



**Department for Development of Thai Traditional  
and Alternative Medicine  
Ministry of Public Health, Thailand**

# Department for Development of Thai Traditional and Alternative Medicine

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## Preface

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The Department for Development of Thai Traditional and Alternative Medicine (DTAM) is considered new, compared to other departments of the Ministry of Public Health, since it was founded only 14 years ago. However, through the years, DTAM, as the national authority of Thai traditional and alternative medicine, has continuously developed academic works, researches, service systems, and Thai traditional and alternative medicine personnel, promoted the protection of traditional knowledge of Thai traditional and indigenous medicine, and implemented all related policies. These efforts are taken to encourage Thais to use standard, quality and safe Thai traditional and alternative medicine products and services for self-care and health care of their families and communities.

Although DTAM's works have been made available to a large number of people, there is a lack of English materials to introduce our department to promote the knowledge among foreigners or foreign international agencies to know the department as a core agency that supervises, develops and promotes Thai traditional medicine and alternative medicine in Thailand. We, therefore, hope that this PR material will be useful for interested foreigners and international agencies and will pave the way for further international collaboration in traditional medicine in the future.

We would like to express our sincere thanks and appreciation to all institutes, divisions and offices under DTAM for their kind cooperation in selecting and delivering all information concerned to make this book complete and available to interested international agencies and foreign visitors.

September 2016  
Editorial Committee



# Establishment of DTAM

**1978**

The World Health Organisation (WHO) issued Alma-Ata Declaration urging its member states to include traditional medicine and herbal medicine in their primary health care programme. Ministry of Public Health answered WHO's call by supporting more research and development on medicinal plants used in Thai traditional medicine.

**1989**

The Ministry of Public Health established the "Collaborating Centre for the Development of Thai Traditional Medicine and Pharmacy", under the Office of the Permanent Secretary, to formulate Thai traditional medicine policies and guidelines.

**1999**

The Protection and Promotion of Thai Traditional Medicine Knowledge Act B.E. 2542 (1999) drafted by Institute of Thai Traditional Medicine (ITTM), was enforced. Section 12 of the Act indicates that the Institute of Thai Traditional Medicine shall be under the Office of Permanent Secretary of Public Health.

**2002**

On 3 October 2002, as a result of the Bureaucratic Reform Act B.E. 2545 (2002), the Ministry of Public Health established the **Department for Development of Thai Traditional and Alternative Medicine (DTAM)** as a new department, comprising of the Institute of Thai Traditional Medicine, Division of Alternative Medicine and Office of the Secretary. The new department has played a crucial role in developing academic researches on Thai traditional medicine, Thai indigenous medicine and alternative medicine.

**2015 - 2016**

To answer the Government Policy to promote herbal product industry, DTAM in collaboration with various ministries involved formulated the first National Master Plan on the Development of Thai Medicinal Plants (2017-2021).

**1987-1991**

The 6th National Economic and Social Development Plan promoted the use of medicinal plants and Thai traditional medicine more by establishing the works on developing the use of herbs in the work plan of "Herbal Medicine Development Project"

**1993**

The Ministry of Public Health transformed the Collaborating Centre for the Development of Thai Traditional Medicine and Pharmacy into the "Institute of Thai Traditional Medicine" (ITTM) and transferred it to be under the Department of Medical Services. Dr. Pennapa Subcharoen was appointed the first director of the institute.

**2001**

The Government made a government policy statement to the parliament, declaring that Thai traditional medicine was one of public health policies, which was in accordance with one of the 18 main missions of the Ministry of Public Health.

**2010**

DTAM established the **Thai Traditional Medicine Research Institute** to accelerate the country's research projects on Thai traditional medicine.

**2012**

DTAM established **Thai Traditional and Integrated Medicine Hospital** to be the model of Thai traditional medicine hospital.

**2016**

DTAM accelerated the establishment of Thai Traditional Medicine Working Group in provincial public health offices and public health facilities to support the government's policy that included Thai traditional medicine in the health service plan.



## Vision

“To be the national authority on Thai traditional and alternative medicine for self-reliance on health care and promotion of sustainable economy”

## Mission

To develop technical capacity in Thai traditional and alternative medicine by protecting, conserving and promoting Thai Traditional medicine knowledge, to promote and develop knowledge management system, and establish standards of Thai traditional and alternative medicine practices and services to be equivalent to those of modern medicine, and effectively and safely utilize Thai traditional and alternative medicine in the health system as alternative modalities of health care for the people.

## Strategies

### Strategy 1

Develop Thai traditional medicine service system, standardize Thai traditional massage (Nuad Thai) and integrate into the health system

### Strategy 2

Promote research and knowledge management on Thai traditional medicine for the good health

### Strategy 3

Strengthen domestic capacity to drive Thailand as the manufacturer and developer of quality herbal products

### Strategy 4

Reinforce the protection of Thai traditional medicine knowledge through effective law and law enforcement system

### Strategy 5

Reform the administrative and management system toward better efficiency and good governance



## Goals

Thai traditional medicine, Thai indigenous medicine and alternative medicine have good quality and standards, and are sustainably integrated into the health service system.

The knowledge of Thai traditional medicine, Thai indigenous medicine and alternative medicine is confidently and safely utilized for the health of the people through technical development, research and development and knowledge management.

## Organizational culture

“I AM DTAM”

