



กรมการแพทย์แผนไทยและการแพทย์ทางเลือก
Department of Thai Traditional and Alternative Medicine

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Delegates of Asia-Pacific Regional Parliamentary Conference on Global Health Security

Visits Thai Traditional Medicine

Department of Thai Traditional and Alternative Medicine Showcases High Standards of Traditional Medicine Integration in Health Systems

December 3, 2024 – The Department of Thai Traditional and Alternative Medicine, Ministry of Public Health, welcomed delegates from the Asia-Pacific Parliamentary Conference on Global Health Security. The visit highlighted Thailand's high standards in integrating traditional medicine services into the national healthcare system.

Dr. Somlerk Jeungsmarn, Director-General of the Department of Thai Traditional and Alternative Medicine, stated that the Ministry of Public Health, under the leadership of H.E.Mr.Somsak Thepsuthin, Minister of Public Health, actively promotes the integration of Thai traditional medicine and alternative medicine into the healthcare service system. This initiative includes collaboration with modern medicine to leverage the strengths of both approaches in patient care.

For certain conditions where Thai traditional medicine can complement modern treatments, there is a focus on research to provide scientific evidence confirming its efficacy and safety. Training and professional development are also emphasized to maintain high standards among practitioners in this field. Moreover, Dr. Somlerk highlighted efforts to develop Thai traditional medicine alongside health tourism to build confidence among international visitors. With recognition in numerous countries, Thai traditional medicine is not only a valuable cultural heritage but also a resource with significant economic potential.

He further detailed Thailand's initiatives to tackle non-communicable diseases (NCDs) through health promotion. These efforts include advocating for the daily use of medicinal herbs, such as incorporating local herbal cuisine, under the slogan *"Eat Right Local Herbs, Stay Healthy."* Research and innovation have led to the development of herbal remedies to complement or replace modern pharmaceuticals. For example, *Andrographis paniculata* (Fah Talai Jone) is used to alleviate fever and sore throat in viral infections, while *Curcuma longa* (turmeric) effectively treats indigestion as an alternative to omeprazole.

The delegation's visit showcased Thailand's capacity to integrate Thai traditional medicine with modern medicine, highlighting advancements in *Nuad Thai* (Thai massage), herbal medicine, and research to achieve holistic healthcare. The insights shared during the visit are expected to deepen the delegates' understanding of Thailand's commitment to maintaining high standards in traditional medicine services, fostering continued progress in this field.















