



SURVEY OF SITUATION AND SEVERITY OF PUBLIC PROBLEMS AFFECTING HEALTH IN AN INDUSTRIAL DISTRICT IN THAILAND

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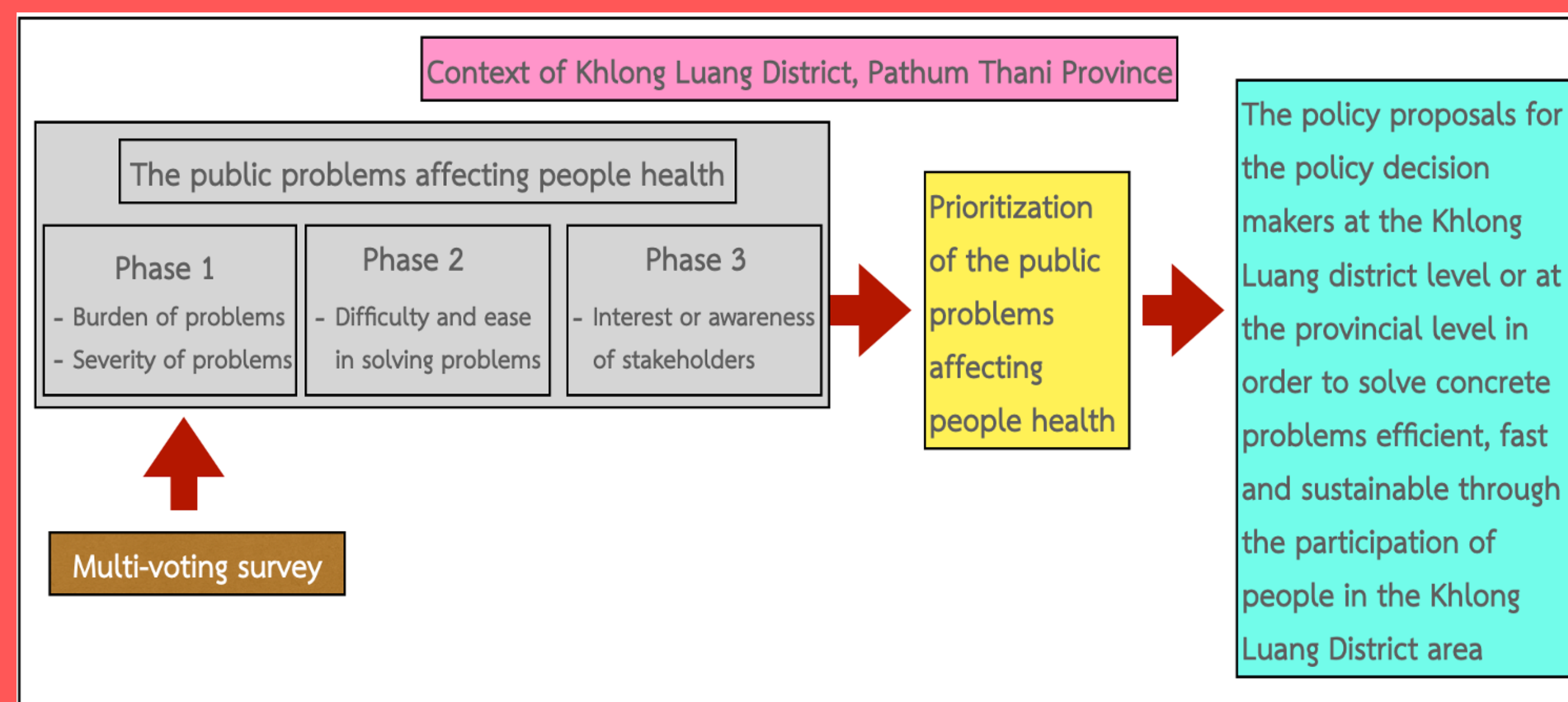
INTRODUCTION

Khlong Luang District, the 2nd large district of Pathum Thani Province, which many important organizations are located such as Thailand Science Park, Thammasat University, Bangkok University, Nawanakhon Industrial Estate, Thai Market, Iyara Market, Dhammakaya Temple. The number of populations is approximately 800,000 - 1,000,000 people and 1,083 factories which is the greatest number of factories in Pathum Thani Province. It is the place for goods production and distribution across Thailand so that it could have impacted on health and safety of a huge number of Thai populations. If there were unqualified goods or services or low-quality products. However, the government policies are more likely in accordance with health needs of the population. It is necessary to prioritize problems in order to guide planning and drafting a master plan for managing public health problems that affect the health of people in the Khlong Luang District area. Prepare policy proposals for administrators at the Khlong Luang district level or at the provincial level.

OBJECTIVES

To survey the public problems affecting people health in Khlong Luang District, Pathum Thani Province and to investigate the contexts those related to the burden and severity of the public problems.

RESEARCH FRAMEWORK



METHODS

This study is a mixed method. The retrospective data from the hospital database in 2020 was used to analyze the burden of the public problems. Focus group interview among the community leaders with an interactive multi-voting process were performed in 2022 to gather the context relevant to the severity of the public problems. Health outcomes including incidence rate, length of stay (LOS), and cost of illness of inpatient admission affected by the adverse event of using illegal medicines sold by grocery stores.

RESULTS

The survey in 2019 reported 48.5% of grocery stores (11 out of 24) sold NSAIDs. The hospital database shows gastrointestinal (GI) bleed was the first leading cause of hospitalizations. The incidence rate of GI bleed, average LOS, and average cost of inpatient admission from the year 2020 to 2022 were 51.55 per 1000 population, 8 days per patient, and 538.47\$USD, 80.80 per 1000 population, 4.1 days per patient, and 225.66\$USD and 45.45 per 1000 population, 4.5 days per patient, and 464.55\$USD, respectively. This finding was consistency with the results from the qualitative study that people in Khlong Luang District are most likely to buy medicines especially NSAIDs from grocery store instead of pharmacy store.

SEVERITY OF PUBLIC PROBLEMS

Problems	Important of problem	Number of votes
Drug use and health products	A set of polypharmacy (Ya-chud)	8
	Antibiotic use	4
	Over claim advertisement of dietary supplement	2
	Use of pain killer drugs	1
	Substandard drinking water	1
	Illegal health products	1
Waste and environment	Waste management	2
	Management of odors from garbage	1
Addict substances	Addict substances use in teenager	2
	4x100 (one of addict substances formulation)	1
Healthcare center	Lack of healthcare professional	1
Health behavior	Patients deny getting treatment at hospital	1

DISCUSSIONS

This study is a mixed method. The retrospective data from the hospital database was used to analyze the burden of the public problems. Focus group interview among the community leaders with an interactive multi-voting process were performed to gather the context relevant to the severity of the public problems. Health outcomes including incidence rate, length of stay (LOS), and cost of illness of inpatient admission affected by the adverse event of using illegal medicines sold by grocery stores.

CONCLUSION

The finding from this study is the evidence for the policy makers to design the surveillance system for public problems affecting health. Linkage among stakeholders' databases including community hospitals, community leaders, and private sectors is needed for implementation of the master plan for tackling those public problems.

REFERENCES

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