survey of elderly people's general data, placement of elderly people development project and plan into the tambon's development plan are at high levels; while development for database of elderly people in the community, and the elderly people development project and planning are both at the medium levels; on part of the support from persons and other organizations, the degree is at medium level; and the coordination with persons and other organizations for cooperation is at medium level.

Examination results of relationship between factors and operation of tambon administration organizations on health care for the elderly people has notified that public health care and medical experiences as well as the tambon administration organization's data survey and development planning for elderly people have relationship with the operation of tambon administration organizations on health care for the elderly people, whereas the knowledge and understanding of elderly people development, income, receipt of support from persons and other organizations, and coordination with persons and other organizations for cooperation do not have relationship with the operation of tambon administration organizations on health care for the elderly people.

From the results of this study, the researcher has suggested that, for the operation of tambon administration organizations on health care for the elderly people, budget should be proportionally allocated to cover all areas of health care, and development plan of health care for elderly people should be devised in the participatory approach so that the development plan for elderly people will be made possible to bring into practice efficiently. The tambon administration organizations should have their capacity for coordination with various organizations for cooperation in health care operation enhanced in the bilateral manner both in the area and outside of the area, and focus on public relations of successful operation of health care so as to

seek frontline partners in development of health care at the local level, along with the determination of policy and projects to support the operation of health care for elderly people in the concrete fashion, which can be brought into practice.

In order to have clear view of the work on health care for elderly people, the researcher would like to suggest a guideline for the operation of health care as follows:

1. Category of activities that the tambon administration organizations can implement on its own in the for the promotion of health care are such as encouragement of exercise, formation and improvement of environment that are favorable to health care, mental development, the use of media for dissemination of news and information on health care; while the prevention of diseases should include disease prevention and control, eradication of animal carriers of diseases; and in rehabilitation of physical and mental health should include paying a visit to the elderly people with illness, and provision of essential consumer products and personal hygiene items for the elderly people.

2. Category of activities that the tambon administration organizations are able to implement with other organizations in the promotion of health care are such as food and nutrition for the elderly people, and recreations for the elderly people; the sector of disease prevention should include annual health check-up, and prevention of non-communicable diseases; and in rehabilitation of physical and mental health should include the arrangement of mobile clinic service unit.

3. Category of activities that other organizations in the area must continue to carry on because the tambon administration organization is still not ready for the tasks especially in surveillance of diseases in elderly people, should include blood-test, check-ups for heart diseases and cancers, examination of bone mineral density, and physical therapy for the elderly people.