Good Model of Elderly Care in Urban Community *

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Abstract:

Purpose: To investigates the good models of elderly care, strategic management in community, and factors contributing to and indicators of good models.

Design: Qualitative study.

Methods: The purposive sampling was used and two communities in two urban areas were selected: the community lock 4-5-6 at Klongtoey District, Bangkok, and the community 30 Kunya Patana, Muang District, Nakhornratchasima Province. The data collection included in-dept interview, focus group discussion, and participatory observation. Subjects from each community included 4 elderly patients, 4 primary caregivers, 4 elderly neighbors, 2 health volunteers/ village health volunteers, 1 community leader, 1 leader of the senior citizen club, 2 nurses, and 4 villagers. The data were analysed by content analysis and thematic analysis.

Main findings: The good model of elderly care found in the community lock 4-5-6 was the rehabilitation center and in the community 30 Kunya Patana was the effective coordination of care giving network. The strategic management for elderly care in the communities was providing the integrated care of health services and social services, the outreach program, and the accessible services. The facors contributing to good elderly care were potential of community, good support, and elderly good model. The indicators of good elderly care of community include active leader and team working, good support from various sectors, accessibility to health and social services, and comprehensive data base of elders in community.

Conclusion and recommendations: The following practices are recommended for good elderly care of community: improve leadership and team working in community; enhance coordination of government, private, and community sectors; and develop database of elderly in community.

Keywords: elderly, good model care, urban community