

ASSA Recognition Award

CATEGORY	:	Continuous Improvement Recognition Award
ORGANISATION	:	National Health Security Office (NHSO), Thailand
CONTACT PERSON	:	wilailuk.w@nhso.go.th , Acting Director, Bureau of International Affair for Universal Health Coverage, National Health Security Office (NHSO), Thailand
NAME OF PROJECT	:	Promote participation to ensure access healthcare service under universal Health Coverage (UHC)
OBJECTIVE AND NATURE OF PROJECT	:	Promote participation and financial support in the activities of private drug store, local communities and health volunteers on prevention promotion activities in the primary healthcare service mechanism.
WHY IT SHOULD BE RECOGNISED	:	The participation of local communities and health volunteers engagement in the healthcare system is a powerful social innovation that strengthens emergency response---a distinctive advantage of Thailand, where reciprocity is valued by society. Their engagement in the healthcare system is a powerful social innovation that strengthens emergency response---a distinctive advantage of Thailand, where reciprocity is valued by society. Patients can reduce the time and travel expenses to hospitals while reducing the risk from the coronavirus. Patients with non-urgent chronic diseases will likely benefit from the delivery the most. Hospital operators, in the meantime, can reduce the workloads and prioritize emergency cases. Though COVID-19 forced us in temporary turmoil, it also shows us the opportunities and the possibility to use social innovation for the upgrade of the healthcare system.
SUMMARY OF THE PROJECT	:	NHSO was financially support social innovation in community level, one of which is the collaboration between small-scale pharmacies and state hospitals to deliver drugs and medical supplies to patients. NHSO has support hospital operators to deliver supplies to pharmacies in patients' neighborhoods. Pharmacists will then prescribe drugs to patients accordingly to their health conditions and records retrieved from hospital operators.

	Patients can reduce the time and travel expenses to hospitals while reducing the risk from the coronavirus. Patients with non-urgent chronic diseases will likely benefit from the delivery the most. Hospital operators, in the meantime, can reduce the workloads and prioritize emergency cases. In Thailand, the engagement of local communities and health volunteers is the primary mechanism that helps us suppress the number of infectious cases. They put consistent efforts in tracing and monitoring suspected cases in their residing area, in collaboration with local administration organizations and hospital operators. Many local communities lead health promotion and disease prevention programs, by educating their neighbors about the symptoms of COVID-19 and how to protect the communities from the virus.
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