

# Assessment of psychotropic drugs utilization in Thailand

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## ABSTRACT

The project formed the starting phase of the development of National Monitoring System for Psychotropic Drugs. The experience and outcome will subsequently be applied in designing, structuring and operationalize the system.

### Immediate objective

1. To collect available information on production, import, export and selling of psychotropic substances in Thailand

2. To develop suitable instruments and measures to monitor and control production, distribution and consumption of psychotropic substances

3. To identify individual and groups of psychoactive drugs associated with different and contrasting problems of dependences or habituation

4. To identify untoward consequences of psychotropic drug use and abuse for public health and for society in general

5. To assess prevalences and patterns of psychotropic drug consumption

6. To assess factors influencing the prescribing habit of physicians

7. To prepare a report introducing the findings and conclusions of the assessment and suggestions for future policies and in particular in the programme of the training institutions, e.g. school of medicine and pharmacy and other group activities leading to rational use of these substances

### Components of psychotropic drug supply and utilization assessment

The assessment of psychotropic drugs utilization constituted of 5 studies contextually linked into information on legislative control, import supply, manufacturing, distribution and community utilization. The target area of these components included national consumption, import, manufacturing, whole sale and retail distribution and community knowledge, attitude and practice (KAP) related to psychotropic drugs utilization. The studies were as followed :

1. National legislation, manufacture and trade in psychotropic substances

2. Estimation of total consumption of psychotropic substances in Thailand

3. Prescribing practices in government general hospital at provincial, district and community levels

4. Dispensing behaviour of private pharmacies
5. Knowledge, attitude and practice survey of psychotropic drug utilization among provincial population : a general population survey

Key words : Psychotropic drugs. Demand and consumption. Health impact.

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