

Thesis Title Activities Provided for Promoting Health, Growth and
Development of Children in Day Care Centers within
Chiang Mai Municipality

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Abstract

The aim was to study the activities provided for promoting health, growth, and development of children in day care centers within Chiang Mai municipality. The population studied was 49 owners or heads of day care centers. Tools used for data collection were an interview form and an observation. Results obtained were:

Most of population (83.7%) owned the facilities. Level of education were higher than bachelor degree in 55.1% of the cases and 98% had training in child care. The majority were older than 50 years old, the average age was 47.2 years, and had 16.6 years of experience in child care. Most day cares were operated by the owners (83.7%), for an average 12.3 of years. Average number of total children in each center was 25. For children age 6 month to 1 year, the ratio of care giver to child was 1 to 4 (85.7%) and the average service rate was 2,000 bath. For children age 1 - 3 years, the ratio of care giver to child was 1 to 6 (19.1%) and the average service rate was 969 bath.

All day care centers within Chiang Mai municipality provided 8 areas of activities for promoting health, growth, and development of children such as Dietary supplements, Exercise or recreational activities Rest and sleep, Prevention of disease or health problems, Accident prevention Assessment of the children's health, Promoting development of language, social skills and self-help, Teaching and advice given to parents. but not in all items. The areas which needed to improve were prevention of disease or health problems followed by teaching and advice given to parents, accident prevention, and assessment of the children's health.

Components of the day care center in the matter of the buildings, most buildings were suitable for child rearing. But in some places there was no fence around the children's playground, no set corners for nursing, books, art, activity rooms or a sick-room. In the matter of services, there were no specific places to wash diapers, there was no soap or towels by the sink for washing hands, and no sink for washing food during food preparation. As for the care givers, they had good attitudes toward children and arranged activities for the children, but did not get parents to sign when bringing or collecting their children.