



CHAPTER VI

METHOD

A household interview survey has been carried out in order to collect data on the utilization of curative, preventive and family planning services. For preventive services, this study emphasizes only maternal and child health care.

The survey was conducted during December 1989 to January 1990. Initially, the location of the households and other facilities in the village has been observed and mapped. The households has been numbered. The leader of the village and the primary health care worker has been interviewed for general information of the village.

Questionnaires has been constructed and used for interview. The content includes variables on socioeconomic, demographic, the occurrence of illnesses in the household during the past two weeks and the utilization of health services. The questionnaires has been pretested in a Karen village which have similar characteristics to the study village.

The well trained health personnel have conducted the interview. The population interviewed can be classified as following:

- All the adult villagers has been interviewed about their illnesses in the preceding two weeks which are their perceived

morbidity, and what they did to alleviate the symptoms of those illnesses. In case of the children age lower than 15 years old, mothers/fathers has been interviewed as their representative respondents.

- Mothers of the children aged under 5 years old have been interviewed for the information on the utilization of maternal and child health care. The content consists of the utilization of antenatal care, birth attendant, site of delivery and the postnatal care for the last pregnancy including the immunization of their last children.

- Women in reproductive age (15-44 years old) who live with husband and have at least one child, has been interviewed for the utilization of family planning service.

For the study of the factors which may affect health services utilization, the head of the household has been interviewed to provide information on socioeconomic and demographic variables and the past experience in the utilization of different types of curative care.

The researcher has accompanied the interviewer to the field survey initially and periodically in order to check the completeness of the data.

In order to determine the actual health needs, the community has been follow-up for 7 months. The illnesses of acute respiratory tract infection and diarrhoea as well as the seeking behavior of curative care has been recorded in the daily interview form.