Title: Rapid Survey Teaching Model in School of Public Health of the National Institute of Public Health, Cambodia

An Yom, MD., MPH

Institute: National Institute of Public Health, Cambodia
Contact Person: anyomniph@gmail.com

ABSTRACT

Background: Rapid survey is an elective course to be offered during last semester (semester 4) for students enrolling in Master of Public Health and in Master of Science at school of public health of the national institute of public health, Cambodia. This applied course is taught like a workshop, but no daily beginning or ending times. Students are required to attend two to three day course at school, two to three day fieldwork (data collection) at an area under the coverage of a particular health center and two to three day course at school again to work on collected data. This sandwich model provides students the opportunity to apply theory they learnt into practice. The results from this fieldwork will be used to inform health center staff and/or people in the area where we do data collection.

Course Objective: The objective of the course is to: appreciate the need for rapid surveys, understand the theory of sampling, rapid surveys and assessment for decision-making, acquired practical skills to do the field work for rapid surveys and analyze data from rapid surveys, and be able to present analysis of survey findings in understandable terms (Objectives, Methods, Results, Discussion and recommendations).

Course Contents: The contents of the course include: introduction to rapid survey, planning a survey, interview survey, rapid survey, interviewer training, statistical methods and issues for rapid surveys, sampling, variance of cluster sampling, sample size determination, improving precision, improving accuracy, example of rapid survey, class presentation, and rapid qualitative and quantitative survey.

Teaching Methods: The course is offered through lecture/brainstorming, power point presentation, field work, group discussion, class presentation by students and homework assignments.

Student Assessment: Student will assessed through: 2 homework assignments(40%), field work results presentation (40%), field work participation(10%), and in class participation (10%).

Conclusion: Students attending this course are required to complete at least some basic cours
es like basic biostatistics, basic epidemiology, proposal writing, and statistical software (SPSS, STATA…). This teaching model provides students the opportunity to apply theory they learnt from class (not only from rapid survey course, but also from other courses) into practice. The model provides benefits to both, students and people living in the research area. Based on our experience, after completion this course, students are confident of conducting rapid survey in the future. This teaching model may be a good example for other schools or universities in the region to consider.