

3. Structure of Organizations Implementing Health Programmes

Health resources are distributed to various agencies implementing health programmes, including those in the public and private sectors.

3.1 Public Sector

1) Principal Agencies Responsible for the Public Health Nationwide

The MoPH is the principal agency responsible for the promotion, support, control and coordination of all physical and mental health activities, well-being of people, and the provision of health services so that the people will be healthy and live a long life, without premature death.

2) Public Sector Agencies Supporting and/or Implementing Health Activities

(1) Public sector agencies providing health services are the Bangkok Metropolitan Administration (BMA), the Ministry of Education (Office of the Higher Education Commission), the Ministry of Interior, and the Ministry of Defence.

(2) Public sector agencies implementing health-related activities in connection with the environment, workers, children and women, are the Ministry of Industry, the Ministry of Science and Technology, the Ministry of Agriculture and Cooperatives, the Ministry of Labour, the Ministry of Social Development and Human Security, the Ministry of Education, and the Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment.

(3) Public sector agencies supporting efficient implementation of health programmes include the National Economic and Social Development Board (planning support), the Bureau of the Budget (budgetary support), the Civil Service Commission (health manpower support), the Department of Technical and Economic Cooperation (international assistance), the National Statistical Office (information support), the Thailand Research Fund (TRF), the Health Systems Research Institute (HSRI: medical and health research assistance), the Thai Health Promotion Foundation (supporting health promotion activities), and the National Health Security Office (supporting standardized and equitable universal coverage of health insurance).

(4) Public sector agencies responsible for health services for specific groups are the Social Security Office of the Ministry of Labour and the Insurance Department of the Ministry of Commerce.

3.2 Non-profit Private Organizations

There are about 300-500 health-related, non-profit, private organizations throughout the country, including foundations and associations. Such agencies are required to get registered with the Ministry of Culture (National Cultural Commission and/or the Ministry of Interior). So a lot of them are juristic persons but several other small NGOs are non-juristic-person agencies, such as the Rural Doctors Club and the Drug Studies Group.

Generally, these organizations receive financial support from international agencies, and from in-country donations, including government subsidies.

The MoPH allocated approximately 49.2 million baht each year during 1992-1997 and only

35 million baht each year during 1998-2003 for four major programmes of those NGOs: healthcare for the elderly, healthcare for the disabled and disadvantaged, healthcare for mothers, children and youths, and others. In 2004, a total budget of 26.4 million baht has been provided to 70 NGOs (182 projects) for their relevant health programmes (Table 6.44). Besides, another 70 million baht has been provided to 508 NGOs working on HIV/AIDS (Table 6.45) as they all will help the government in implementing health-related development programmes.

For the past several years, these organizations have helped a number of health programmes to effectively achieve their goals in such areas as family planning, sanitation, maternal and child health, and medical services.

Besides, the World Health Organization, a specialized agency of the United Nations System, has also provided financial aids to several non-profit organizations; previously WHO provided such grants for public sector agencies only.

Table 6.44 Number of Non-Profit Private Organizations and the MoPH Budgetary Support, 1992-2004

Year	No. of organizations			No. of projects			Budget, baht		
	Requesting	Supported	%	Proposed	Supported	%	Requested	Allocated	%
1992	45	42	93.3	91	72	79.1	85,600,000	49,200,000	57.5
1993	142	119	83.8	264	185	70.1	160,844,928	49,200,000	30.6
1994	416	305	73.3	909	654	71.9	334,481,098	49,200,000	14.7
1995	362	103	28.5	615	287	46.7	205,348,213	49,200,000	23.9
1996	150	106	70.7	491	219	44.6	192,234,358	49,200,000	25.6
1997	142	78	54.9	420	180	42.8	230,287,800	49,200,000	21.4
1998	152	101	66.4	258	174	67.4	129,016,142	35,000,000	27.1
1999	177	114	64.4	541	223	41.2	241,270,797	35,760,000	14.8
2000	163	92	56.4	493	191	38.7	257,227,874	46,582,300	18.1
2001	152	66	43.4	411	166	40.4	160,768,084	33,557,800	20.9
2002	161	70	43.5	327	124	37.9	161,955,967	34,965,922	21.6
2003	235	128	54.5	411	251	61.1	160,813,010	34,831,160	21.7
2004	106	70	66.0	295	182	61.7	103,900,200	26,369,545	25.4

- Sources:**
- For 1992-2001, data were derived from the Medical Registration Division, Department of Health Service Support.
 - For 2002-2003, data were derived from the Primary Health Care Division, Department of Health Service Support.
 - Consumers Potential Development Division, Food and Drug Administration.

