

Geneva Foundation for Medical Education & Research
(WHO Collaborating Centre in Education & Research in Human Reproduction)
Ministry of Health of the Lao PDR and the National
University for Health Sciences

**Research Methodology for
Reproductive Health Training Course
Vientiane 2011**

Concepts and methods in reproductive
health research

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Sexual and reproductive research in public health

- Identify biological and psychological developmental tasks to be achieved in utero, childhood, adolescence, adulthood towards sexual and reproductive maturity
- Indicate medical, clinical, social and systemic interventions to achieve health
- Recognize normativity and its (limiting) effects on research, health programming and clinical outcomes

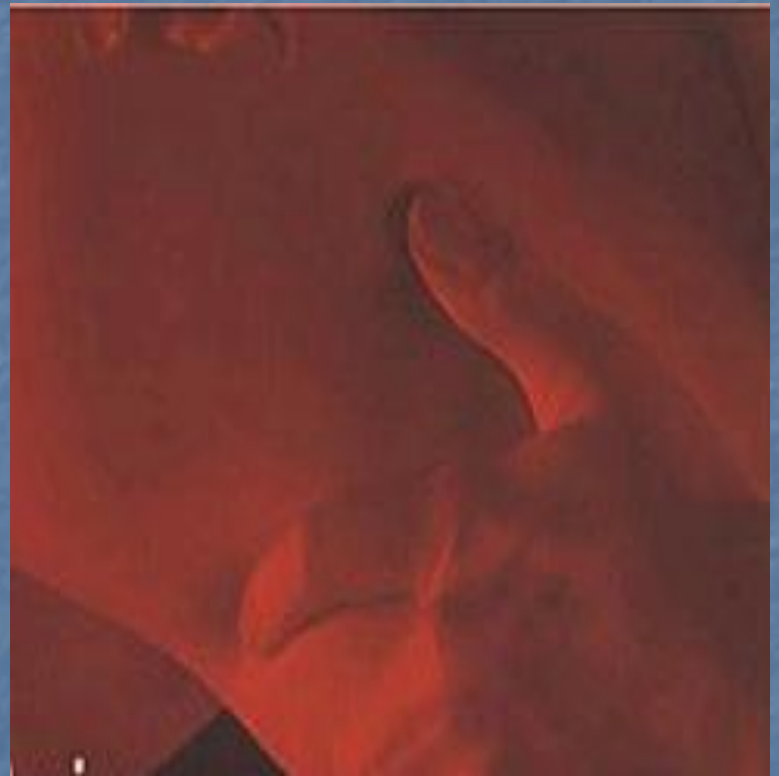
Definitions and frameworks

Drawn from international instruments:

- International Conference on Population & Development 1994
- World Conference on Women 1995
- World Health Organization, International Classification of Diseases 10 and attempted definitions of sexual health
- World Association of Sexology -> WASH
- American Psychiatric Association, Diagnostic & Statistical Manual of Mental Disorders 4

Definitions of what?

- Sex, Sexual health and Sexuality
- Human reproduction, reproductive health, associated rights
- Sexual identity and its orientation
- Gender, gender identity and its disorders
- Puberty and adolescence
- Psychosexual pathologies
- Sexual dysfunction



Historical-cultural meaning

- Sex, gender, love, body image, affection, friendship, erotic love, divine love
- Buddhist attitudes, Socialist norms, colonial attitudes
Greco-roman, Judeo-Christian, Arabo-Islamic norms
- Power, performance and sexuality models
- Anthropological models of the preservation of the species, the name, the family
- Indigenous practices and rites
- Views of health, illness, death and dying associated with sex and reproduction

Perceptions and constructions

- Obstetric and gynaecological specialisations
- Nursing and midwifery
- Traditional or trained birth attendance
- Assisted reproduction



Human rights

- Determine freely if/when to have children and how many children to have
- Poverty, conflict, captivity, exile
- Stigma and discrimination
- Sexual violence, coercion
- Prostitution, commercial sex work and sex for favours
- Pornography, sexual imagery in media and advertising, new information and communications technologies, (Internet)

Programme implications

- Access to contraception,
- Pre-natal, maternal and newborn care
- Comprehensive sex education as moral, parental, community or religious obligation
- Social duty in delivery of care for the pregnant, sick
- Sexually transmitted infections, HIV/AIDS
- Associated understanding of sexual therapy, counselling

Specificity of sexuality

- In adolescence
- In disability
- In older age

- In relation to gender

- In race and ethnicity
- In patients
- In oneself

Basic texts in Laos

**WHO Country Cooperation Strategy (CCS)
in the Lao People's Democratic Republic
2009 - 2011**



PROGRESS PROFILE

Global Programme to Enhance
Reproductive Health Commodity Security

REPRODUCTIVE HEALTH
at a **GLANCE**

LAO PDR

Research Processes

- Identification of coordinator, principal investigator, research assistant and local investigators (month 1)
- Assess Costs (month 1)
- Literature survey (month 1)
- Protocol write-up (month 1)
- Development of research tools (month 2)
- Training of local investigators (month 5)
- Data collection (month 5-8)
- Data input (month 5-8)
- Data analysis (month 5-9)
- Report writing (month 9)

Research Costs

- Honorarium Coordinator x months
 - Honorarium Principal Investigator x months
 - Research Assistant x months
 - Honorarium local investigators
 - Data collection x guided questionnaires, # focus groups*, x hours
 - Data input and analysis
 - Report dissemination and workshop
- * Rural/urban, male/female/mixed, in settings

Aim and purpose of training

- Increase number of research (papers) for local and international publication
- Strengthen research skills of lecturers in Ob/Gyn and public health officers working in sexual and reproductive health (including mother and child health)



Objectives

- After completion of this course, participants should be able to:
 - Disseminate the newly acquired knowledge in their institutions
 - Conduct research in sexual and reproductive health (prepare research proposal , data collection , data analysis , report writing)
 - Write a project proposal in order to submit for a grant

Consequences of training

- Developing a critical research mentality in hospital clinicians
- Foundation of good governance of health service
- Generating evidence base for better health system management
- Filling in some informational gaps in the national reproductive health survey 2005
- Providing formative input into the evaluation of national reproductive health policy
- Additional human rights-based indicators for national reproductive and family planning programmes, useful in monitoring achieving MDGs

Research group

- Knowledge, skills and interests of the group of participants as main resource
- Thank you !

