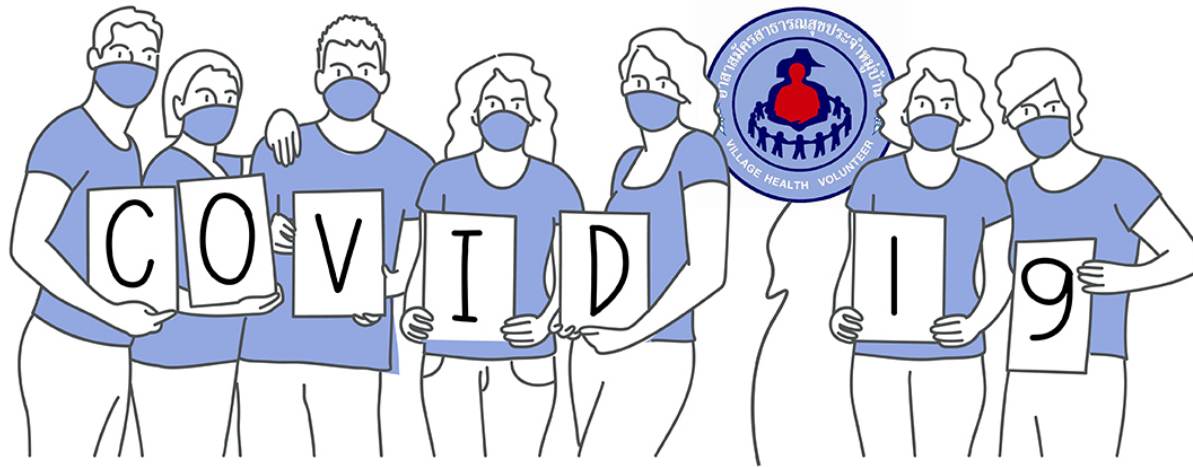


# Igniting Conversations on NCDs and Mental Health at Primary Health Care: A Case Study of the Services of Village Health Volunteers in Nakhon Phanom



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## My Research in 2022

# Minimizing Risk and Managing Crisis Situation during the Pandemic of Coronavirus Disease (COVID-19) by Applying Village Health Volunteer (VHV)'s Social Network: A Preliminary Study of the Triangulated Collaborations between the Local Government Officials, VHV's Network, and Municipal Community Members in Nakhon Phanom Province



# Lock Down Tha Dok Kaew Village, Tha-uthen District, Nakhon Phanom



# Research Questions



- 1) What are roles, duties and functions of the VHV in minimizing risk during the crisis situation from the pandemic of COVID-19 in Nakhon Phanom Municipality?
- 2) In what contexts and conditions that the VHV are highly needed and necessitated for preventing COVID-19 Outbreak in the countryside of Thailand's?
- 3) Which organizations or agencies can work collaboratively with the VHV?

# Anthropological Research Methods: In-depth Interviews and Focus Group



# Focus Group



# Observing their services



# VHVs: Who They are?

## Common Characters of the VHVs:

- Female
- Aging/Elderly: retire housewife
- Charismatic/ Respectful
- Leadership
- Social Acceptance
- Socio-political Networks







## Roles and Responsibilities of the VHVs before the COVID-19 pandemic



- Look after health and well-being of the community members/villagers such as adult, newborn babies, elderly/aging people.
- Follow policies of the Ministry of Public Health by advertising, promote, running campaigns and provide public health trainings and services related to ~~การดูแลสุขภาพ~~ to the community members.
  - Arrange activities to monitor and prevent any risk to local health conditions.
  - Service the community members by trainings as for educating uneducated and grassroot people to take care of their health. Most of such trainings guide the villagers how to prevent and cope with the seasonal diseases, such as cold, hemorrhagic fever, influenza.
  - Change health behaviors, develop the community's life quality by prioritizing community's engagement and collaborating with other government officials.
  - Educate community members about the rights and benefit they can get from the public health policy as well as informing individuals how to access into the health service provided by the Government.

# Common Characters of the VHVs in Thailand

- **Female**
- **Aging/Elderly**
- **Charismatic/ Respectfull**
- **Leadership Social Acceptance**
- **Socio-political Networks**



