

**KNOWLEDGE AND ATTITUDE OF DOCTORS AND NURSES
TO THE THIRTY BAHT HEALTH CARE SCHEME IN THE
COMMUNITY HOSPITALS IN SUPHAN BURI, THAILAND**

TERESITA D. FOMAN-EG

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KNOWLEDGE AND ATTITUDE OF DOCTORS AND NURSES TO THE THIRTY BAHT HEALTH CARE SCHEME (TBHCS) IN THE COMMUNITY HOSPITALS IN SUPHAN BURI, THAILAND.

TERESITA D. FOMAN-EG 4537464 ADPM / M

M.P.H.M. (PRIMARY HEALTH CARE MANAGEMENT)

THESIS ADVISORS: PANTYP RAMASOOTA, Dr.P.H., BOONYONG KIEWKARNKA, Dr.P.H., CHAWTHIP BOROMTANARAT, Dr. P.H., SOMSAK WONGSAWASS, M.P.H.

ABSTRACT

The Thirty Baht Health Care Scheme has been running for almost two years. It was intended to provide access to health services, efficiency of quality care and cost control on reduced health expenditures. Focus of researches has been on satisfaction level of client villagers, administrators and health staff but none on direct health providers. This cross-sectional study was designed to assess the knowledge and attitude of doctors and nurses to the TBHCS in the community hospitals in Suphan Buri, Thailand. One hundred and sixty three doctors and nurses completed the self-administered questionnaire for information on their socio-demographic background, knowledge of TBHCS, attitudes toward TBHCS, perception on the availability of training, preparation, policies and organization of TBHCS, and opinions on the policies, strengths and weaknesses of the TBHCS program.

Of the 163 subjects, majority had fair and good knowledge on the TBHCS. Most of them had moderate to high knowledge on the principles. Further, they had fair attitudes towards the TBHCS. Moreover, many accepted that TBHCS gives people access to hospital services.

It is suggested that a review of the protocols, policies and training design be done as bases for management, policy and decision-making; that a multivariable assessment/evaluation of the TBHCS program be instituted to document good and bad practices; and that research on a wider scale be done to find out the knowledge and attitude and the effects of the TBHCS program on health workers, hospital/ health center operations, the community and the health system

**KEY WORDS: THIRTY BAHT HEALTH CARE SCHEME (TBHCS) /
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