

Antibiotics Use Behavior of People in Nakhon Pathom Province

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The objectives of this research are to study knowledge and behavior of people in using antibiotics, and to investigate their determining factors. The sample are males and females in ages over 16 years, ever used oral antibiotics for themselves or their family members within a year prior to the interview. The sample comprises 534 cases from both urban and rural areas of Nakhon Pathom province. Multiple Regression Analysis was employed to investigate determinants of knowledge and behavior on antibiotics use.

The study revealed that the majority had poor knowledge on toxication of antibiotics, the interval between taking antibiotics and meal, drug resistance and antibiotics for children. The majority had fair or poor performance on antibiotics use. The behaviors considered to be inappropriate were using antibiotics without indication, buying antibiotics from grocery in the village, incorrect use of antibiotics for children, too short interval between taking antibiotics and meal, incomplete dose of antibiotics, no observation of drug expiration and incorrect practices in reaction to side-effects of antibiotics.

Multiple regression analysis was employed to determine factors affecting knowledge and behavior on antibiotics use. The good knowledge of antibiotics was determined by high education, high family income and younger age while the appropriate behavior on antibiotics use was determined by receiving advices, good knowledge on antibiotics, high education and married status.

The problems stated by the people with regard to antibiotics use are poor quality of antibiotics, side-effects of antibiotics, high prices, unable to read the instructions, confusing of the different forms and colours of antibiotics and do not know the name of antibiotics. The needs expressed are good quality of antibiotics, clearly explanations of toxication, proper way of keeping and how to observe drug expiration.