

ANNUAL PROGRESS REPORT

SEATO CRC Study No. 4	Epidemiological, Clinical and Biochemical Studies of Beri-beri in Infants and Adults
Project No. 3A 025601 A 811	Military Medical Research Program S.E. Asia
Task 01:	Military Medical Research Program S.E. Asia
Subtask 01:	Military Medical Research Program SEASIA (Thailand)
Reporting Installation:	U.S. Army-SEATO Medical Research Laboratory, APO 146, San Francisco, California Division of Clinical Research Department of Medical Studies
Period Covered by Report:	15 February 1964 to 31 March 1964
Principal Investigator:	Aree Valyasevi, M.D.*
Associate Investigators:	Ray A. Olsson, Major, MC Serene Lochaya, D.Sc.
Reports Control Symbol:	MEDDH-288
Security Classification:	UNCLASSIFIED

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ABSTRACT

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The objective of this study is to evaluate the thiamine nutrition in infants and pregnant and lactating women, as well as to determine the degree of correlation between clinical status and whole blood, erythrocyte and urine thiamine levels and RBC transketolase activity.

BODY OF REPORT

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Objectives: 1. To study the thiamine nutrition in infants, pregnant and lactating women.
2. To compare the chemical and microbiological methods for thiamine assay.
3. To evaluate the transketolase test in the diagnosis of human thiamine deficiency.

Description: Pregnant women and lactating mothers and their infants will be studied in four provinces: Bangkok, Chiangmai, Ubol and Songkhla. Villages in which there is presumptive evidence of beriberi will be studied. The estimated number of subjects that will be studied is about 200 from each province.

A short history in infant feeding will be obtained. A general physical examination will be done. Thiamine assay of whole blood, erythrocytes, urine and breast milk by both the thiochrome method and by microbiological assay will be done in these subjects. Erythrocyte and blood transketolase activity will also be determined.

Progress: About 200 adults and children in Bangkok area were subjected to physical examination. There was no clinical signs of beriberi detected. Blood and urine obtained from these subjects will be determined as described above. This study will be continued until July 1964.

Summary and Conclusion: Data is being collected. No conclusion can be drawn at this stage of study.