

บทบรรณาธิการ

Family Care Team

Thailand has passed through three significant periods of health care reforms. The first two phases of reforms were related to an increasing coverage of health-care infrastructure and health-care financing mechanisms. In the third phase (at present), health-care reforms have shifted its focus to strengthening primary care. An important health-care reform initiatives is capacity building of primary care staff to develop of family care teams in both concept and practice. It is suited to the country context¹. As Family Medicine was established as a separate discipline in Thailand, newly trained family physicians work alongside untrained general doctors in primary care. It has been shown that family care team training programs in Thailand can increase the quality of primary care doctors to specialists². In recently year 2015, the Family Care Team project has progressed with establishing 15,000 teams in its 3-month run, while targeting the establishment of up to 30,000 teams within this year by Ministry of Public Health, Thailand. The Family Care Team project is a break through reformation of healthcare services in the cities and rural areas to cover all households in the country. The project deploys the Family Care Teams from the Sub district Health Promoting Hospitals to take care of people at their homes, along with the work from local volunteers, the establishment of a 24 hour consulting telephone line, and a seamless patient referring system³.

ASEAN institute for Health Development (AIHD), Mahidol University has been entrusted to develop the capacity of the family physicians, general physicians and district Public Health Officer and representatives of the communities. The project entitle "District Health System Management Learning: DHML) aimed to strengthen and manage the capacity building of the health care team work at the district level. The main objective aimed to reinforce the concepts and methods to optimize the management of district health systems. As part of developing the District Health System, the project also aim to develop a network which will be conducted in the working areas and this training will be focused on the skill development of participants of the course. "The training process" that focuses on the process of learning by using area base context (Context Based Learning: CBL) and encourage the Learning Team (LT) rather than a specific class individually. This

¹ WHO, Health-Care Reform for the Twenty-first Century in the South-East Asia Region of the Regional Meeting Report, Bangkok, Thailand, 20-22 October 2009

² Public Health Management Office, Ministry of Public Health, Family Care Team, publish by Chumnumsaheakorn Agriculture Thailand, ISBN: 978-616-11-2363-5 : 2557

³ <http://news.thaivisa.com/thailand/thai-health-minister-15000-family-care-team-established-in-3-months/40793/> available from 20 June, 2015

project has been promoted interaction among the manager, practitioners and academics. The learning team is a group of the family care team and some of LT leader is the family physician. Not only the DHML project but AIHD also involved with the CUP (contracting unit for primary care) manager as well as the training for district health system strengthening among the developing countries during 2010-2011 which aimed to conduct seminars to improve knowledge and sharing the experiences among the participants. The course has been designed for the participants to gain at least 15 times of seminars and encourage the participants to share and learn not only among friend but also learn from the area based. The family physicians have been trained as the leadership for change. They have been promoted to be a change agent and skillful of community participation concept of working and team building capacity passed through the transformative learning education for 21st century system.

Learning teams were trained to improve their skill using transformative learning and this will be improve the high quality standard of care from the family care team in the near future. As we all know, health-care is an ongoing implementation process for the benefit of the community. Lastly, I want to quote the last lines of Lord Tennyson's poem "The Brook": And out again I curve and flow, to join the brimming river, for men may come and men may go, But I go on forever.

Yes! the same is true of us, "For men may come and men may go, But the provision of health care goes on forever"¹.

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