



Working Together for Health Security

4 th International Nursing and Public Health Conference Thailand

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| | | A Research-Practice Link Model | |
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| PA604 | Som Sri Satjasakulrat | The Evaluation for Curriculum of Thai Traditional Medicine Assistant (Thai massage 330 hours) of Kanchanabhishek Institute of Medical and Public Health Technology | |
| PA605 | Sommai Wongkasant | Developing E-learning program in Social Studies for Human Development | |



PB508: Care Provided to People with Physical Disabilities Living in Ratchaburi Province, Thailand: A Qualitative Study

Malai, C, PhD, RN, Meebunmak, Y, PhD, RN, Khumtana, P, MNs RN, Sriwilai, W MNs RN, Somboonsit, J, Sawangwattanaset, O, MNs, RN, Yaowaarat, N, MNs, RN, and Wiparat, W, MNs RN

Boromarajonani College of Nursing, Ratchaburi, Thailand

Principal Contact: Malai, C, Boromarajonani College of Nursing, Ratchaburi, Thailand,
E-mail: chutimalai@yahoo.com

Abstract

Backgrounds: The local government of Ratchaburi, Thailand has driven the policy of improvement the quality of life of disabled people. However, the knowledge of care provided to those living in the communities was not clear. Therefore, the study focusing this issue is needed. **Objectives:** The study aimed to clarify what and how care provided to the people with disabilities living in the communities in Ratchaburi province were. **Methods:** This is a descriptive study using mixed methods. During phase1, the researchers used the quality of life questionnaires to gather the QOL rated by 289 disabled persons. The participants lived in one urban, seven semi-rural, and 16 rural communities divided by the local government of Ratchaburi. Then in phase 2, the researchers asked the participants selected to be interviewed and participate in the focus groups focusing on care provided to the disabled people. This article presents only the qualitative results found, while the quantitative findings would be presented in another report. **Results:** The findings showed that there were three types of care found in urban, semi-rural, and rural areas; self care, family supports, and community participation. There were particularly services found in each type of communities, such as institution care, outreach services, and disability club. **Conclusion:** The disabled people living in the communities were supported by various facilities depending on their lives and surroundings. **Recommendations:** The researchers commented that the government should distribute other supports to the communities throughout the country so that they can adopt one or more suit for them. The government should make the policies to support such as career, training, and study for those with disabilities. The people with disabilities, families and communities should be empowered in improving the living independent.

Keywords: disabilities, care for disabilities, self care, family support, community participation

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