

**FACTORS RELATED TO PREVENTIVE BEHAVIOUR AGAINST
DENGUE HEMORRHAGIC FEVER AMONG MIGRANTS IN
MUANG DISTRICT, SAMUT SAKHON PROVINCE, THAILAND**

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SAKHON PROVINCE, THAILAND**

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ABSTRACT

This cross sectional study was conducted on factors related to preventive behaviour against dengue hemorrhagic fever (DHF) among migrants in Muang district, Samut Sakhon province, Thailand. A total of 176 migrant workers ranging from 15 to 50 years old were interviewed using a structured questionnaire from the community in Muang district from February 5-8, 2007. Descriptive statistics and Chi-square test were applied to show the frequency of variables and the association between independent and dependent variables. The aims were to identify demographic variables, knowledge, perception and cues to action as the factors related to preventive behaviour against DHF among migrants, and explore the association between these factors and preventive behaviour.

The results of the study revealed that 43.18 percent of respondents took a moderate level of preventive behaviour against DHF, and 42.61 percent of them had a high level of preventive measures. 71.02 percent had poor knowledge, but had high perception toward DHF, at 64.77 percent. Furthermore, they mostly received the information about this disease from health volunteers, announcements and TV, 65.91, 60.80, 52.27 percent, respectively. Covering water containers was the most common preventive measure. The findings also showed that there was a significant correlation between duration of stay, advice from doctors or family members, experience from dengue patients associated with the respondent and receiving information from TV, and preventive behaviour against DHF (P-Value < 0.05).

This study indicates that attention is especially needed on the migrants who stay long term in Muang District, Samut Sakhon, to improve precautionary measures against DHF. Furthermore, the information tools for migrants, such as TV and doctors, should be strengthened. Health volunteers should also act as powerful encouragement to migrants to take countermeasures against DHF.

**KEY WORDS: PREVENTIVE BEHAVIOUR/DENGUE HEMORRHAGIC FEVER/
MIGRANTS**

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