

Abstract of Master's Dissertation

No.1

Course	Master of Public Health	Name	Saki Kawamitsu
Thesis Title	Knowledge and attitude on sexual and reproductive health education among students of Savannakhet Teacher Training College, Lao PDR		
<p>Abstract</p> <p>Background: Sexual and reproductive health education (SRHE) is needed to provide both female and male students as essential life skills. In Lao PDR, youth suffer the lack of power to make sexual and reproductive health (SRH) decisions. Teachers play an important role in promoting healthy SRH among youth through SRHE. However, teachers themselves have insufficient knowledge and competences for SRHE, and they encountered with the difficulties to the delivery of effective SRHE at schools. Preservice teachers training is also neglected although specific competences are needed to deliver effective SRHE.</p> <p>Objectives: This study aims at estimating the experience, knowledge, and attitude of SRHE among the students at the Savannakhet Teacher Training College (SVK-TTC), Lao PDR with special emphasis on gender differences for providing better SRHE in the future.</p> <p>Methods: A self-administered questionnaire survey and focus group discussions (FGDs) were conducted among 184 (61 males and 123 females) college students of Savannakhet TTC in March 2021. Three FGDs were held among 18 students: one for six females, one for six males, and one for three males and three females. In addition, an FGD was held among three male and three female faculty members. Descriptive statistics were used to describe experience of SRHE, knowledge on SRH, attitude towards SRHE. Knowledge and attitude were examined for association with the independent variables in bivariate analysis using Fisher's exact tests. The associations were further explored using multivariate logistic analysis. Thematic analysis was used to FGDs, and these quantitative and qualitative results were merged to explain.</p>			

* The abstract, containing the objective, method, result and conclusion should not exceed 300-500words and printed double sided on A4 paper)

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<p>Results: There were no large gender differences in experience of receiving SRHE, knowledge on SRH, and attitude towards SRHE except knowledge on contraceptive methods. Sixty-three percentage of student, 64.5% females and 59.0% males, received SRHE at schools. Most of them (83.7%) satisfied with what they learned in SRHE. Students of 60.9% had knowledge on risk of pregnancy, 83.2% had knowledge on risk of STIs, and 72.7% had knowledge on the necessity of contraception use. Female students knew detail of contraceptives including emergency contraceptive pills better than male students. Students of 71.6% had preferred attitude towards SRHE. Students of 92.8% agreed the necessity for male to learn SRHE, 94.0% agreed the necessity for female to learn SRHE, 82.5% agreed the necessity of learning SRHE cooperating with males and females. Students of 70.5%, 70.5% males and 70.5% females agreed the necessity of learning SRHE in school curriculum. Increased age (OR: 1.13, 95%CI: 1.01-1.26) and those who received SRHE (OR: 1.98, 95%CI: 1.01-3.9) had significantly more preferred attitudes towards SRHE. FGDs found that students were not confident to deliver SRHE when they become teachers in the absence of training and lectures on how to teach SRHE in the TTC.</p> <p>Conclusion: Students of the Savannakhet TTC had preferred attitude towards SRHE, and there was no big gap between female and male students. Both lectures on SRH and training for teaching methods and skills of SRHE should be provided in the TTC course to improve their competency for SRHE.</p> <p>(Word counts: 493 words)</p>			

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