I = Integrity

A = Activeness

M = Morality

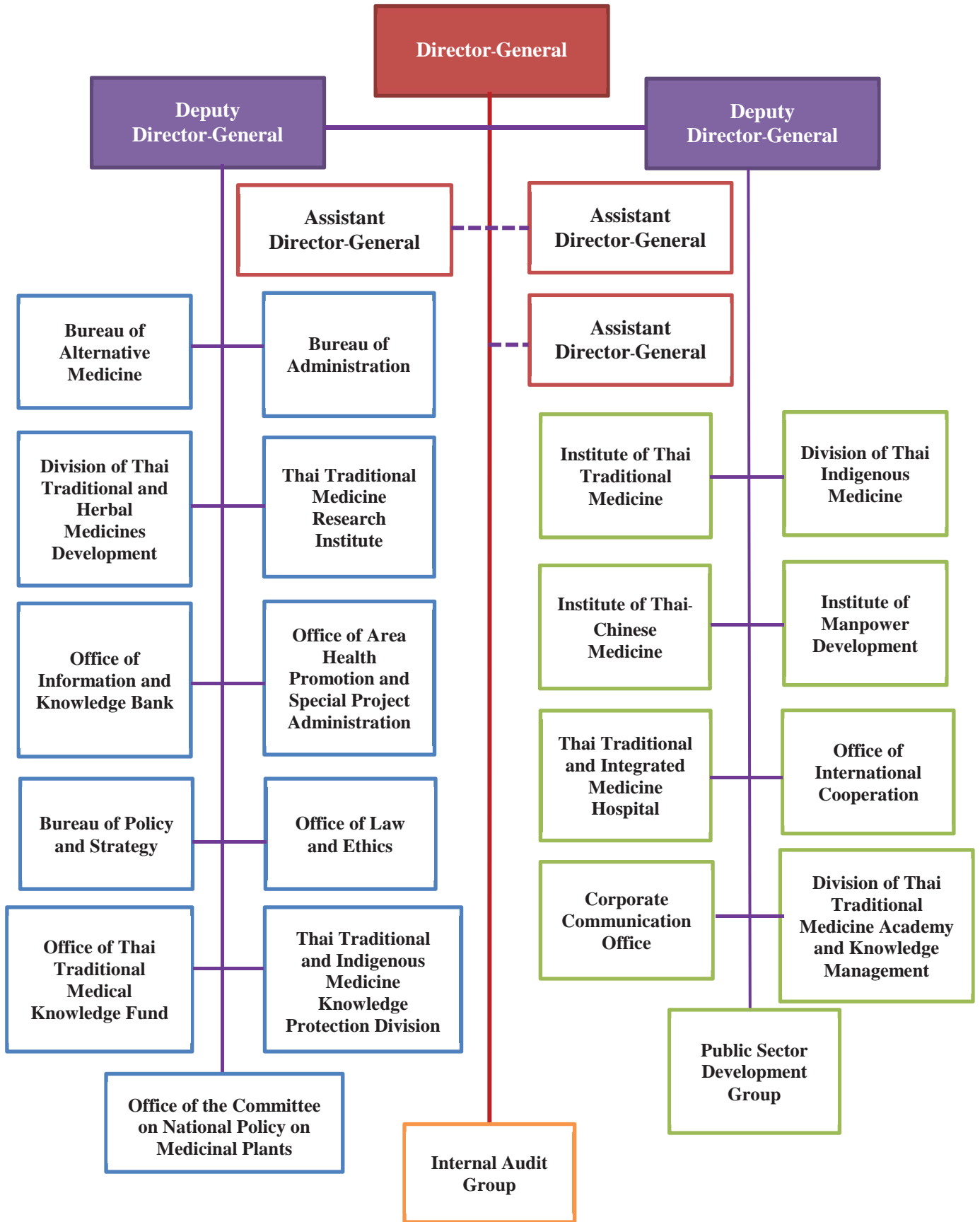
D = Democracy

T = Thainess and Teamwork

A = Accountability

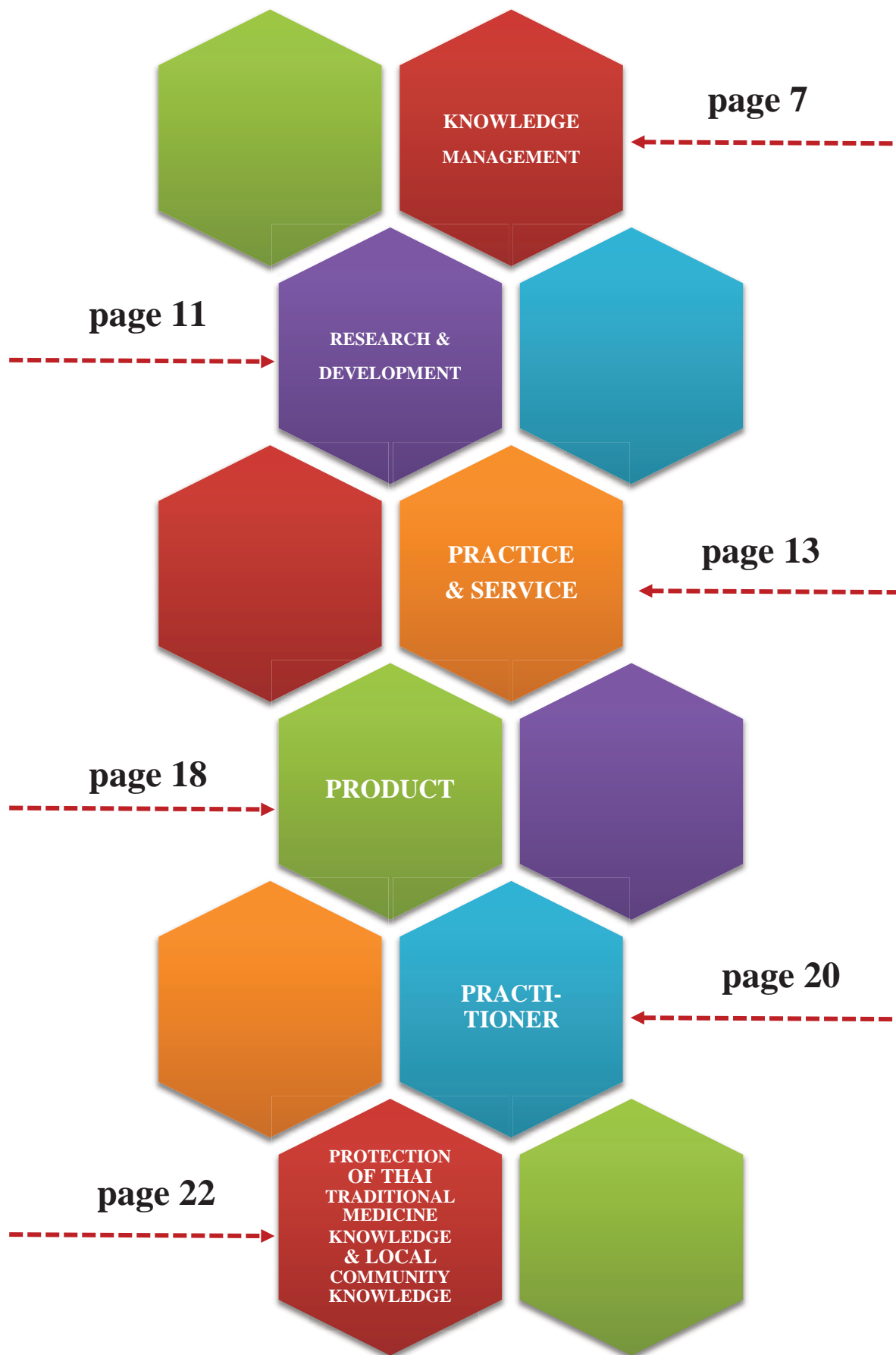
M = Mindfulness

# Organization Chart



# Major Achievements

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Thus far, the Department for Development of Thai Traditional and Alternative Medicine (DTAM) has fostered the systematic knowledge development and management. Bodies of knowledge have been disseminated to the public and related personnel through these procedures:

### 1. Publication of Textbooks

**Thai Traditional Medicine (TTM):** DTAM has conducted researches, compiled the knowledge, and produced TTM textbooks/manuals in various fields, namely Thai traditional medicine, Thai traditional pharmacy, Thai traditional massage (Nuad Thai) and Thai traditional midwifery. With the goal to protect and disseminate the wisdom and knowledge of TTM and herbs, more than 80 publications have been published, such as

- Monographs of Selected Thai Materia Medica (Volumes 1-2)
- Pharmacognostic Specifications of Thai Medicinal Plants (Volumes 1-2)
- Dictionary of Thai Traditional Medicine and Thai Traditional Pharmacy, Royal Institute of Thailand
- Manual of Zoning of Cultivation Areas for Medicinal Plants Used in Thai Traditional Pharmacy
- Compilation of Thai Herbs' Properties
- Pharmacognostic Specifications of Thai Crude Drugs
- List of Herbal Medicines in the National List of Essential Medicines B.E. 2555
- Manual for the Care of the Elderly with Knee Osteoarthritis using Thai Traditional Medicine and Integrated Medicine
- Manual of Health Care Promotion and Chronic Disease Prevention with Thai Traditional Medicine
- Manual of Thai Traditional Midwifery
- Guidelines for the Examination and Treatment of Frozen Shoulder with Thai Traditional Medicine
- Guidelines for the Examination and Treatment of Knee Osteoarthritis with Thai Traditional Medicine
- Thai Traditional Medicine for Medical Doctors
- Foot Massage for Health (60-Hour Course)
- Court-type and Typical-type Thai Massage for Health (150-Hour Course)
- Manual of Self-Massage for the General Public
- Handbook of Basic English for Thai Traditional Medicine Clinical Practice
- List of Codes for Disease Groups, Symptoms and Treatment Modalities in Thai Traditional Medicine (ICD-10-TM)
- Codes of Thai Traditional Medicinal Products for Hospitals and Public Health Service Facilities
- Manual for the Implementation of Thai Traditional Medicine Services in *Tambon* (Sub-District) Health Promotion Hospitals
- Manual of Herbal Medicine Production Standard
- *Ruesi Dutton* for the Treatment of Office Syndrome
- Thai Traditional Medicine Textbook from Wat Pho's Stone Inscriptions (Volumes 1-3)
- Marble Inscriptions of Herbal Formulas at *Ratcha-orasaram Ratchaworawihan* Temple
- Textbook on *Dhatu Phra Narai* Scripture (Palm Leaf Version)



➤ Examples of TTM Textbooks

**Thai Indigenous Medicine (TIM):** DTAM has conducted research studies and compiled knowledge on TIM and published more than 20 books on TIM, such as

- Records of Indigenous Medicine Wisdom of the Four Regions
- Diabetic Care with Indigenous Medicine
- Folk Healer’s Manual of Fracture Treatment
- Clinical Efficacy of Folk Healer’s Frozen Shoulder Treatment
- Folk Healers’ Wisdom on Indigenous Herbs for Diabetic Risk Reduction
- Study of Folk Herbalist’s Body of Knowledge
- Folk Healer’s Body of Knowledge on Paresis-Paralysis Care
- Body of Knowledge of *Toh-bidae* (Muslim Midwives) in the Three Southernmost Provinces
- Utilization Pattern of *Toh-bidae*’s Wisdom for Mother and Child Care in Communities and State Sector
- Study, Synthesis and Systemization of Indigenous Medicine Knowledge for the treatment of Injuries by Venomous Animals and Snake Bites

➤ *Examples of TIM Textbooks*



**Traditional Chinese Medicine (TCM):** DTAM has conducted studies and compiled knowledge on TCM and published more than 20 TCM textbooks/manuals, such as

- Textbook on Acupuncture and Moxibustion (Volumes 1-5)
- Commonly used Chinese Prescriptions in Thailand (Volumes 1-3)
- Commonly used Chinese Prescriptions in Thailand (Complete Edition)
- Standard of Chinese Materia Medica in Thailand (Volumes 1-2)
- Development of Traditional Chinese Medicine in Thailand
- Basic Traditional Chinese Medicine
- Manual of Thai-Chinese Herb Utilization
- Pulse Diagnosis
- Chinese Herbal Medicine
- Textbook on Acupuncture in Complementary Medicine (Volumes 1-2)
- Traditional Chinese Medicine Dictionary

➤ *Examples of TCM Textbooks*



**Alternative Medicine (AM):** DTAM has conducted research studies and compiled knowledge on AM and produced more than 35 AM textbooks/manuals for dissemination, such as