# Roles, Responsibilities and Duties of the VHTs during the Covid19 have been changed



# VHVs: Disease Screening at the villages



# VHVs: Disease Screening at the villages



# VHVs: VHVs: Disease Screening at the villages

At funeral ceremony at the temple



# VHVs: VHVs: Disease Screening at the villages



Screening at the Provincial Administrative Organization Election Station



# VHVs: VHVs: VHVs: Disease Screening at the villages



Screening at the Night Market in Nakhon Phanom



# After Covid19. VHVS visiting Elderly People in the Villages while allowing nursing students to observe their service



# Discussion and Analysis

## VHV's Roles and Responsibilities GO BEYOND...

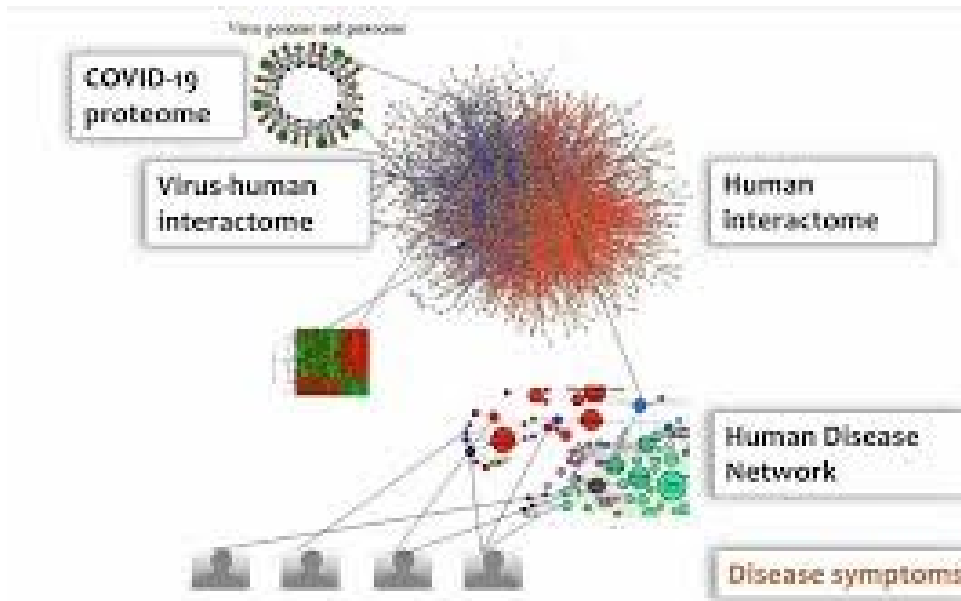
“resource allocator” but also  
“community/village’s  
representative”

- There are many important conditions and contexts why the VHVs are highly needed in the Thai’s countryside area.



# Discussion and Analysis

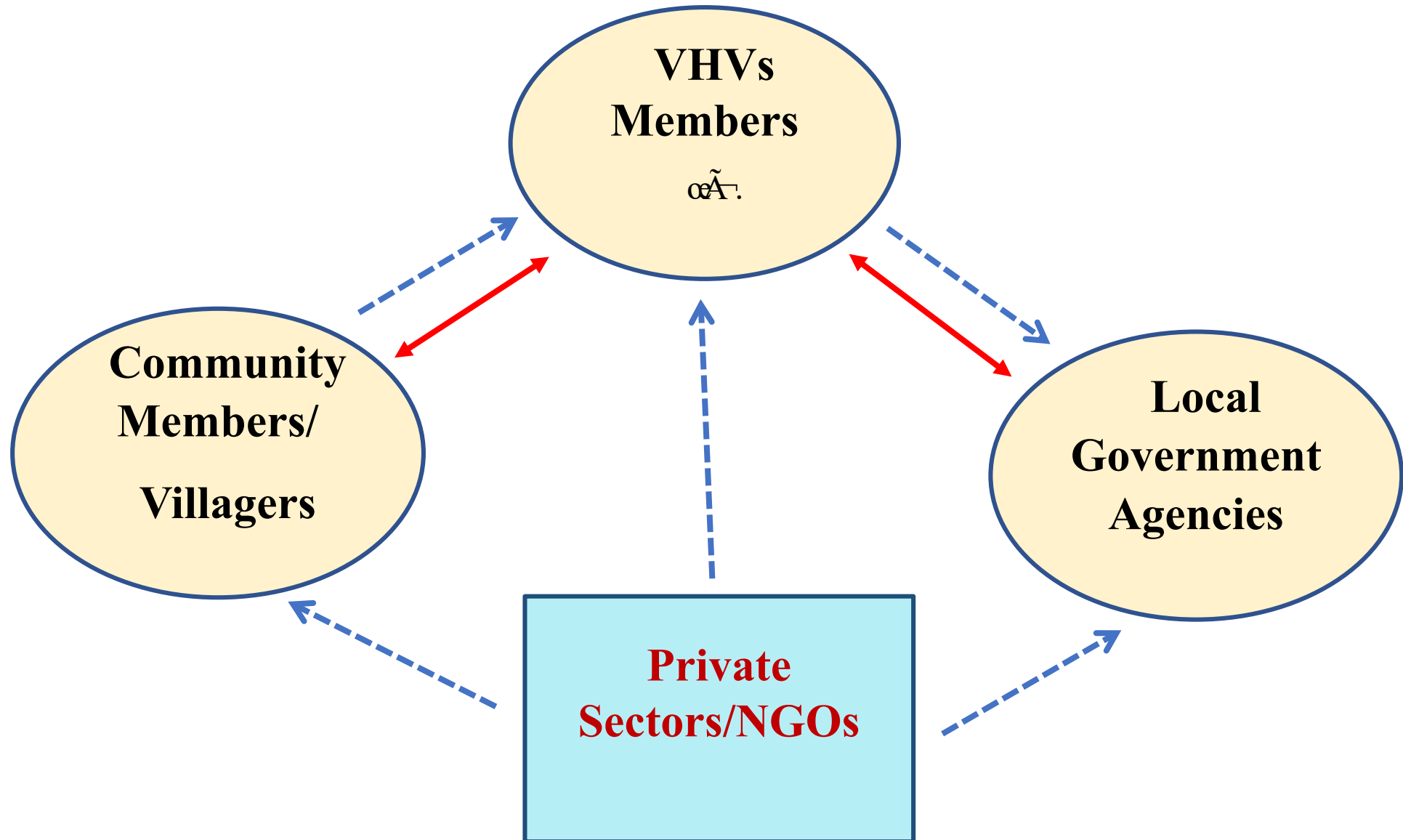
- **VHVs: Building Social Network to Cope with Risky and Crisis Situation from the COVID-19**



