

**PREVENTIVE BEHAVIOR ON HIV/AIDS AMONG
VOCATIONAL STUDENTS IN NONGKEAM DISTRICT
THAILAND**

RAM SHARAN GOPALI

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RAM SHARAN GOPALI 4937994 ADPM/M

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

THESIS ADVISORS:BOONYONG KEIWKARNKA, Dr. P.H., JUTATIP SILLABUTRA, Ph.D.

ABSTRACT

A Cross sectional descriptive study was conducted to investigate HIV/AIDS preventive behavior among vocational students in Nongkeam district, Thailand. The objective of this study was to identify the socio-demographics, knowledge, perception, cues to action and preventive behavior. This study was conducted in February 2007. Two hundred and sixty six vocational school students were selected in this study.

The results of this study revealed that a majority of the respondents had high knowledge about HIV/AIDS transmission and how to prevent it. However only 22 percent of respondents correctly answered how long it takes for a person infected with the HIV virus to develop full blown AIDS. They also had correct perceptions of severity, susceptibility, benefits and barriers to HIV/AIDS prevention behavior. More than half of the respondents said they presently use and will continue to use condoms during sexual intercourse. The majority of the respondents got information from television and parents, therefore media and personnel influence have a strong affect on respondents about HIV/AIDS preventive behavior. The overall results showed that 69.92 percent had good preventive behavior of HIV/AIDS.

There were significant associations between the following factors and HIV/AIDS preventive behavior, gender, age and radio use. More than two-thirds of respondents had a high level of perception on HIV/AIDS preventive behavior. The information gained from television and parents is very effective in changing respondent's behavior on preventive behavior of HIV/AIDS.

**KEY WORDS: VOCATIONAL STUDENTS / RISK BEHAVIOR
PREVENTIVE BEHAVIOR**

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