- Aromatherapy/Health Food/the Use of Water for Health
- Integrated Care for Allergy Patients
- Prayer and Meditation Therapy for Therapeutic Purposes
- Manual of Integrated Care of Patients with Hypertension, Cancer, Diabetes, Paresis, Paralysis or Drug Addict
- Diets for Different Blood Groups
- Guidelines for the Care of Cancer Patients with Gerson Therapy
- Manual for the Care of Patients Addicted to Narcotics with Integrative Medicine
- Integrative Care for the Elderly
- Five Thai Medicinal Plants Commonly Used in Homeopathy
- Manual for Provision of Chelation, Homeopathy and Macrobiotic Services

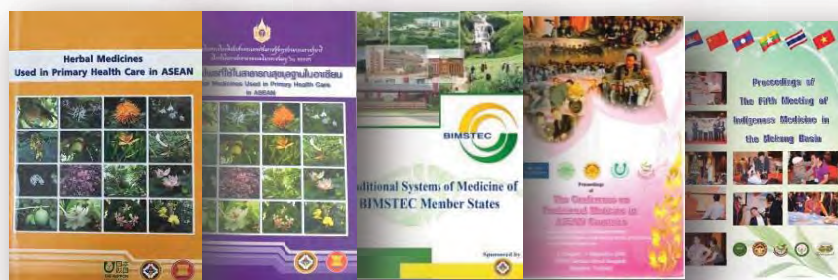
➤ *Examples of AM Textbooks*



**Traditional Medicine (TM) in other countries:** DTAM, in collaboration with ASEAN Member States, published the book called “Herbal Medicines Used in Primary Health Care in ASEAN” as a guideline for the treatments of 27 minor illnesses and symptoms with 65 medicinal plants commonly used in ASEAN. The book was later translated into Thai and published in 2015. In addition, the department has compiled and published the information on traditional medicine/indigenous medicine used in other countries under various collaborative frameworks as shown below. The books were later disseminated to member states and related academic institutes.

- Herbal Medicines Used in Primary Health Care in ASEAN (both English and Thai versions)
- Traditional Systems of Medicine of BIMSTEC Member States
- Service and Educational Systems of Traditional Medicine in ASEAN (Thai version)
- Traditional Medicine in ASEAN
- Proceedings of the Conference on Traditional Medicine in ASEAN Countries
- Proceedings of the Fifth Meeting of Indigenous Medicine in the Mekong Basin

➤ *Publications from the Collaboration in Traditional Medicine with Other Countries*



## 2. Thailand's Health Profile in Thai Traditional Medicine, Indigenous Medicine and Alternative Medicine

DTAM has compiled, analyzed, and presented information, knowledge and progress on the development of TTM, IM and AM in Thailand and presented as *“Thailand's Health Profile in Thai Traditional Medicine, Indigenous Medicine and Alternative Medicine”* every 3 years. The book covered highlight topics, e.g. history of TTM, TTM wisdom during the reign of His Majesty King Bhumibol Adulyadej, policy and strategy, TTM service system and community health care system, herbal medicine system and the utilization of Thai traditional medicines, and situation and development of Nuad Thai. Currently, there are two issues available in both English and Thai: the 2009-2010 issue and the 2011-2013 issue. The third issue (2014-2016) is in preparation. For more information, visit <http://oie.dtam.moph.go.th/>.



## 3. Journal of Thai Traditional and Alternative Medicine



DTAM has been publishing the *“Journal of Thai Traditional and Alternative Medicine”* since 2003. The publication is aimed to be a platform for the



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presentation and dissemination of TTM, IM & AM knowledge, academic works and researches on TTM, herbs, IM, and AM. The journal is published every four months or three issues a year. Through the years, the journal has gone through the process of quality development to meet the criteria set up by the Thai-Journal Citation Index (TCI) Centre. As a result, in fiscal year 2015 or its 13<sup>th</sup> year, the journal has been approved as a Category 1 journal of TCI that meets international standard and is listed in the TCI database. It is also published on the e-journal website supervised by the Ministry of Public Health (for more information, visit <http://oie.dtam.moph.go.th>)

## 4. Thai Traditional Digital Knowledge Library: TTDKL

DTAM has set up the *“Thai Traditional Digital Knowledge Library (TTDKL)”* as the knowledge bank system of Thai traditional medicine wisdom. TTM formulas, textbooks, and knowledge have been transcribed, translated, transliterated, sorted out and revised into the modern language and issued standard codes for



systematic recording in the system and presented in a digital library format.

Currently, there are records of 81 TM formulas, 79 postures of Ruesi Dutton (Thai-style stretching exercise), 60 Wat Pho's Nuad Thai diagrams, 2,936 medicinal plants (of which information is available), 40 items of translated and transcribed textbooks/scriptures, and one revised and recorded textbook/scripture. Besides, TTDK also includes the database of “Dictionary of Thai traditional medicine and Thai pharmacy vocabularies”, TTM textbooks, information on related laws and regulations, etc. For more information, visit <http://ttdk.dtam.moph.go.th/ttdk/>.

DTAM recognised the importance of research and development (R&D) to improve the quality of TTM and AM service and contribute to a positive impact on Thai economy. DTAM has, therefore, collaborated with the network of Thai and foreign universities and other associated networks to carry out R&D activities on TTM and AM to establish evidence-based efficacy and safety that will boost the confidence of healthcare personnel and consumers in TTM & AM.

### 1. Research on TTM and Thai Medicinal Plants

DTAM's R&D activities on TTM and Thai medicinal plants cover both scientific aspect, including phytochemical, pharmacological, toxicological studies and clinical trials, and social science studies. The main objective is to expand more evidence-based TTM in the health service system. The recent researches include:

- Utilization of Kratom (*Mitragyna speciosa*) for therapeutic purpose
- Comparison of Nuad Thai and diclofenac in patients with shoulder pain
- Comparison of *Sahastara* remedy and diclofenac in patients with shoulder pain
- Collaborative researches with local network, e.g. evaluation of benefits and safety of herbal medicines in MoPH hospitals that produce herbal medicines under GMP standard
- Researches on TTM formulas in diseases that have high impact on health service system, such as
  - TTM formulas N040, N036, NE028, W003 for the treatment of cancers unresponsive to standard treatment
  - *Benja Amarit* remedy for liver cancer
  - *Mathura Meha* remedy for diabetes (pre-clinical study)
  - *Jittrarom* remedy as antihypertensive
  - TTM formulas for liver cirrhosis
  - TTM formulas for chronic knee pain

In addition, DTAM has established research management mechanism, developed researchers, and set up research collaboration in order to support our attempt to become Centre of Excellence in TTM Research in the future.

### 2. Research on Indigenous Medicine (IM)

Research on IM focuses on compilation of practical IM knowledge and wisdom, which refer to experiences on health care and treatment of illnesses by community people. DTAM, in collaboration with academic network, folk healers in communities, regional health service network, and private development organization network, have conducted researches and IM knowledge management on the following topics:

- Study and Development (S&D) of Indigenous Wisdom on the Consumption of Indigenous Vegetables and Foods Based on the Sufficient Economy Philosophy
  - S&D of indigenous wisdom in mother and child health care through the integration of the wisdom of *Toh-bidae* on mother and child health care into the primary health care system in the three southern border provinces
  - S&D of indigenous wisdom in the treatment of patients with fractures to improve folk healer's capability to treat patients with fracture systematically and effectively
  - S&D of indigenous wisdom in the treatment of venomous animal and snake bites by integrated collaborative work of modern medicine system, TTM doctors and folk healers in community hospitals
  - S&D of indigenous wisdom which can complement modern medicine therapy for the care of diabetic patients
  - S&D of indigenous wisdom in the care of patients with paresis & paralysis as an alternative for the rehabilitation and care of bedridden and homebound patients

- S&D of indigenous wisdom in the care of cancer patients to improve their quality of life (QOL) based on 4 domains of WHO QOL assessment

- S&D of indigenous wisdom in the promotion of active elderly health care by focusing on integrative and long-term health care

### 3. Research on TCM and Chinese Herbs

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Most of researches on TCM and Chinese herbs have been conducted under Memorandums of Agreement on academic collaboration between DTAM and public health agencies/TCM universities in various provinces of China, namely:

- Survey of cultivation areas of Chinese medicinal plants in Thailand to reduce import volume

- Research on the production and processing of Chinese herb in Thailand to reduce import volume, such as *panja-khan* (jiaogulan), *koat-chula-lampa* (qing-hao) and licorice

- Research program on lingzhi mushroom and lingzhi spores in Thailand consisting of:

- Production of lingzhi mushroom and lingzhi spores under Good Agricultural Practices

- Pre-clinic research on lingzhi mushroom and lingzhi spores

- Clinical research on lingzhi mushroom and lingzhi spores

- Application of research results on lingzhi mushroom and lingzhi spores towards utilization

- Research on clinical effectiveness of acupuncture, e.g. treatment of peripheral neuropathy of the feet in type 2 diabetic patients, treatment of patients with nicotine addiction and dysmenorrhea.

