

**Health literacy related to COVID-19 antigen self -test behavior
of service recipients at metropolitan health and wellness institution, Bangkok**

Nutch Hiriotuppa

Metropolitan health and wellness institution, Bangkok Thailand

*Corresponding author: Nutch Hiriotuppa : wihappy@hotmail.com

Background: Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19) is a respiratory tract infection caused by Severe Acute Respiratory Syndrome Coronavirus 2, which began to spread in China, then spread through the whole globe in 2020. Thailand has been more than 24,299,923 patients and more than 827730 deaths internationally.

Objectives: Study the relationship between health literacy and COVID-19 antigen self -test behavior of participants of metropolitan health and wellness institution.

Method: The study population was participants from October 2021 to September 2022. The population of 230 patients is studied by a systematic sampling method. Data were collected by questionnaires and analyzed by descriptive and chi-square.

Results: The result revealed that most participants had health literacy performance as the following. 79.1% of participants had the ability to seek information and medical services. 83.5% had strong comprehension skills. 79.6% had good conversational skills. 81% had good decision-making skills. 81.3% had strong self-management skills. Last, 87.4% had the ability to share and inform health-related information with others. Moreover, about half of the participants (50.9%) had a moderate ability to perform COVID-19 antigen self -test. The correlation analysis showed a statistically significant relationship between health services, decision-making skills, self-management skills, and communication skills, with a significance level of 0.05 (p-value=0.028, 0.030, 0.001, and 0.001, respectively).

Conclusion: The hospital should have a policy to encourage patients for COVID-19 antigen self -test (ATK). The policy has enhance our patient to increase health literacy skill for protect themselves from COVID-19 and not spread it from themselves to their families, community, and society.

Keywords: Antigen test kit (ATK), Antigen self -test , Health literacy