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Prevention and control for a carcinogenic liver fluke in rural communities of Thailand through inter- and trans-disciplinary university

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Liver fluke is an endemic in Southeast Asia particularly in Thailand, Lao People's Democratic Republic, and Cambodia. The infection is associated to cholangiocarcinoma; bile duct cancer. Prevention and control is required to decrease the liver fluke incident. Here, we described the liver fluke prevention and control program (LFPCP) through Inter- and Trans-disciplinary University (ITU). LFPCP was constructed among the rural communities in northeast Thailand during November 2016 and July 2017. ITU was integrated in LFPCP; briefly, ITU is comprised the partnership, scholarship, mutual benefit, and social impact. ITU is established by teachers and student (medical, nursing, public health, engineering, and business computer) from Suranaree University of Technology, Vongchavalitkul University, and Nakhon Ratchasima Rajabhat University, local government officers, and villagers, to solve the health problem in the rural community particularly liver fluke disease and cholangiocarcinoma. Quantitative and qualitative data were collected by questionnaires, group and individual feedback, consequently. Of 120 participants were included. Participants (89%) had a high level of satisfaction regarding LFPCP particularly in the steps of sharing ideas, decision making, and planning step. They could improve their knowledge, attitude and their practice regarding liver fluke prevention and control. LFPCP is an integrative activity that improves knowledge, attitude, skill, and practice for students and villagers. Therefore, LFPCP toward ITU is highly potential mutual benefit among university, students, teachers, and communities.

Biography

Soraya J Kaewpitoon has completed her MD at Khon Kaen University in Thailand and FCFPT at Royal College of Family Physicians of Thailand. She is the Vice Dean in Research Affair, and Head of Parasitic Disease Research Center, Institute of Medicine, Suranaree University of Technology, Thailand. She has published more than 60 papers in reputed journals and has been serving as an Editorial Board Member of repute.

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