### 4. Research on AM

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The use of alternative medicine (AM) has gradually expanded at an increasing rate as AM has received more attention by the public. DTAM, therefore, has conducted research and development on AM in several areas in order to disseminate truthful information to the public. Recent researches include:

- Research on office syndromes

- Study on the efficacy of artificial operation in the treatment of trigger finger

- Study on the development and promotion of the health of cancer patients with alternative medicine

- Efficacy of applied Thai-style macrobiotic diet as a sole treatment or a combined treatment with naturopathy with antioxidants on the regulation of sugar and lipid levels, oxidative balance and blood inflammatory reactions: studies in type 2 diabetic patients

- Research on appropriate screening tools of alternative medicine to be included in alternative medicine service system

- Development of AM herbal health products for solving dengue fever problem in 20 provinces

- Researches on the efficacy of the homeopathic preparation, Eupatorium 200 C, for the control of dengue fever in Thailand

- Research and development of treatment modality of psoriasis with climatotherapy: Case studies at Patong Beach, Phuket, and Hua Hin District,

- Research on an alternative medicine preparation for the treatment of pulmonary disorder in silicosis patients

## 1. Development of TTM and AM service system within DTAM

### Establishment of Thai Traditional and Integrated Medicine Hospital



**Thai Traditional and Integrated Medicine Hospital (Yodse)** is the first hospital under the administration of DTAM officially started its service in 2012. The main objective of the hospital is to form the linkage between TTM, IM, TCM, AM and modern medicine by establishing standard health service system. The hospital is a tertiary TTM health service facility providing all four dimensions of health services, i.e. disease prevention, health promotion, treatment, and rehabilitation.

Model development of TTM specialized clinics of Thai Traditional and Integrated Medicine Hospital is one of the activities of the hospital to form TTM service models and clinical practice guidelines and to provide opportunity and options for the patients and the public for better access to effective TTM and integrated health care. The hospital is aimed at becoming a Centre of Excellence in specialized TTM and integrated medicine service in the future.

#### Site visit to provide proactive health services

DTAM offers **Mobile Medical Units** to provide TTM & AM health services to people in Bangkok and other provinces, with an objective to gain public confidence in TTM and AM therapies. For instance, DTAM collaborated with

Princess Mother's Medical Volunteer Foundation and with private agencies/state enterprises to set up "*Phaet Thai Chai Asa*" (**Volunteer TTM doctors**) to provide TTM health service for people in remote areas of the country and in Bangkok, respectively.



### Establishment of quality TTM& AM services

DTAM has always been determined to improve TTM and AM service quality. Accordingly, the following ways and means have been established to ensure that TTM and AM services meet quality standards, namely:

- Supporting the setting up of TTM doctor and assistant TTM doctor positions in all levels of health service facilities;
- Setting up and supporting the use of the List of Thai traditional medicines, ICD-10-TM, Clinical Practice Guideline (CPG-TM), Thai Traditional Medicine Codes, and TM Service Standards in Health Service Facilities;
- Participating in the establishment of median prices & reference prices of medicine items use in TTM and formulating the rule for the reimbursement of patient's TTM&AM care cost under Diagnosis-Related Group (DRG) system;
- Collaborating with acupuncturist network to set up acupuncture guideline for the treatment of 96 commonly found diseases;
- Setting up guideline for acupuncture service in public health service facilities and implementing in health facilities under MOPH;
- Establishing ICD-10 of traditional Chinese medicine (ICD-10-TCM) and implementing in health facilities under MOPH; and
- Playing a leading role in setting up TCM practice standard in Thailand, in collaboration with associated networks.

## 2. Implementation of the National Policy on TTM and AM

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### National Herbs Expo and the Conference on Thai Traditional Medicine, Indigenous Medicine and Alternative Medicine

Held annually since 2004, the event is the collaboration between DTAM and associated organisations and networks. The main objective is to establish a forum for knowledge exchange and development, strengthening capability of personnel and allied networks. The event's key activities are 1) conference, 2) short-course training, 3) exhibitions and display of TTM, IM and AM innovations, 4) cultural performances and exhibition of local wisdom on health and herb garden, 5) providing diagnosis and treatment of diseases, health promotion, disease prevention and rehabilitation with TTM, IM and AM service and sale of standard and quality herbal products, and 6) sharing knowledge and information on health care using TTM, IM and AM to the expo participants at the central stage.



### Thai Traditional Medicine Expo

Organised since 2009, the Thai Traditional Medicine Expo is collaboration between DTAM and associated networks from both central and regional levels. It offers technical conference, research presentation, cultural performances, exhibitions on TTM and IM wisdom of health care, and showcase and sale of health and Thai wisdom products from all provinces across the country. From 2009–2014, the event had been held continuously in the four regions of Thailand, while in 2015–2016, the expos were held in the 12 health service regions across the country.

The main objective of the expo is to serve as a platform for the exchange of TTM knowledge and experiences among TTM and IM doctors and public health scholars, so they could further build up and apply their knowledge for future use. Also, the expo is a good way to promote the establishment of TTM and IM wisdom networks in the four regions of the country, the participation in conservation and protection of TTM wisdom and herbal resource, as well as the application of TTM knowledge for self and family care. The expo also serve as the venue for the award presentation of the best indigenous doctors and outstanding officials responsible for TTM service at the regional and provincial levels.

### Selection of the National Service Area Excellence Model and National Best Thai Traditional Medicine Doctor

**The selection of the “National Service Area Excellence Models”** is carried out to honour provincial health offices and public health service facilities in health service regions and four regions of the country that are excellent and can serve as models of the provision of quality TTM & AM services. It is aimed at upgrading TTM & AM service system nationwide and allowing TTM & AM personnel to share their experience on TTM & AM service system of their hospitals and learn from each other.

**The selection of the National Best TTM Doctor** is held to honour and recognize folk healers and TTM doctors who use local health wisdom for the benefits of societies and the country.

The award presentation and the recognition ceremony to honour the National Best TTM Doctor and the National Service Area Excellence Models are held at the opening ceremony of the Annual National Herbs Expo and at the closing ceremony of the Annual Conference on Thai Traditional Medicine, Indigenous Medicine and Alternative Medicine.

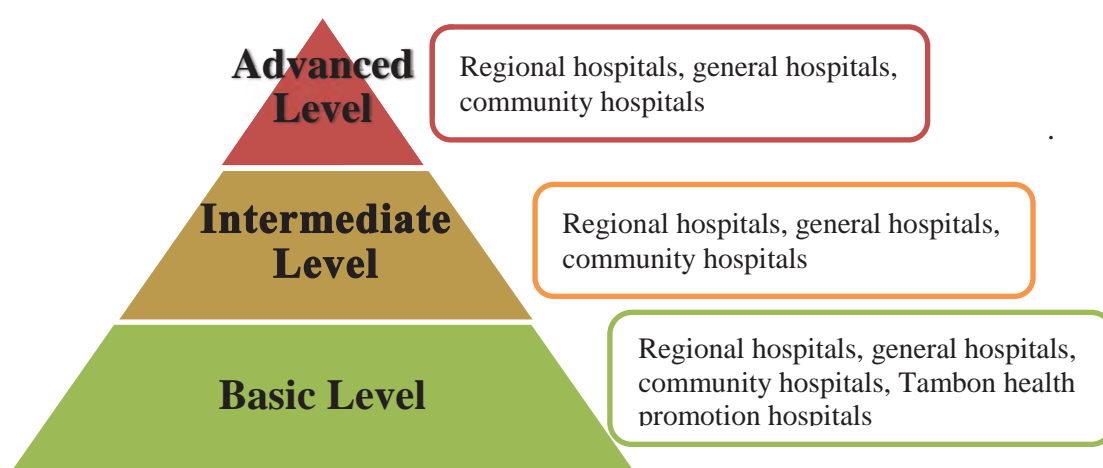


### 3. Development of TTM and AM service systems at the national level

#### Service Plan

The Ministry of Public Health has reviewed and revised the approaches to improve public health service with clearer direction and better system. The Five-Year Service Plan was therefore formulated for fiscal years 2013-2017 and 2018-2022. TTM and Integrated Medicine has become 1 of 12 branches of service plans since 2015.

The Service Plan on TTM and Integrated Medicine is divided into three levels for the application into different levels of health service facilities, as follows:



Service activities were set for each level of health facilities and each facility can use this TTM & Integrated Medicine Service Plan as a guideline to formulate the services that suits their context. The categorization of TTM and Integrated Medicine services into three levels was aimed to set a clear role for each level of health facilities so that TTM and AM services will be available in all areas for easy access of the patients.

