KNOWLEDGE ATTITUDE, AND PRACTICE ABOUT PHYSICAL ACTIVITY AMONG PEOPLE AT HUAI YOT DISTRICT, TRANG PROVINCE



Mrs. Ratree Siriponbun

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Ву	: Mrs. Ratree Siripoonbun
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Program	. meanin Systems Development
Thesis Advisor	: Valaikanya Plasai, M.P.H., Dr. P.H.
Thesis Co-advisor	: Assistant Professor Somrat Lertmaharit, M.Sc., M. Med. Stat.

Accepted by the College of Public Health, Chulalongkorn University, Bangkok Thailand in Partial Fulfillment of the Requirements for the Master's Degree

Chili ATThe - am - Dean of the College of Public Health

(Professor Chitr Sitthi-Amorn, M.D., M.Sc., Ph.D.)

THESIS COMMITTEE

Ry my Gran Chairperson

(Associate Professor Ong-arj Viputsiri, M.D., Dr. P.H.)

Ulu Ce Thesis Advisor

(Valaikanya Plasai, M.P.H., Dr. P.H.)

(Assistant Professor Somrat Lertmaharit, M.Sc., M. Med. Stat.)

Ubonum Walhanadi Johne Member

(Ubonwon Wathanadilokul, M.D., M.Dis. St.)

ต้นฉบับ หน้าขาดหาย

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The objectives of this cross-sectional descriptive research were to assess the type, level and intensity of physical activities among the Family Health Leaders (FHL) in Huaiyot District of Trang Province in southern Thailand, to determine the factors influencing the activities, and to also examine the association between those factors and physical activities. The population of the study is FHLs appointed by Huaiyot Health District who had completed training seminar, a total of 13,326 persons. Sample size calculation yielded 400 individuals. A systematic sampling method was employed. First, one village per Tambon (a cluster of villages) was selected from the 16 Tambons of Huaiyot district, 1,692 population. The researcher then, employed systematic sampling scheme to identify 400 respondents from the 1,692 population in the 16 Tambons. A questionnaire designed by the researcher was developed based on the PRECEDE-PROCEED model, and was field tested for reliability among a group of 30 FHLs in the nearby district, using Cronbach's alpha co-efficient. Results showed the score at 0.74 for the section on knowledge, and 0.75 for the section on attitude. Validity was done through expert opinion, using 5 experts working in health promotion in Trang Province. The physical test 117 individuals, Division of Sport and Activity of Thailand, Trang. The research used SPSS for Windows for data analysis. Statistical tests used in this study were frequencies, percentage, means, and standard deviation of all variable, as well as test of association between physical activities and knowledge, attitude, enabling factors and reinforcing factor. Chisquare test was used, with p-value $\sim <0.05$.

Most of the respondents are female (male: female = 1: 4), age between 26-35, with 6 years of education (65.7%), main occupation is agriculture (72.8%), with income between 2,801-5,000 baht, and being married (78.5%). Attitude and knowledge toward physical activity of this group of FHLs is mostly positive. Both knowledge and attitude on physical activity was found at average level, 79.7% and mean=2.69%, respectively. FHLs also have a level of physical activity at average level of poor, 92 %. They do 5 to 10 different physical activities. The type of daily exercise they do is closely related to housework, regular work, commute, and their hobby.

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TABLE OF CONTENTS

P	age
ABSTRACT	iii
ACKNOWLEGDEMENTS	iv
TABLE OF CONTENTS	v
LIST OF TABLES	viii
LIST OF FIGURE	x
ABBREVIATIONS	xi
CHAPTER I BACKGROUND AND SIGNIFICANCE	1
Research Questions	5
Objectives	5
Assumptions	6
Definitions	6
Conceptual Framework	7
CHAPTER II LITERATURE REVIEW	8
Definition of Physical Activities	9
Benefits of Physical Activities	11
Types of Physical Activities	12
Principles of Physical Activities	13
Attitudes on Physical Activities	14
Health Behaviors	16
Relation Among Knowledge, Attitudes and Practices Relating to Health	17
The Influencing Factors on Health Behaviors	17

The Physical Fitness	20
General Physical Fitness	22
Special Physical Fitness	22
The Physical Test	23
The Influencing Factors on Physical Fitness	23
Related Theory	26
Background of the Family Health Leaders	31
Related Research Works	32
CHAPTER III RESEARCH METHODOROGY	41
Research Design	41
Population	41
Sample Size Calculation and Sampling Scheme	41
Group Sampling	42
Data Collection Tool	43
Scoring Criterion	45
Stops of Tool Development	49
Quality Assessment of Tool	49
Data Collection	51
Study Parameters	51
Data Management & Analysis	54
CHAPTER IV RESEARCH RESULTS	56
Section 1: Socio-demography characteristics of the informants	57
Section 2: FHLs' knowledge about physical activities	58
Section 3: FHLs' attitude toward physical activities	6 0

Section 4: Enabling factors to physical activities reported by FHLs	62
Section 5: Reinforcing factors on physical activities of FHLs	65
Section 6: Practice of physical activities among FHLs	66
Section 7: Relation between knowledge, attitude and practice	
about physical activities	74

CHAPTER V SUMMARY AND DISCUSSION 84

Summary	84
Discussions	87
Recommendations	91
Recommendations for Future Research	92

REFERENCES 93

APPENDICES.		96
APPENDIX 1	Questionnaire English	97
APPENDIX 2	Questionnaire Thai	107

CURRICULUM VITAE 11	1	6)
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LIST OF TABLES

Table 1:	Number, and percentage of FHLs' socio-demographic	
	characteristics (N = 400)	58
Table 2:	Number and percentage of FHLs who answered the questions	
	about knowledge correctly (n = 400)	59
Table 3:	Level of the knowledge of Physical Activity of FHLs	60
Table 4:	Percentage and mean score. $(n = 400)$	61
Table 5:	Percentage and mean score. (n=400)	62
Table 6:	Number and percentage of enabling factors reported	
	by FHLs (n = 400)	64
Table 7:	Number of hours for different activity in each day	64
Table 8:	Source of information about physical activities	65
Table 9:	Frequency of knowledge obtained	65
Table 10:	Reinforcing factors on physical activity of FHLs (n=400)	66
Table 11:	Physical activities of FHLs in Huaiyot district,	
	Trang province (n= 400)	67
Table 12:	Number of activity	72
Table 13:	Level of the Practice of Physical Activity of FHLs	73
Table 14:	Physical Fitness Evaluations of FHLs (n = 117)	73
Table 15:	Relationship between knowledge and attitude	
	about house cleaning. (n=400)	74
Table 16:	Relation between enabling factors and reinforcing factors	
	on physical examination: house cleaning	75

Page

Table 18:	P-value number of FHLs and p-value of relation between	
	Enabling factors and physical activity, $n = 400$	79
Table 19:	Relation between knowledge and attitude	
	and aerobic physical activity	81
Table 20:	Relation between enabling factors and reinforcing factors	
	and physical activity: aerobic exercise	82

LIST OF FIGURE

Page

		-
Figure 1:	Conceptual framework	7

ABBREVIATIONS

- FHL : Family Health Leader
- WHO : World Health Organization
- MET : Metabolic Equivalent

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