

Health Research Priority
Strategies for Health Research in Lao PDR*
(2002-2006)

1. Framework for research projects according to health work plans. The six major health work plans of Ministry of Health have been the framework for setting research priority.

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1st Work plan: disease prevention and health promotion
The issues/areas/research topics prioritized includes:

1.1 Mother and child health

- 1.1.1 Study on prevalence of STD's among women attending 3 central hospitals in Vientiane municipality
- 1.1.2 Health status of adolescent migrant in Vientiane Municipality
- 1.1.3 A district model of integrated reproductive health services in Oudomxay province
- 1.1.4 Study on cervical cancer
- 1.1.5 Survey on contraceptive methods in Luangprabang province
- 1.1.6 Study on factors contributing to extra uterine pregnancy

1.2 Mosquito born diseases

- 1.2.1 Study on community compliance on impregnated bed net to prevent malaria
- 1.2.2 Effectiveness of the use of ABATE to prevent Dengue fever in Lao PDR
- 1.2.3 Study on drug for treatment malaria resistance to plasmodium Falciparum
- 1.2.4 Study on mosquitoes resistance to chemical substance
- 1.2.5 Pilot implementation of early warning outbreak recognition system (EWORDS)
- 1.2.6 Case-control study on infectious etiology of hemorrhagic fever
- 1.2.7 Spatial and temporal dynamics of dengue severe infection. Indicators of risk in the central plan of Thailand and Vientiane
- 1.2.8 Survey of Nipale and Lyssa viruses

1.3 AIDS

- 1.3.1 Behavioral risk survey on STD/HIV/AIDS
- 1.3.2 AIDS Sentinel Surveillance and Periodic study

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2nd work plan: Curative Care and Rehabilitation
The issues/areas/research topics prioritized includes:

- 2.1 Improvement of quality of treatment service using the evaluation of health technology
- 2.2 Combination of treatment with modern and traditional medicine
- 2.3 Priority diseases burden based on mortality

3rd work plan: Consumers protection and essential drug supply.

The issues/areas/research topics prioritized includes:

- 3.1 study on drug addition among students in primary schools and secondary schools
- 3.2 clinical trial on opium detoxification by traditional medicine
- 3.3 Unsafe ingredient in food
- 3.4 Evaluation of revolving drug Fund in Borikhamxay province
- 3.5 Evaluation on training needs assessment of the existing pharmacist
- 3.6 Improving performance of drug therapeutic committee in Lao PDR
- 3.7 Antibiotics use as self medication for reproductive tract infectious and pamphlet testing for intervention among adult population in Lao PDR
- 3.8 Improvement on quality in service of 3rd category pharmacy in Vientiane province
- 3.9 Accessibility for essential drug of population in Lao PDR

4th work plan: Development of Human Resources for Health

The issues/areas/research topics prioritized includes:

- 4.1 Study on factors affecting the learning and teaching process at College of Health Technology
- 4.2 Study on factors promoting on efficient performance of health staffs
- 4.3 Study on effectiveness of roles and function on health organization from top to bottom

5th work plan: Management of Health Research and Training

The issues/areas/research topics prioritized includes:

- 5.1 Development tools for information on population drug use in Lao PDR
- 5.2 Assessment of health reform in Lao PDR
- 5.3 Benefit of decentralization and integration of malaria control
- 5.4 Health research system performance assessment
- 5.5 World health survey
- 5.6 Prevalence of non-communicable diseases in Lao PDR
- 5.7 Strengthening of operational research in PHC in Lao PDR

6th work plan: Health economic and administration

The issues/areas/research topics prioritized includes:

- 6.1 Optimal methods for using valid information to develop master plan for health sector for 2010, 2015, and 2020
- 6.2 Optimal management methods that effectively deal with resources from external assistance

2. Strategic for Strengthening Research Capacity (of The National Institute of Public Health/Council Medical Sciences)

2.1 Management of health research and training work plan

2.2 Organizational reform

2.3 Health Research, and Training Policy

2.4 Management and coordination of research activities

2.5 Short term health research capacity strengthening

2.6 Long term health research capacity strengthening

* This synthesized list of health research priorities has been taken from the document: *Third Five Year National Health Research Master Plan (2002-2006), Chapter III*, Lao People's Democratic Republic. Ministry of Health, National Institute of Public Health, December 2001.

For further information on the priority setting process, please refer to this document provided in section 2 of Health Research Web.