#### Service Plan in the branch of TTM and Integrated Medicine

	Service activities	Advanced Level	Intermediate Level	Basic Level
1	Providing examination and diagnosis with TTM as to professional standard	✓	✓	✓
2	Providing, storing, and prescribing quality and standard TTM drugs and following up and monitoring side effects of Thai traditional drug use	✓	✓	✓
3	Proactively implementing TTM, AM or IM in communities	✓	✓	✓
4	Providing palliative care with TTM or AM or IM	✓	✓	✓
5	Providing meditation therapy in patient care	✓	✓	✓
6	Providing examination and diagnosis with TCM conducted by TCM practitioners or medical practitioners who have passed an acupuncture course (3 months) certified by the Ministry of Public Health	✓	✓	
7	Providing TTM clinic in state hospital's OPD (parallel OPD) and providing TCM clinic in state hospital's OPD	✓	✓	
8	Providing one-stop service TTM and AM clinics and providing TTM and AM services for treating general and specific diseases, such as migraine, knee osteoarthritis, paresis – paralysis, and allergic symptoms of the upper respiratory tract.	✓	✓	
9	Providing treatment with TTM and TCM to IPD patients in conjunction with modern medicine	✓	✓	
10	Serving as TTM professional practicum	✓	✓	
11	Providing TTM professional skill training	✓		
12	Conducting research or participating in collaborative research project to develop TTM, TCM or AM	✓		

## **Provision of TTM clinic in public hospital or parallel OPD**

**TTM clinic in state hospital or parallel OPD** means a health care facility that provides TTM services in conjunction with modern medicine. The facility should have TTM doctor with TTM professional license in Thai Traditional Medicine or Applied Thai Traditional Medicine to provide examination, diagnosis and treatment at outpatient department and carry Thai traditional drugs not less than 30 items. Currently, there are 467 hospitals nationwide that have opened the parallel TTM OPD, which is set to open in all hospitals within 2018. In addition, the pilot model of the parallel TTM OPD has been implemented in all 21 model TTM hospitals providing OPD, IPD and, home health care services throughout the 12 health care regions of the Ministry of Public Health. This will give people more choices of efficient health care.

## **Complete TTM and AM service system**

The Ministry of Public Health has a policy on TTM development to support the involvement of the nation's wisdom in people's health care. As the main agency to develop TTM and AM, DTAM encourages public health facilities to provide TTM services to people and pushes for the availability of the services in the health facilities of all levels, from sub-district hospital, community hospital, general hospital to regional hospital. Each level of hospital will provide different services based on its context and readiness. In the meantime, DTAM selects some alternative medicine therapies to be provided for people in certain levels of public health service facilities of some levels. Therefore, there is an idea to equip state health facilities with TTM and AM services for the treatment of general and specific diseases. The treatments with TTM and AM initially focus on four initiative specific diseases, namely migraine, knee osteoarthritis, stroke and allergic symptoms of the upper respiratory tract provided by some regional hospitals/general

hospitals and community hospitals that are ready. Management and administration of the service system, referral system, examination and treatment system of both TTM and AM services are developed to provide wider and better access to such services for the people in order to treat common minor diseases and national health problems.

## **Establishment of model TTM hospitals under the supervision of the Office of the Permanent Secretary (OPS)**

In 2009, DTAM established 9 model TTM hospitals under OPS to provide TTM services to the people. The hospitals are supervised by expert teams from Faculty of Medicine, Siriraj Hospital, Mahidol University, Faculty of Medicine, Thammasat University, Faculty of Thai Traditional Medicine, Prince of Songkla University and College of Indigenous Medicine and Alternative Medicine, Chiang Rai Rajabhat University. Services available include:

1. Diagnosis and treatment by TTM doctors. TTM services are available for both outpatients and inpatients.
2. Therapeutic services and rehabilitation with TTM through the use of Thai traditional medications, which are available as both single-herb and poly-herb formulae (but the latter are mainly used), massage, herbal steam bath, hot herbal compress, hot salt-pot-compress, etc.
3. Health promotion and disease prevention by giving TTM knowledge, consultation, and demonstration.
4. Study, analysis, research, and evaluation on TTM therapies and herbal medicines.
5. Follow-up on efficacy and safety of TTM treatments.
6. Proactive TTM implementation in terms of health promotion, disease prevention, treatment and rehabilitation in communities.
7. Compilation of bodies of knowledge about drug formulas, TTM and herb textbooks, and

Currently, there are 21 model TTM hospitals under the supervision of the Office of the Permanent Secretary of Public Health throughout all 12 health service regions.

### Establishment of TTM Working Group in provincial public health offices and health service facilities

DTAM has a policy to strengthen and develop TTM and AM services in the provincial level; therefore, it is encouraged that “TTM Working Group” be established in the provincial public health offices and health service facilities. Main duties of TTM working group’s are to develop TTM and AM service plan, to study, develop and provide TTM and AM services and health promotion, and to protect TTM wisdom in the provinces and health facilities.

## 4. Monitoring and Evaluation

### TTM Health Script

TTM Health Script is the electronic report of the sets of information on TTM and AM services in health service facilities of all levels and serves as a tool for the monitoring and evaluation of performance based on DTAM KPI and the needs of local officials in charge. DTAM has developed the Minimum Data Set, in compliance with the Ministry of Public Health’s policy not to increase data reporting workload to the local level. The reporting system was analysed, designed, developed and compiled from the existing “43/50-standard folders”, folders of data bank at the provincial level. Provincial data system administrator will then regularly send summarized data to the DTAM mainframe. The data will be processed and the results will be



presented in more than 18 reports. TTM Health Script system is deemed an essential tool for executives, inspectors, and officials in charge in all levels, for supervising, following up, and evaluating TTM and AM service situation in local areas. It is also advantageous for giving direction of TTM and AM policies (to access TTM Health Script, visit <http://203.157.81.35/mis/>).

### System and mechanism of inspection and supervision

Inspection and supervision are important mechanisms for directing, monitoring and implementing the policies of the Ministry of Public Health to efficiently achieve predetermined goals. DTAM has assigned its inspectors to join the group of inspector-generals to supervise, monitor and evaluate TTM&AM related projects to ensure that the results meet the objectives, and achieve the goals for effective TTM development at regional level.

### Assessment of the standards of TTM and AM services in all levels of hospitals

DTAM has set up TTM&AM service standards, called in short TIPhS, in five categories: 1. Facility, equipment, and environment, 2. Personnel, 3. Operation, 4. Quality control, and 5. Provision of service. Hospitals of all levels are scheduled to undergo assessment of the quality of service every two years.

### 1. Master Plan on Thai Herbal Development, 2017-2021

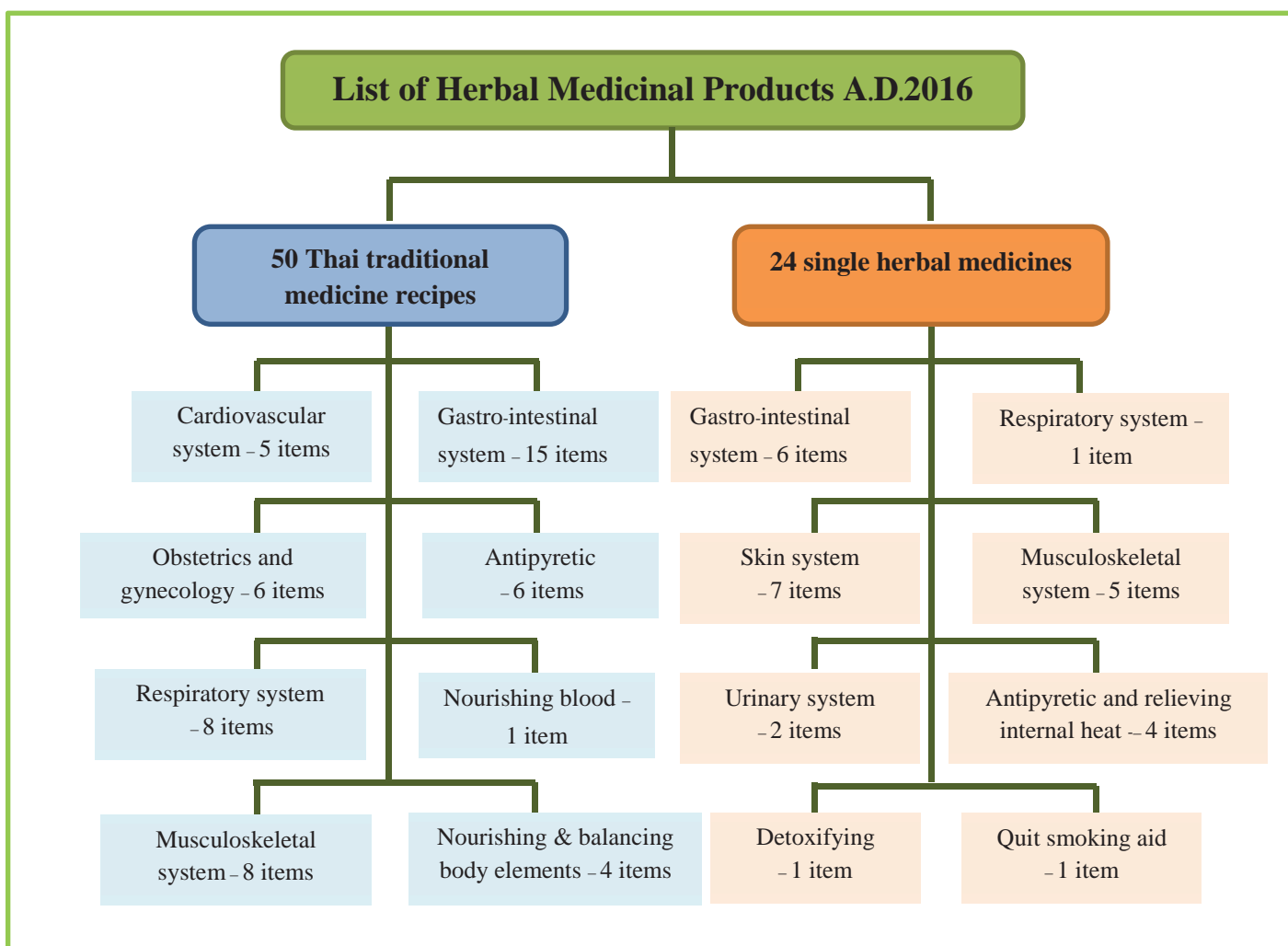
The government has a policy to develop Thai herbs systematically and sustainably so that herbal products can be developed and used efficiently, gain acceptance and add economic value to the country. DTAM has therefore collaborated with public and private agencies concerned to set up “the First Master Plan on the Development of Thai Herbs (2017-2021)”. The objectives are to set directions to systematically steer the work in four areas:

- Promotion of potential health products which are in demand of both domestic and international markets
- Development of herbal product industry and market towards international level

- Promotion of the utilization of herbal products for the treatment of diseases/symptoms and health promotion
- Strengthening the administration and the sustainable implementation of related government’s policy.

