ROAD SAFETY CONTROL DURING LONG HOLIDAYS IN Ubonratchathani Province, Thailand

S Saipan, B Boonpaisarn, V Moongmai, N Maliwan, P Saipan*, P Suwaratchai

Correspondence: Ubonratchathani City Hall, Maung Ubonratchathani 34000, Thailand

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Background Road Traffic Accident (RTA) causes serious injuries and fatalities among passengers during long holidays such as New Year and Songkran festival. The incidence occurred 2–3 times compare to normal period. The risks of RTA are alcohol drinking driver, high speed drivers and not using safety equipments. Ubon Ratchathani province covers 1.8 million populations. Our province had set up Ubon Road safety committee to reduce RTA during this periods. The activities was prevention, control accident, medical care with collaborations from several sectors.

Method Ubon Road Safety Committee and Centre during each periods for 7 days. The activities are as follows: (1) Preparing period: - Public relations: safety laws, alcohol control policy. (2) Operating period: - Checking point working 24 h to inspect the against law drivers. - Promote safety vehicle. - VIDEO Conference all province and Day by day evaluation. (3) Evaluating period: 2007–2009.

Results RTA occurred 98, 69, 106 cases with severe injury 7, 12, 9 cases during 2 festival in the periods compared to accident in normal day around the year 994, 872, 812 cases in the year 2007–2009. The most common causes are from motorcycle, occurred in alcoholic drunken drivers 41.03%, higher speed drivers 28.21%.

Conclusions To set up Road Safety Committee and Centre during long holidays and activities such as public relations, Law enforcement, alcohol control policy setup checking points, day by day evaluation and improved process, and need collaboration from several sectors to control and reduced severity of RTA.