

Area Informatics in Community Health Policy & System Development to Cope with Changing Health Needs in South East Asia

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The recent development process of community health policy & health system change in Thailand show the position as the leading case of the area informatics in health field in South East Asia. From the viewpoints of health status & policy reports on global health such as in WHO (World Health Organization: United Nations' Technical Agency in Health established in 1948), the current innovative programmer of TCNAP/RECAP on community health, nursing & information system in Thailand will be overviewed in the framework of international trend to understand the meaning of those activities in world health. The overview of framework in international health include such as 1.Primary Health Care in 1978 (Alma-Ata Declaration) & Primary Health Care 2008 (The World Health Report 2008, PHC: Now more and ever, 1)universal coverage, 2)primary care,3)public policy, and 4)leadership & government), 2.Health Promotion in 1986 (Ottawa Charter), 3.NCDs (the Political Declaration on Noncommunicable Diseases adopted by the UN General Assembly in 2011), 4.SDH (Rio Political Declaration at the World Conference on Social Determinants of Health in October 2011 in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil & Conceptual framework on Social determinants of health inequities,2010:CSDH) ,5.Global health risks,2009(WHO) & GBD (Global Burden of Disease) 2010 (Institute for Health Metrics and Evaluation).

The position of Data analysis and informatics in current innovative health activities in South East Asia is on the frontline in community health planning & policy implementation from the health statistics in national level. The content of health data in community include not only quantitative data but also qualitative data and how to marge those data is the critical issue in the actual field to cope with changing health needs such as aging, lifestyle diseases, NCDs. The factors which affect health policy change are the emerging four changes in population structure & social environments, such as rapidly aging society, epidemiological transition, risk behaviors & economic crises.

The current health activities of TCNAP in Thailand are ample examples of the five sectors (1.Community empowerment, 2.Health literacy and health behavior, 3.Strengthening health systems, 4.Partnerships and intersectoral action, 5.Building capacity for health promotion) of the 7th Global Conference on Health Promotion, Kenya, 2009.