### 2. List of Herbal Medicinal Products in the National List of Essential Medicines (NLEM)

List of Herbal Medicinal Products in the NLEM was initiated in 1999 to promote self-reliance in locally produced medicines and make TTM more acceptable to the public. Currently, there are 74 items of herbal medicines in NLEM, 50 are traditional recipes and 24 are single herbal medicines.



### 3. Herbal Product Act B.E.....

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DTAM, in collaboration with the Food and Drug Administration, is accelerating the issuance of the Herbal Product Act as realising that, at present, there is no law specifically drafted to regulate health products made from medicinal plants, such as traditional medicines, Thai traditional medicines and herbal health supplements. In addition, the regulation of such products by the existing Drug Act and Food Act and related ministerial regulations have some limitations and are not suitable to apply to these products. Therefore, the regulation of such products is inefficient and product development is hindered. Hence, it is essential to draft a new specific law on herbal products.

The contents of the Act cover the roles and duties of the Committee on National Policy of Herbal Products and the Committee on Herbal Products; application for permission to operate the businesses on manufacturing, sale or import of herbal products; duties of licensee and operations; registration, clarification and notification of herbal products; herbal product regulation and other related provisions.

### 4. Research & Development of herbal products

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DTAM has carried out activities related to the development of herbal products, such as

- Selecting five herbs for the production of five Champion Products, namely “*Kwao Krua Khaow*” (*Pueraria candollei* var. *mirifica*), “*Krachai Dam*” (*Kaempferia parviflora*), turmeric, Asiatic pennywort (*Centella asiatica*), and Indian Gooseberry (*Phyllanthus emblica*) to generate revenue and support the country’s economy.

- Developing six “**Central Market for Herbal Medicinal Materials**” in the four regions of the country with the same standards in terms of information and quality standards of quality herbal materials.

- Establishing “**Center for Processing of Herbal Materials**” at *Chuchit Thammaram* Buddhist Temple to develop the processing processes with modern technology to support the use of traditional medicines in public health service facilities.

- Developing herbal health products to help relieve dengue hemorrhagic fever problem in 20 provinces

### 5. Production of manual /guideline for herbal product development

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DTAM has a policy to promote the development of herbal medicines and herbal products that meet international standards. The department, therefore, has prepared manuals to promote the development of herbal medicines and herbal products for persons involved in this industry, namely:

- **WHO guidelines on good manufacturing practices (GMP) for herbal medicines:** DTAM has introduced this Thai version of guideline for the pharmacists working in herbal medicine production units in public hospitals with the aim to improve the quality herbal drugs produced in public hospitals to meet an international standard.

- **Manual of Good Processing Practice (GPP):** The GPP will help improve herbal material processing and upgrade the quality of herbal medicines to meet international standard.

- **Manual for determining the areas for the cultivation of medicinal plants:** This manual will promote the cultivation of medicinal plants that are suitable for each area in order to produce quality herbal medicinal materials. This will also help promote conservation of herb species and encourage agriculturists to grow more herbs as they can be economic crops that generate income to the country as well as reduce the import of herbal materials.

DTAM has formed a policy and given direction for the expansion of TTM and AM services by providing complete TTM and AM services in public health facilities in parallel with modern medical services. Therefore, personnel involved need to have knowledge, skills and expertise, be able to suitably integrate TTM and AM knowledge for health care of the people. Until now, DTAM has carried out various activities to develop human resource in TTM and AM to improve their competency and capacity as follows:

### 1. Thai Traditional Medicine (TTM)

#### 1) Development of TTM curricula

- Developing curricula and training courses to educate TTM personnel, namely TTM doctors, TTM assistants, and masseurs/masseuses of Nuad Thai for health and TTM practitioners in Nuad Thai therapy, through schooling, class-based training and remote training via video conference;

- Providing trainings of Nuad Thai for health to general public, the blind, the

underprivileged and prisoners in order to build careers opportunity for them and to develop personnel to meet the demand of both public and private health facilities.

- Developing training courses for other related health professions, e.g. doctors and nurses. Since fiscal year 2015, DTAM has established certificate programmes on TTM and integrated medicine for medical doctors and has introduced TTM knowledge into medical education.



#### TTM training courses include

1. Foot Massage for Health (60-hour course)	6. Utilization of Thai traditional medicines and those in the National List of Essential Medicines
2. Thai massage for health (150-hour course)	7. TTM doctor assistant course (372-hour course)
3. Thai massage for health for the blind (225-hour course)	8. TTM Treatment for Health Station's officials (60-hour course)
4. TTM clinical practice workshop	9. TTM for Medical Doctors
5. TTM clinical practice experiences and knowledge sharing (Teleconference)	

**2) Development of 18 TTM training centres** in the 12 health service regions across the country to strengthen the capability of teaching staffs to be able to better share their knowledge.

**3) Promoting the development of 45 hospitals to be training sites of TTM practicum** throughout the 12 health service regions. This is to upgrade the hospitals' standards, quality of service delivery system,

facility, and personnel involved so that the hospitals are ready to provide TTM practicum for undergraduate students in TTM and applied TTM.

**4) Collaboration with Consortium of 27 network institutes of TTM and applied TTM workforce production** to supply competent TTM graduates capable of working for public health facilities across the country, to jointly develop undergraduate curricula, to hold

consortium meetings, to develop the practicums for professional training of students, and for TTM graduate's internship.

**5) Production of braille textbooks and related training materials in Nuad Thai for the blind.**

## 2. Traditional Chinese Medicine (TCM)

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### 1) Development of TCM Curricula

▪ **Basic acupuncture training for medical doctors** (3-month course, 360 hours): This basic acupuncture course of the Ministry of Public Health is based on the Shanghai UTCM's curriculum, which had been approved by WHO.

▪ **Bachelor of Traditional Chinese Medicine curriculum** for higher education institutes that will offer TCM undergraduate programme. This is a five-year curriculum with a study period of 5 years and not more than 10 years.

▪ **Short TCM training courses** which are divided into three levels: 1. for the general public, focusing on health promotion in daily life and disease prevention; 2. for academics and public health personnel, focusing on the transfer of knowledge related to consumer protection and extended research; 3. for TCM practitioners, focusing on the strengthening of clinical skills and experiences for efficient delivery of services by TCM specialists from the People's Republic of China.

### 2) Training courses for personnel development

▪ **Basic acupuncture training for medical doctors:** The objectives are to provide training for medical doctors to understand TCM and be able to use basic TCM principles to give diagnosis before  
acupuncture and to empower them to treat 25 commonly found symptoms and diseases with acupuncture via 150 acupuncture points under safe and standard practices. The training course

is offered once or twice a year. Since 1998 until present, 31 classes have been offered and there are about 1,600 doctors passing the course and now delivering services in both public and private health facilities.

▪ **Training of TCM knowledge:** The course is designed for medical doctors trained in acupuncture, TCM doctors and TCM graduates to strengthen knowledge, understanding, and skills in TCM clinical practice for better clinical outcome.



Participants will also have opportunities to share their clinical experiences, and problems and discuss with TTM specialists and other participants to improve treatment outcome for their patients. The training topics include 1.) Treatment of public health problems with acupuncture, 2.) Treatment of cancer with integrated medicine, 3.) Treatment of Amyotrophic Lateral Sclerosis (ALS), 4.) Treatment of stroke, 5.) TCM drug recipes frequently used in Thailand, etc.

## 3. Alternative Medicine (AM)

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**Bureau of Alternative Medicine** has helped develop the following curricula:

### 1) Alternative medicine curricula in higher education institutes, e.g.

▪ Graduate Diploma in Alternative Medicine – Homeopathy at Ubon Ratchathani University

▪ Master of Science and Doctor of Philosophy In Integrative Medicine, Chulabhorn International College of Medicine, Thammasat University

▪ the teaching of alternative medicine at higher education level

2) **Training courses:** DTAM has offered several training courses for the general public and related personnel, such as macrobiotic, meditation therapy, foot reflexology, yoga for teenager, Thai equilibrium massage therapy, acupressure therapy, homeopathy: beginner module, and alternative medicine – the dhamma way.

