

The Process of Producing the “Thai Health Report 2020”

Part 1

12 Indicators of Health of Thai Adolescents and Youth

Process

1. Select interesting and important issues to be included in the health indicators through a series of meetings of the Steering Committee.
2. Identify experts to be contacted, then hold meetings to plan each section.
3. Assign an expert to each approved section to prepare a draft.
4. Brainstorm the draft papers, considering suitability, content, coverage, data quality, and possible overlaps.
5. Meetings with experts responsible for each section, to review the draft papers and outline key message for each section.
6. Broad review of the draft papers by experts, followed by revisions of the papers.

Guidelines for health indicator contents

1. Find a key message for each section to shape its contents.
2. Find relevant statistics, particularly annual statistics and recent surveys to reflect recent developments.
3. Select a format, contents and language suitable for diverse readers.

Part 2

10 Outstanding Situations

Criteria for selecting the health issues

- Occurred in 2019.
- Have a significant impact on health, safety, and security, broadly defined.
- Include public policies with effects on health during 2019.
- Are new or emerging.
- Recurred during the year.

4 Outstanding Accomplishments for Health

Four outstanding achievements are success stories in innovation, advances in health technologies, and new findings that positively affected health in general.

Part 3

The Special Issue

Procedure for ranking the issues

- A survey was conducted using a questionnaire listing significant issues in 2019 before the survey date. The situations obtained from the survey were ranked using a Likert scale with 5 levels: highest (5), high (4), medium (3), low (2) and least (1).
- Frequency analysis was used to sort the order of importance.

There are two types of special topics: target group oriented and issue oriented. The types alternate each year. The topic is sometimes selected from the 10 health issues.

Important criteria in selecting the special topic include:

1. Political significance.
2. Public benefits.
3. The existence of diverse views and dimensions.

Working process

1. The Steering Committee met to select the topic.
2. The working group outlined a conceptual framework for the report.
3. Experts were contacted to act as academic advisors.
4. The working group compiled and synthesized the contents. The contents were thoroughly checked for accuracy by academics and experts.
5. The report was revised in line with reviewers' suggestions.

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10 Outstanding Situations

1. PM 2.5: A Massive Threat to the Health of Thai Population

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- ² Those who have died, such as Abbot Daeng or Mr. Niphon Jaratham Village headman Village No. 5, Mae Faek Mai Sub-district, Mrs. Tanee Kittharoenpan, volunteered to help put out the fire in Chom Thong District, Mr. Ngeon Na Hai, villager of Mae Fah Luang District, military officer Piyaphan Saen Suk, under the command of the 17th Infantry Regiment, etc.
- ³ ย้อนดู ม.ค.2562 ฝุ่น PM 2.5 เกินค่ามาตรฐาน 25 วันใน 1 เดือน บริเวณ กทม. และ ปริมณฑล. (2020, 10 January). Workpoint news. Retrieved January 18, 2020 : From <https://workpointnews.com/2020/01/10/pm25-4/>

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2. Ban of 3 Toxic Pesticides: The Protracted Battle

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¹⁰ The group consists of many agencies / organizations such as the National Farmers Council, National Health Commission, Ministry of Public Health Public Health, National Legislative Assembly Health Commission, Department of National Parks, Wildlife and Plant Conservation Rights Committee, National Human Rights Council, Pharmaceutical Council of Thailand, Thai Rice Exporters Association, Thai Chamber of Commerce, Industrial Institute for Agriculture, The Federation of Thai Industries, Consumers Network Association, Federation of Consumer Organizations, Anti-Corruption Organization (ACT), Independent Committee for Consumer protection for the Public Sector, Social and Environmental Business Network (SVN), Network to Ban Toxic Chemicals Network with 686 organizations

¹¹ Such as the Thai Association of Agri-Business Thai Crop Protection Association and Innovation Association for Thai Agriculture and Confederation of Oil Palm Planters of Thailand

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²¹ เปิดทันตะ ภูมิใจไทย VS นักวิชาการ นโยบายเสรีกัญชา ทำได้จริงหรือไม่ ก่อนลงคะแนนเลือกตั้ง 62. (2019, 24 February). *Isranews*. Retrieved January 28, 2020: from <https://www.isranews.org/isranews-article / 74090-weed00.html>