COVID-19 and Network Medicine



# Triangulated Collaboration of the VHV's Social Network



# Applications of digital technology skills for managing health risks of communities' stakeholders during COVID-19

- *VHVs in Thailand have to show their digital literacy*
  - *The ability to communicate within the VHVs group and people in the villages via social media such as Line and/or Facebook applications*
  - *The ability to use the applications called "Smart VHVS"*
    - *to update the daily activities*
    - *to submit the reports describing in details what they have done during the days or after finishing the assigned projects*
    - *Reporting about the update epidemic situation of mosquito larva and common house mosquitos*
    - *Covid's screening*
    - *Elderly care-taking*
    - *Health Check-Up of the villagers*



วิธีการใช้งานแอปพลิเคชัน  
**สมาร์ททอส.ม.**  
การทำรายงานลูกน้ำยุงลาย

- 1 เลือกเมนู"รายงานลูกน้ำยุงลาย"
- 2 กรอกรายละเอียดบ้านเลขที่ / หมู่บ้าน / จำนวนผู้อยู่อาศัย
- 3 บันทึกข้อมูลจำนวนด้วยการกดปุ่ม **+** **-**
- 4 กด **บันทึก** เพื่อส่งรายงาน

Smart  
ทอส.ม.

# Smart OSM(VHVs)



กรมสนับสนุนบริการสุขภาพ  
Department of Health Service Support

## SMART อสม. เครื่องมือ สำหรับ อสม 4.0

### Official Line



SMART อสม.



LINE ADD FRIEND @vhv4.0

อสม. ทุกคนที่ใช้ Line เพิ่มเพื่อน จาก QR Code นี้ครับ  
หรือ ค้นหา Line ID @vhv4.0

Line@ นี้ เป็นช่องทางรับการรับข้อมูล ข่าวสารจาก กรมสนับสนุนบริการสุขภาพ  
กระทรวงสาธารณสุข ส่งตรงให้ อสม. ทั่วประเทศครับ.

ดูรายละเอียดเพิ่มเติมได้ที่ [www.อสม.com](http://www.อสม.com)

### Mobile Application



SMART อสม.



อสม. ทุกคนที่โหลดแอปพลิเคชัน SMART อสม. ไว้ครับ

SMART อสม. คือ แอปพลิเคชัน ที่ช่วยให้ อสม. มีเครื่องมือในการทำงาน  
เช่น การส่งแบบฟอร์ม อสม. 1 , มีเครื่องมือช่วยเก็บข้อมูลในการติดตามผู้ป่วย  
และส่งข้อมูลให้เจ้าหน้าที่ในจังหวัดรับทราบ

รวมถึงการรับ ข้อมูล ข่าวสาร การประเมินความรู้ จากกระทรวงสาธารณสุขโดยตรง

หลังจากติดตั้งแอปฯแล้ว เมื่อเปิดใช้งานครั้งแรก ให้ทำการลงทะเบียน  
ระบุตัวตนของท่าน เพื่อการใช้งานได้อย่างสมบูรณ์ครับ

People Information System, Department of People Health Support, Ministry of Public Health

[https://www.thaiphc.net/new2020/news\\_detail/650](https://www.thaiphc.net/new2020/news_detail/650)

## Examples of Village Health Volunteers and response to non-communicable diseases

- Roles of Preventing and screening NCD in the village
  - Hypertension
  - Diabetes

# Screening Hypertension for Elderly People





# Screening Diabetes



# Implications of VHV in other parts of Thailand and potentials for other Asian countries.

- In Laos PDR, VHVs are called community health workers (CHWs) (Yato et.al. 2014)
- Individuals who interact with important figures in the community and who cooperate with other villagers whenever problems arise, i.e., have social capital, exhibit good performance as VHVs
- Increasing *Citizenship Activities* could increase the retention rate of CHWs/VHVs and help improve their performance.
- *Citizenship Activities* include the elements of “joining together with other village members” and “talking with a local authority or government organization.” In other words, it appears that individuals who have connections with important figures in the community and who cooperate with other villagers whenever problems arise exhibit good performance as VHVs.

# Village Health Volunteers in Laos PDR



Source: [WWW.UNICEF.ORG](http://WWW.UNICEF.ORG)

# Thank You

