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HUMAN RESOURCES FOR HEALTH REQUIREMENTS IN THAILAND OVER THE NEXT DECADE OF PUBLIC HEALTH PROFESSIONS

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This study aimed to project public health professions requirements in Thailand over the next decade. The requirements can be forecasted through the demand and supply projection, while the demand projection relies on a health demand approach, involving only the service setting and population ratio. At present, there are at least 77 educational institutes which produce public health professional, offering both bachelor's degree program and continuing bachelor's degree program. The public health professional demand projection over the next decade found that if the production capacity of public health professional remains unchanged, the human resources will exceed requirements of the health system in all scenarios as follows: Scenario 1 – Considering the population ratio, 75,626-89,894 persons will exceed requirements; Scenario 2 – in the case that the service system is normally operated, 68,122-82,390 persons will exceed requirements; and Scenario 3 – In the case that the service system places the emphasis on the primary care system intensively without the outpatient service in the tertiary care system, while 25% of the outpatient service will be transferred to the primary care system, 50,830-65,098 persons will exceed requirements. The findings of the study clearly indicated that public health professional exceed requirements of the health system. According to the recommendations from the research conducted by the Council of Community - Public Health, it is essential to establish standards and core competencies of public health human resources in alignment with changing health system over the next decade, and to take controls and oversee so as to ensure quality and standardized public health educational institutes.

Biography

Mr.Boonruang Khaonuan has been graduated from Mahidol University, with the specialties including community health, health system. Presently he has been working at the Department of Public Health, Faculty of Health and Sports Science, Thaksin University, Phatthalung Campus, Thailand.

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