## 1. Protection and Promotion of TTM Knowledge Act B.E. 2542 (1999)

The Protection and Promotion of TTM Knowledge Act B.E. 2542 (1999) was published in the Government Gazette on 29 November 1999. It serves as a measure to promote public awareness of the value of Thai traditional medicine knowledge and medicinal plants and to increase public participation on the conservation, development and sustainable use of Thai traditional medicine knowledge and medicinal plants. In essence, the Act protects the traditional medicine formulas and treatise and classical textbooks on TTM and medicinal plants that are valuable for research, or have economic value, or are at risk of extinction, as well as medicinal plant habitats.



DTAM by Thai Traditional and Indigenous Medicine Knowledge Protection Division, under the roles of Central Registrar and Provincial Registrar, gives support and supervision in protecting and promoting TTM wisdom according to the Act. To give continuous support in TTM wisdom protection, the Office of Thai Traditional Medical Knowledge Fund was established under DTAM to raise fund for the operations related to TTM wisdom promotion and protection.

### The Act protects three main aspects of TTM knowledge:

1) **Protection of TTM formulas and TTM treatises:** According to Section 16 of the Act, TTM knowledge is divided into three categories:

**1.1 National TTM Formulas or National TTM Treatises** having special medical or public health value. Based on case by case basis, the

National TTM Formulas or National TTM Treatises **shall fit in these criteria:**

- Being the TTM formulas or TTM treatises that are compiled, developed, or improved by the government or public agencies and have documents or references of the origin;
- Presenting the nation's identity that should be preserved or being valuable for research and study or having an impact on the overall country's economy, or having potential for a new drug development to solve medical or public health problems of the country.
- Being the TTM formulas or TTM treatises that are not protected by laws on protection and promotion of TTM knowledge.

There will be the Ministerial Regulation on the application for permission and permission, right restriction and remuneration from the utilization for commercial benefits and infringement of the National TTM Formulas or National TTM Treatises.

As of September 2016, there are 8,643 TTM formulas from 107 treatises declared as National TTM Formulas.

### 1.2 General TTM Formulas or General TTM Textbooks mean

▪ TTM formulas or TTM textbooks that are widely used and the Minister of Public Health has declared as traditional household remedies under laws on drug, or for the use in primary health care. These include those that are compiled, developed, or improved by public agencies or are safe and beneficial for the treatment of diseases;

▪ TTM formulas or TTM textbooks of which the personal right protection period (in 1.3) has expired.

### 1.3 Personal TTM formulas or personal TTM textbooks mean the persons who are:

- An inventor of TTM formula(s) or TTM textbook(s);



- A person who improve or develop TTM formula(s) or TTM textbook(s)
- A person who is an inheritor of TTM formula(s) or TTM textbook(s)

Until 2016, 206 requests filed for registration as personal TTM formulas or personal TTM textbooks have so far been considered by the Working Group for the screening of TTM formulas and textbooks.

**2) Protection of medicinal plants.** Under the Act, a medicinal plant that is valuable for research, or has economic value, or may become extinct will be protected by issuing a ministerial regulation as a controlled medicinal plant, of which the rule of occupancy quantity will be established based on the types of occupiers. Occupancy quantity of controlled medicinal plants shall be declared with a Central Registrar (DTAM or authorized person) and a Provincial Registrar (provincial health officer or authorized person). Currently, there is one group of controlled medicinal plants, called *kwao khreua* comprising of four species of medicinal plants and four more medicinal plants are under consideration, namely *lakajan jan-daeng (Dracaena lourieri)*, *nera-pusi (Tacca chantrieri)* and *thaowanpriang (Derris scandens)*.

**3) Protection of Medicinal Plant Habitats** which could be inside or outside conservation areas and privately-owned land.

- For land inside the conservation areas: management plan for conservation of medicinal plants inside a conservation area shall be developed under the collaboration between DTAM and the Royal Forest Department. The plans have already been developed for conservation of medicinal plants in 27 areas.

- For land outside the conservation areas, e.g. community forests. Currently, DTAM in collaboration with the Royal Forest Department have developed the project to promote the

cultivation of medicinal plants in 60 community forests.

- For Privately owned areas: Individuals who are land owners and would like to grow medicinal plants can register to get support from DTAM.

## **2. The roles of DTAM in the protection of traditional knowledge in international level**

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### **1) WIPO Intergovernmental Committee on Intellectual Property and Genetic Resources, Traditional Knowledge and Folklore (WIPO IGC)**

DTAM has attended the preparatory meetings for WIPO IGC meetings and WIPO IGC meetings and given comments in line with DTAM's duties on the protection of genetic resources, traditional knowledge, and traditional cultural expressions to push for a legally binding agreement that supports the principle of access and benefit sharing to be enforced in 182 member countries worldwide.

### **2) Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) and the Nagoya Protocol on Access and Benefit-sharing**

DTAM is a part of the committee on biological diversity conservation and utilization, which is in accordance with Section 19 of the Protection and Promotion of TTM Knowledge Act B.E. 2542 (1999) regarding application and permission and utilization of the national TTM formulas and TTM treatises. According to the ministerial regulation on application and permission, right restriction and the remuneration from making use of national TTM formulas or national TTM treatises B.E.2558 (2015), part of the benefits shall be given back.

## Facilities

### 1. Thai Traditional and Integrated Medicine Hospital

provides treatment with TTM and IM and offers specialty clinics for acupuncture, knee osteoarthritis, postpartum care, diabetes, migraine, office syndrome, weight loss, trigger finger, Myer's Cocktail, cancer and allergy.

**Location** No.693 Bamrung Muang Road, Khlong Mahanak Sub-District, Pom Prab Satru Phai District, Bangkok

**Office hours** Monday – Sunday, 8.30 a.m. – 3.30 p.m.  
Closed on public holidays

**Phone** 02-224-3261-62, 02-224-8819-20



**2. Thai Traditional Health Promotion Centre** is a TTM and IM facility under Thai Traditional and Integrated Medicine Hospital. Services available include check-up, diagnosis and treatment with TTM and IM. The services also include health promotion, disease prevention and rehabilitation with TTM and IM

**Location** Building 3, 3<sup>rd</sup> Floor, Department for Development of Thai Traditional Medicine and Alternative Medicine, Ministry of Public Health , Tiwanon Road, Talad Khwan Sub-District, Muang District, Nonthaburi

**Office hours** Monday – Friday, 7.30 a.m. – 4.30 p.m.  
Saturday – Sunday, 8.00 a.m. – 2.00 p.m.  
Closed on public holidays

**Phone** 02-590-2606

**3. Alternative Medicine Clinic** provides treatment with integrative medicine. The clinic offers wide range of services, including foot reflexology, acupuncture, vitamin therapy, Thai equilibrium massage therapy, homeopathy, anti-aging clinic, assist clinic, and artificial operation.

**Location** Building 2, 7<sup>th</sup> Floor, Department for Development of Thai Traditional Medicine and Alternative Medicine, Ministry of Public Health , Tiwanon Road, Talad Khwan Sub-District, Muang District, Nonthaburi

**Office hours** Monday – Thursday, 8.30 a.m. – 3.00 p.m.

**Phone** 02-149-5936



**4. Division of Thai Traditional and Herbal Medicines Development** provides services of the manufacturing of Thai traditional medicines, herbal products, and health products. Services also include processing of herbal materials for being used as product ingredients, preparing herb extracts by various techniques, analysing herbal products on quality by advanced technology. It also conducts research and development of herbal product formulas and offers consulting service by experts.

**Location** No.117 Biotec Pilot Plant Building, Operation Unit 1, Thailand Science Park, Phahon Yothin Road, Khlong 1 Sub-District, Khlong Luang District, Pathum Thani

**Office hours** Monday – Friday, 8.30 a.m. – 4.00 p.m.  
(For extra hours, extra fee will be charged THB50 per hour.)  
**Phone** 02-564-7889

**5. Centre of Standard Herbal Specimens, Thai Traditional Medicine Research Institute** The center has a herbarium showcasing and crude drugs in the National List of Essential Medicines, traditional household remedies, etc. for 342 items, 800 numbers. Among such numbers, there are 400 of crude drug collections and 400 of herbarium specimens. Also, there are Thin Layer Chromatography (TLC) fingerprints of 60 herbs.

**Location** Thai Traditional Medicine Research Institute  
No.693 Bamrung Muang Road, Khlong Mahanak Sub-District, Pom Prab Sathu Thai District, Bangkok

**Office hours** Monday – Friday, 8.30 a.m. – 4.30 p.m.  
**Phone** 02-244-3261-5 ext 308



### **6. National Thai Traditional Medicine Museum and Herb Garden (Currently closed for renovation)**

The Thai Traditional Medicine Museum and Training Centre was founded in 2002 as a centre of TTM knowledge. Surrounded by a garden of thousand kinds of herbs, the museum displays exhibitions about history and evolution of TTM, TTM theories, Thai massage, Thai food for health and Thai crude drugs. Currently, the museum is under renovation and development to be the National Thai Traditional Medicine Museum, which will serve as a learning centre for TTM history, herbs used in TTM and ASEAN region.