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²³ ประยุทธ์สั่ง กัญชาเพื่อการแพทย์ใช้อย่างจริงจัง ต้องควบคุมไม่ให้กลายเป็นสารเสพติด. (2019, 11 December). *The Standard*. Retrieved January 10, 2020: From <https://thestandard.co/prayut-med-ical-marijuana />

²⁴ Information Office, Office of the Permanent Secretary, Ministry of Public Health (2019, 11 December). *สส.เปิดเว็บไซต์ ปลดล็อก...กัญชาทางการแพทย์เสรี*. Retrieved January 10, 2020: From <https://pr.moph.go.th?url=spr/detail / 2/04/135729/>

²⁵ Thai medical marijuana policy is currently making great progress with the current Government Pharmaceutical Organization. It would be the first Thai government organization to experiment with the growing marijuana plants to extract oil for trial treatment. This causing many hospitals to begin opening more clinics in this area, since marijuana plants are used to treat various diseases. Like Phra Ajahn Fan's Hospital run by Dr. Kanyaphak Silarakar, which has a marijuana clinic using 16 species of Thai plants to treat 20 cancer patients; 5 terminal cancer cases have been admitted since the beginning of the clinic. One cancer patient died. Even in the past, doctors have never confirmed that cannabis pills can be used to treat cancer. The drug use indication of cannabis according to international standards is used to treat only 4 conditions: 1. To alleviate the side effects of chemo treatment; 2. Epilepsy in children; 3. Neurological pain; and 4. Spasms. According to the follow-up, the patients on marijuana ate more food, had more sleep, and increased body weight. Proper eating and sleep are important mechanisms in body repair. Importantly, the clinic has not had any patients who became addicted from this medical marijuana use. No patient has requested to increase the dosage; 1 bottle of marijuana oil will be used for 30 days and no patient has requested more than that. In this regard, there are clear rules that patients must come to receive medication themselves every time, except those who are bedridden. Initially, the clinic will make an appointment for weekly visits, and then extend that to 2 weeks. But the clinic will never dispense more than a one month's supply since overdose could cause hypotension or hypoglycemia.

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²⁷ รมว.สาธารณสุข. กัญชา "ได้ไม่คุ้มเสีย" คำนี้ให้สม. ส่งยา. (2019, 29 July). *Bangkok Biz News*. Retrieved January 11, 2020: From <https://www.bangkokbiznews.com/news/detail/842125>

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⁵ รพ. เอกชน พันหัวแบะ รักษาห้องเสียด 30,000 บาท สั่งตรวจสอบแล้ว. (n.d.). *Kapook*. Retrieved January 2, 2020: from <https://hilight.kapook.com/view/184688>

⁶ แมซซิ่งน่าใจ คนแห่ช่วยบริจาคคร่ำครวญลูกป่วยหนัก หลังต้องผ่าตัดต่างแดน แต่ไร้ประกัน. (2017). *Kapook*. Retrieved January 2, 2020: from <https://hilight.kapook.com/view/178567>

⁷ Please refer to the announcement of the Central Committee on Price of Goods and Services. The Government Gazette, Volume 136, Special Section 201 Ngor, Issue 87, 2019, 13 August 2019, Pages 174-176

⁸ This announcement applies to hospitals, drug manufacturers, importers in the Kingdom for distribution or as the representative of the importer or distributor

⁹ If private hospitals do not comply with this announcement, they are subject punishment under the Act on Goods Prices and Services (1999)

¹⁰ Announced in the Government Gazette on 13 August 2019.

¹¹ Sucham Supanit. (2013). *คำอธิบายกฎหมายคุ้มครองผู้บริโภค*. 8th edition, Bangkok: Chulalongkorn Press Office University.

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¹¹ Sunida Prichawong. "Electronic Cigarettes Affect Youth" in the drive to control e-cigarettes in Thailand, by the Tobacco Research and Knowledge Management Center for Tobacco Control. August 19, 2019. The Sukosol Hotel, Bangkok

¹² Sunida Prichawong. Ibid.

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