The External Quality Assessment
in Primary Health Care Unit

Salakhit Chutipongvivate*, Yongyut Prompunjai, Supaporn Wangsiricharoen and Wanvisa Neadruengsang

Clinical Pathology, Regional Medical Sciences Center 6 Chonburi

Abstract
The primary health care unit (PCU) is defined as the fundamental healthcare service promoting to be Tambon health promoting hospital (THPH). Department of Medical Sciences had provided external quality assessment samples for point of care testing, POCT. One thousand six hundred and twenty three PCUs across the country were engaged in the assessment. It was found that 1,424 (87.7%) and 1,409 (86.8%) PCUs passed acceptable criteria in normal and abnormal blood glucose test, whereas only 880 (54.2%) and 879 (54.2%) PCUs produced acceptable results in normal and abnormal hematocrit test. In addition, the acceptable performance in glucose, protein and pregnancy testing were also reported in 1,453 (89.5%), 1,408 (86.8%) and 1,582 (97.5%) PCUs respectively. The study showed that there were significantly different laboratory competencies among regions (p < 0.01). To standardize the quality of laboratory service in primary health care units, all the relevant factors should be regularly controlled, monitored, and evaluated.

Key words: Primary Health Care Unit, Tambon Health Promoting Hospital, Primary Health Care Center, External Quality Assessment

*Corresponding author E-mail address: salakhit.c@dmsc.mail.go.th