

EVALUATION OF THE HEALTH CARD FUND ALLOCATION PROJECT FOR
HEALTH CENTERS : CASE STUDY IN NAM PHONG DISTRICT, KHON KAEN



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ABSTRACT

Nam Phong District is the pilot field model of the Khon Kaen Health Care Reform Project. It is the area where financial reformation of the Health Card Fund allocation is being tried. Before this reform, Lump Sum payments were used; now the efficacy of a Fee for Services system is being tested along with enhanced pay to all staffs in the form of incentives. We expect the new role of payment will bring higher quality and more work. The researcher has worked for 2 years and to evaluate management and operation in 3 dimensions; first is management planning to create an organization efficiency, second is management controlling to create an organization efficiency, and third is policy awareness and understanding in the following 4 topics : 1). Model and criteria of fund allocation to health care system 2). Medical record audit and health service review 3). Health Card Information System 4).Development of network and quality of Primary Care Services. Also the researcher analysed the strengths and weak points. The research evaluated from 3 groups : directors of the project , co-ordinators and personnel in the area.

The researcher determined that 3 groups work in the same and right direction , by 1)Indepth Interview, Wichai Assawapak ; the chairman of Namphong District Health Cooperative Committee. This allowed the researcher to know more about the starting point and to continue working and to try to develop the project and in relation with other activities. 2)Co-ordinators : obtained data by focus group ; from this method the researcher learned the role of the Data Collection Team and Namphong District Health Cooperative Committee in their management planning and controlling to create organization efficiency and any other work effect 3)Personnel in Health Centers : the researcher obtained data by questionnaire form to find what staffs know about the project but somebody are not clear in detail. The benefits they get from the project are direct incentive, power in work and development of the health service system and information system.

In overview, management and operation in the 3 dimensions are going well, including planning and controlling, management for creating an organization function and knowledge and policy understanding in the 4 topics below :1) Model and criteria of fund allocation to health

care system. 2). Medical record audit and health service review 3). Health Card Information System 4). Development of network and quality of Primary Care Services. All said this is the best project and has succeed in reforming work. Every level joined the work and reached the goal in every step. But there are still things to improve and develop: Give some more detail and clarity to staffs, Support tools such as computers and package programs, Instruments and materials ,Consumer support system (water supply, telephone) and Appropriate power and right job.

Limitations and recommendations :1).Cannot use direct finance as an incentive. The government must correct this rule. 2).Because of regulation limitation in Health Card Fund and Welfare for Low Income Fund,; the project cannot merge the funds together. 3) The Model and Criteria of payment for health facilities in The Health Card Fund Allocation Project for Health Centers case study in Namphong District, Khon Kaen can apply to use with Main Contractor Allocation for Health Insurance Fund “ 30 Baht treats all Disease” .



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