**Location** Department for Development of Thai Traditional Medicine and Alternative Medicine, Ministry of Public Health, Tiwanon Road, Talad Khwan Sub-District, Muang District, Nonthaburi

**Office hours** Monday – Friday, 8.30 a.m. – 4.30 p.m.

## International Collaboration

All along, DTAM has been collaborating with international networks. Recently, the department has carried out several activities together with the networks, such as conducting collaborative research and studies for textbook production with China's Yunnan State Administration of Traditional Chinese Medicine, Shanghai Traditional Chinese Medicine University, and Chengdu Traditional Chinese Medicine University. Besides, the department has had several meetings and discussions with foreign counterparts as well as actively collaborated with WHO and ASEAN Member States in traditional medicine development.

Here are some activities under the international collaboration.



### 1. ASEAN Conference on Traditional Medicine and ASEAN Task Force on Traditional Medicine

Initiated by DTAM, the ASEAN Conference on Traditional Medicine was first held in 2009 in Bangkok, Thailand. The objective of the conference is to open the opportunity for state agencies and researchers on traditional medicine and alternative medicine to exchange their policies, researches and ideas for further collaboration in traditional medicine and alternative medicine in ASEAN.

Since then, ASEAN countries has been rotating the role as the host of the ASEAN Conference on Traditional Medicine, which is held every year right after the meeting of ASEAN Task Force on Traditional Medicine (ATFTM). Attended by the focal points on traditional medicine of ASEAN countries, the meeting's objective is to serve as a platform for the focal points of each member country to present and follow up on the activities under the collaborative work plan on ASEAN traditional medicine, which was established since 2011.



### 2. Thailand – Shanghai Academic Conference



**Thailand – Shanghai Academic Conference** is academic collaboration under the Memorandum of Agreement on academic collaboration between DTAM and the Shanghai Municipal Health and Family Planning Commission. The parties have alternately organised the academic conference on traditional Chinese medicine to allow Thai and Chinese academics to exchange ideas and experiences on treating patients with Traditional Chinese Medicine and to build academic collaboration network between Thailand and China. Until now (2016), the conference has been held 9 times.

### 3. The Plenary Meeting of ISO/TC 249

DTAM is a member of International Standard Organization/ Technical Committee 249 (ISO/TC 249) and has attended the annual meeting every year. Also, the department has been involved in establishing traditional Chinese medicine standards in international level together with other 31 member countries since 2009.



### 4. The BIMSTEC Meeting on the Network of National Centers of Coordination in Traditional Medicine

The meeting is held to open the room for the 7 BIMSTEC member countries, i.e. Bangladesh, Bhutan, India, Myanmar, Nepal, Sri Lanka, and Thailand, to jointly establish collaborative frameworks in the field of traditional medicine. This is to concretely promote the collaboration and development of the member countries' traditional medicine to play a role in health care of their people. Thailand, by DTAM, as the lead country in traditional medicine of BIMSTEC, held the meeting three times in 2003, 2010 and 2015.



### 5. The Meeting on Indigenous Medicine in the Greater Mekong Basin

The Network of Indigenous Medicine in the Greater Mekong Basin was established to disseminate indigenous medicine knowledge and wisdom among its member countries, which resulted in the exchange of wisdom, in terms of experiences on indigenous medicine, ethno-medicine and herbs, among neighbour countries in the Greater Mekong Basin. This is also a stage for academics to present their researches on indigenous medicine.



The first four Meetings on Indigenous Medicine in the Greater Mekong Basin were a meeting for knowledge exchange between universities and hospitals only. Not until 2012 when DTAM was the main host to organise the fifth meeting in 2012 and the seventh meeting in 2015, state agencies that involved in indigenous medicine of the member countries were invited to take part in the meetings. This resulted in a formal establishment of the network for indigenous medicine development in the Greater Mekong Basin. The network consists of 1. The Collaborative Network

of Indigenous in the Greater Mekong Basin, 2. Academic Committee, and 3. The Core Committee on the Protection of Traditional Medical Knowledge and Medicinal Genetic Resources.

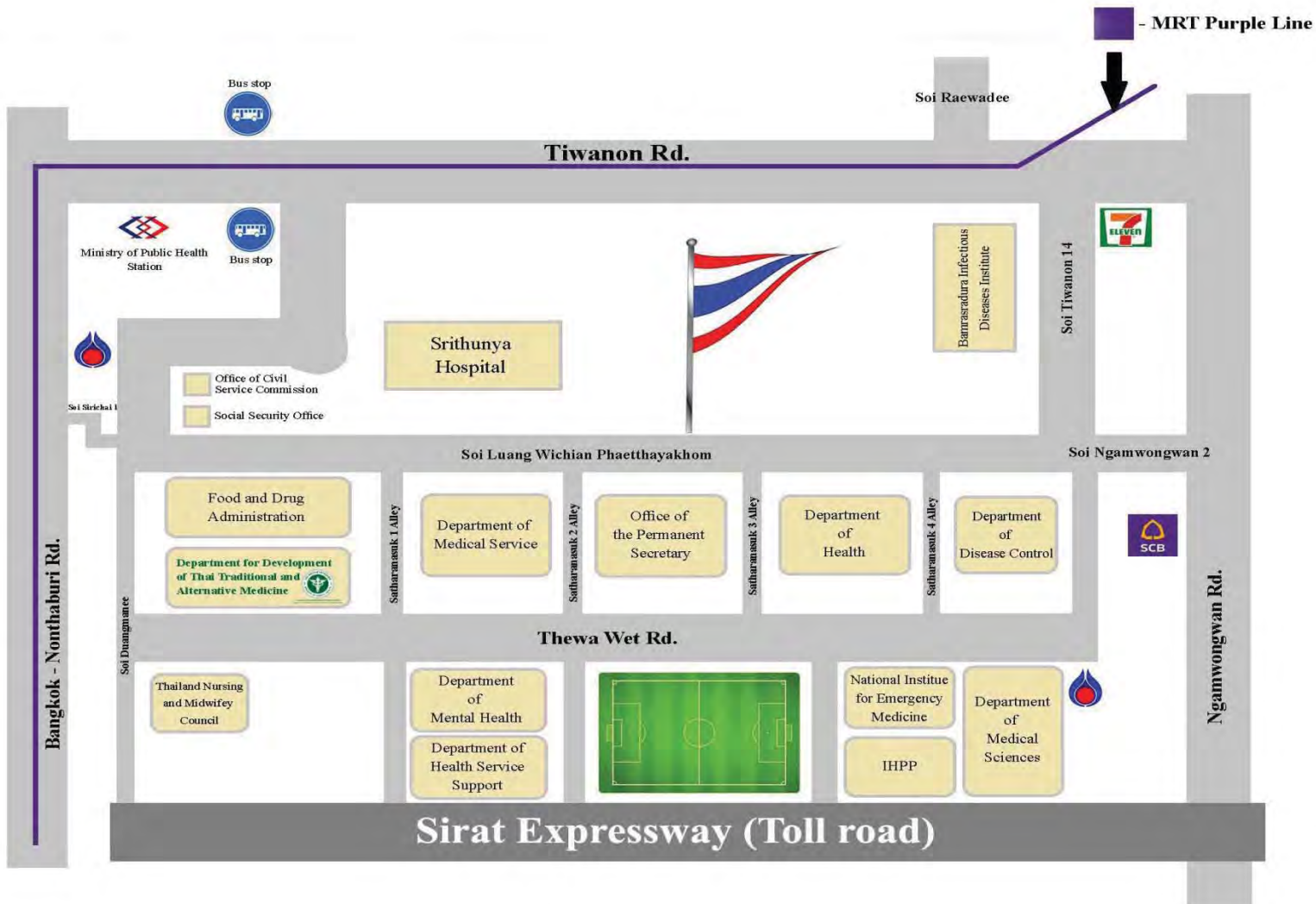


One of the activities: show case by folk healers

## Department for Development of Thai Traditional and Alternative Medicine (DTAM)

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### Access

#### [Bus]



- (1) Take bus no.97 to the Ministry of Public Health and walk 7 minutes to DTAM; or
- (2) Take bus no. 18, 32, 33, 63, 114, 505, 545 to Srithunya Hospital bus stop and take a motorcycle taxi to DTAM, or bus no.97 to the Ministry of Public Health and walk 7 minutes to DTAM.

#### [Sky train]



Take MRT Purple Line to the Ministry of Public Health station and take a motorcycle taxi to DTAM or bus no.97 to the Ministry of Public Health, and walk 7 minutes to DTAM.

#### [Taxi]



About 30 minutes from the Victory Monument (Expressway)

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กรมพัฒนาการแพทย์แผนไทยและการแพทย์ทางเลือก  
Department for Development of Thai Traditional and Alternative Medicine

## Department for Development of Thai Traditional and Alternative Medicine

Ministry of Public Health

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