

**INFECTIOUS WASTE MANAGEMENT OF HEALTH CENTERS
IN MUANG DISTRICT, KANCHANABURI PROVINCE**



**A THESIS SUBMITTED IN PARTIAL FULFILLMENT OF
THE REQUIREMENTS FOR THE DEGREE OF
MASTER OF PRIMARY HEALTH CARE MANAGEMENT
FACULTY OF GRADUATE STUDIES
MAHIDOL UNIVERSITY**

2008

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

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ABSTRACT

This study is a descriptive research survey of infectious waste management of 22 health centers in Muang District, Kanchanaburi Province aimed to describe the situation of infectious waste management. Data were collected from 1st January to 30th January 2008 by interviewing and observing the practice of health centers. Data analysis was performed using frequency, percentage, mean and standard deviation to describe the distribution of independent variables and dependent variables.

The result found that over half (68.18%) of the health officers graduated with a Bachelor's degree. Nearly 13.64% graduated with less than a bachelor's degree but only 4.55% graduated with higher than a Bachelor degree. All of the health officers had good knowledge of appropriate methods of infectious waste management. 65.45% of the health centers had appropriate managements. The amount of infectious waste generated per health center was 0.35 kilograms per day. All health centers in Kanchanaburi Province generated an estimated combined total of 50.5 kilograms per day or 1.5 tons per month. Although, the amount of infectious waste at each health center was small, the estimated total amount of all health centers in the country cannot be ignored. Health officers mostly face problems and obstacles in infectious waste management in terms of equipment, support and training on infectious waste management. Health centers were observed handling infectious waste inefficiently.

Infectious waste management should be properly implemented at hospitals or Local Administration Organizations and sent off site for disposal. The health officers need training on infectious waste management and environmental pollution.

KEY WORDS : INFECTIOUS WASTE MANAGEMENT / HEALTH CENTERS

102 pp.