Note: The Food and Drug Administration provided financial support to consumer protection NGOs during 1999-2003 only.

Table 6.45 Number of NGOs Involved in HIV/AIDS Programmes and the MoPH Budgetary Support, 1992-2004

Year	No. of organizations			No. of projects			Budget, baht		
	Requesting	Supported	%	Proposed	Supported	%	Requested	Allocated	%
1992	37	23	62.2	42	35	83.3	66,125,734	11,900,000	18.0
1993	38	36	94.7	61	56	91.8	33,123,818	15,000,000	45.3
1994	101	76	75.2	120	91	75.8	72,903,868	10,300,000	14.1
1995	115	94	81.7	209	153	73.2	350,765,292	75,000,000	21.4
1996	186	122	65.6	308	188	61.0	267,232,488	80,000,000	29.9
1997	268	184	68.7	385	247	64.1	309,015,357	90,000,000	29.1
1998	434	244	56.2	725	343	47.3	494,739,684	90,000,000	18.2
1999	596	371	62.2	931	458	49.2	450,972,885	87,262,350	19.3
2000	625	293	46.9	882	372	42.2	368,671,357	60,000,000	16.3
2001	497	371	74.6	730	457	62.6	403,438,189	70,000,000	17.4
2002	660	444	67.3	922	522	56.6	370,340,183	70,000,000	18.9
2003	712	519	72.9	987	605	61.3	337,938,984	70,000,000	20.7
2004	678	508	74.9	868	577	66.5	289,624,851	70,000,000	24.2

Source: Bureau of AIDS, Tuberculosis and Sexually Transmitted Infections, Department of Disease Control, MoPH.

3.3 For-profit Private Organizations

In addition to providing health services, the private sector also plays a relatively little role in producing health personnel, except that their role in producing nurses has been rising. In 2003, there were six private nursing colleges producing 586 graduate nurses (Table 6.46).

Table 6.46 Numbers of Private Educational Institutions and Graduates from Their Health Personnel Production Programmes by Field of Study, 1997-2003

Field of study	For-profit institutions								Non-profit institutions							
	No. of institutions				No. of graduates				No. of institutions				No. of graduates			
	1997	1999	2001	2002	2003	1997	1999	2001	2002	2003	1997	1999	2001	2002	2003	
1. Medicine	1	1	1	1	1	53	52	41	49	79	-	-	-	-	-	
2. Nursing	3	4	3	3	3	42	166	174	224	160	6	6	6	485	586	
3. Pharmacy	1	1	1	1	1	88	81	78	108	116	1	1	1	110	109	
4. Medical technology	1	1	1	1	1	28	16	55	27	46	1	1	1	68	107	
5. Physical therapy	1	1	1	1	1	6	13	7	29	18	1	1	1	58	65	
6. Public health	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	1	92	130	
7. Dentistry	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	

Source: Bureau of Private Higher Education Coordination Affairs, Office of the Higher Educational Commission.

In privately-run for-profit medical facilities, 12 groups of investors have been formed and listed in the Stock Exchange of Thailand (2003). Such corporates and their networks include Aekchon Hospital, Bangkok Dusit Vejakarn Hospital, Krung Thon Hospital, Mahachai Hospital, Chiang Mai Medical Co. Ltd., Wattana Medical, Nonthavej Hospital, Ramkhamhaeng Hospital, Smitivej Hospital, Vibhavadi Hospital, Bamrungrad Hospital, and Sikharin Hospital.