

**UNIT COST ANALYSIS OF A PRIMARY CARE UNIT
IN THAILAND FISCAL YEAR 2004
A CASE STUDY OF BAN MAI, AYUTTHAYA PROVINCE**

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ABSTRACT

A cross-sectional study to analyze the unit cost of OPD service and community services in Ban Mai PCU on Fiscal Year 2004 was conducted. Capital and operating costs were calculated to get total cost. Utilization of cost in OPD service was divided by number of activities in OPD service which was the unit cost of OPD service. Utilization of cost in community services comprise of 7 sub-activities: ANC/PNC, well child/baby clinic, immunization, school health, screening test for high risk group, health education and family planning divided by total of number activities in community services, included in the 7 sub-activities was the unit cost of community services and sub-activities.

Total cost in Ban Mai PCU on Fiscal Year 2004 was 1,742,696.818 baht equal to US\$ 44,513.328, which the capital cost was 23.62% and operating cost was 76.38%.

Unit cost of OPD service was 89.898 baht equal to US\$ 2.29 per activity and unit cost of community services was 106.709 baht equal to US\$ 2.72 per activity, of which OPD service was 45% and community services was 55%.

Unit cost of sub activities in community services were 102.285 baht equal to US\$ 2.61 per activity in ANC/PNC, 104.614 baht equal to US\$ 2.67 per activity in well child/baby clinic, 104.614 baht equal to US\$ 2.67 per activity in immunization, 106.533 baht equal to US\$ 2.72 per activity in school health, 105.334 baht equal to US\$ 2.69 per activity in screening test for high risk group, 106.599 baht equal to US\$ 2.72 per activity in health education and 105.863 baht equal to US\$ 2.70 per activity in family planning.

Results of this study showed that the unit cost of community services was more than OPD service. The results were expected due to first goal of the “New Health Insurance Policy in Thailand” which emphasizes ‘health promotion and prevention’. In addition, community service activities, well-trained health personals and strengthening of village health volunteer’s should be focused. This result may have potential for planning and management at primary care level.

KEY WORDS : PRIMARY CARE UNIT / UNIT COST

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