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Several reports reveal that many farmers in Thailand continue to be poisoned through unsafe practices in the use of agrochemicals. The need to use large amounts of agrochemicals has raised environmental and human health concerns. Few studies exist that examine agrochemical risk behaviors among farmers. The objective of this study was to evaluate the predictors associated with agrochemical risk behaviors among rice farmers in Khlong Luang district, Patumthani, Thailand from February to July 2010. The Health Belief Model was applied for this study. Data collection from 482 rice farmers was completed by observation, in-depth interviews, and focus group discussions. Quantitative data was analyzed using descriptive statistics and two inferential statistics: chi-square and t-tests. Qualitative data was analyzed using content analysis. The study results revealed that farmers had high levels of perceived susceptibility to agrochemical risk and the severity of agrochemical hazards. They had moderate levels of knowledge on the benefits of agrochemical safety and the protective barriers for improving agrochemical safety. Receiving information about agrochemical hazards reduced perceived susceptibility to agrochemical risk behaviors and increased the benefits of safer agrochemical behaviors. However, their risk behaviors, especially related to the use of improper personal protective equipment, were remarkably high level. Where, a high perceived severity of agrochemical hazards was correspondingly high risk agrochemical behaviors (p<0.05). Therefore, this study suggested that an intervention to improve safer agrochemical behaviors is necessary to decrease agrochemical exposure.

Habitat Characterization And Spatial Distribution Of Anopheles Sp. In High Endemic Malaria Areas Of Mamuju District, West Sulawesi, Indonesia

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Mamuju is one of high endemic malaria area in Indonesia. The study aim to analyze characteristics of breeding habitat and their spatial distribution of Anopheles sp. in Mamuju. This study was an explorative study. Larval survey was conducted in 5 villages of subdistrict using the WHO’s standard methods, by dipping larvae or pupa from the all water bodies as mosquito breeding habitats. The sample was selected using accidental sampling method. Data were analyses using Arcview GIS 3.3. Anopheles barbirostris and An. subjunctus are the dominant species out of 9 Anopheles sp. There are 10 types of breeding habitat distributed in the area. An. barbirostris bred in water pond, well, water canal and lagoon, whereas An. subjunctus bred mostly in water canal and swamp. The characteristics of breeding habitat temperature ranges from 25 to 29.30C; the water depth ranges from 5 to 80 cm; pH ranges from 6.7 to 7.4 and salinity ranges from 0 to 2‰. It can be concluded that distribution of Anopheles sp. depend on its habitat characterisation.

Evaluation on the Environment Transition Associated with Renovation in the T Hospital Children’s Ward and Verification of Playroom Design Proposal

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In addition to providing medical treatment, it is also required for children’s ward to function as a place for children’s living and development. In relation to this, it is generally known that including a play in treatment life will reduce a stress level of children and lead them to cope positively with treatment while also easing the burden of families and medical staff. For this reason, there has been growing numbers of children’s wards placing a playroom within their facilities. However, some of them are merely a place without being fully utilized. It is necessary to further consider a way to place a playroom in terms of its relation with other space within children’s wards. The purpose of this study is to verify the accomplishment of playroom design at the T hospital after the full renovation of children’s ward by focusing on the playroom environment and the change in utilization condition. On the renovation of children’s ward, the following proposals were made for the playroom design. 1) Maintain its openness to the hallway, and secure the view from outside the playroom especially from the nurse station. 2) Create multiple zones in accordance with children’s age and types of activities to enable children’s independent choice in activity while providing space for a number of