

6. Title: Delusion Symptoms and Life History

Principal Investigators: Supoch Khwanmitra, COL, RTAH
Arun Chaowanarasai, Lt. Col., RTAH
E. Hollis Mentzer, M.A.
Harry C. Holloway, LTC, MC
Jonathan J. Russ, CPT, MC

Assistant Investigators: Boonarb Panpanya, P.H.N.
Cherdchalong Sivasomboon, R.N.
Pusadee Surisook, R.N.
Aporn Surintramont, B.A.

OBJECTIVE

To study the inter-relation of delusional content, other psychiatric symptoms and culture and to evaluate the usefulness of the Spitzer et al., Mental Status Schedule as translated into Thai. This project was undertaken to give additional training to the Neuropsychiatric staff in the use of an instrument that will be used in other projects.

DESCRIPTION

A short term project evaluating the relation between clinical history, mental symptoms, Rorschach responses, and delusional content was carried out for the purpose of obtaining basic data concerning the relationship of culture and mental illness.

PROGRESS

The translation and conceptual verification of the Spitzer Mental Status Schedule in Thai was completed and our nursing staff trained in its use. Fifteen patients from Phra Mongkut Klao Army Hospital were evaluated using this instrument, and at the present time we are in the process of correlating the data obtained from the Spitzer mental status with Rorschach responses and other historical and clinical data.

Reliability of the Spitzer Mental Status Schedule in Thai was evaluated by Dr. Phon Sangsingkeo, and the Neuropsychiatric professional staff. As a result, we are satisfied that this instrument can serve as a clinically adequate cross-sectional description of symptom status. It would now be appropriated to validate the reliability of Spitzer Mental Status Schedule on larger populations. This psychiatric instrument will be made available to Thai psychiatric workers wishing to use it as a training or research tool.