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**Achievement of Interprofessional Competencies on Collaborative Problem-Solving for Environmental Health and Animal Welfare in Future Health Science Workforces, Chiang Mai University Thailand**

Natpasit Rattanaworapanit1\*, Peerawit Chongrattanameteekul1, Warangkhana Chaisowwong1, Warangkana Naksen2, Aksara Thongprachum2, Noppcha Singweratham2, Raktham Mektrirat1,3

\*lead presenter

1Supernice321@gmail.com, Veterinary Academic Office, Faculty of Veterinary Medicine, Chiang Mai University, Muang, Chiang Mai 50100, Thailand.

2Faculty of Public Health, Chiang Mai University, Chiang Mai 50200, Thailand.

3Research Center for Veterinary Biosciences and Veterinary Public Health, Faculty of Veterinary Medicine, Chiang Mai University, Chiang Mai 50100, Thailand

**Abstract:**

**Background/Objective:**

Given the complexity of environmental health and animal welfare, healthcare professionals from different academic disciplines need to work together effectively to combat the problems. For one-health approach, the interprofessional education (IPE) can lead to enhanced collaborative competencies, but there has been limited research. The aim of this study was to investigate whether there were any differences in pre- and post-lesson self-assessments of interprofessional competencies related to environmental health and animal welfare among undergraduate veterinary and health science students at Chiang Mai University, Thailand.

**Methods:** Academic instructors created a one-health training program to develop a multidisciplinary curriculum targeting both human and animal health aspects. The study enrolled a total of 34 students from diverse academic disciplines in the 2023 academic year. The Interprofessional Attitudes Scale (IPAS) was administered to all students before and after the lesson, using a 5-level Likert scale for response measurement. The Wilcoxon signed-rank test was used to assess differences between the two dependent groups. Statistical significance was set at the level of p-values < 0.05.

**Results:** The total number of students who participated in the study included 2 nursing, 3 pharmacy, and 4 medical sciences students, as well as 5 veterinary and 20 medical students. Self-assessments of IPE competencies among the participants showed a shift from the pre-lesson (Mdn 4.86, IQR 4.69 - 5.00) to the post-lesson (Mdn 5.00, IQR 4.91 - 5.00) (*p*< 0.05, Wilcoxon signed rank). Additionally, the average gain score was 0.12 ± 0.49.

**Conclusion:** This highlights the value of IPE in promoting collaboration and teamwork among undergraduate health science students at Chiang Mai University. The research emphasizes how incorporating IPE training may improve collaborative competencies among future healthcare professionals. However, sustainable adaptation of the IPE learning activities as an elective course should be accomplished in the near future.

**Keywords:** animal welfare; environmental health; interprofessional education; one health