

LOCAL HERBAL DRUG DEVELOPMENT: CASE OF LOCAL PHARMACY PRODUCTION IN ONE TAMBON ONE PRODUCT (OTOP) PROJECT IN THAILAND

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ABSTRACT

The local herbal drug development is an interesting issue in developing countries. In Thailand, a tropical country in Indochina, some local drug developments can be seen. According to the governmental policies on One Tambon One Product (OTOP) project in Thailand, which promote the local production of product based on local wisdoms, the promotion of OTOP workers can be seen. According to the project, some cases of local herbal drugs can be seen.

KEYWORDS: Local, Herbal, Drug, Development, Thailand.

INTRODUCTION

The local herbal drug development is an interesting issue in developing countries. In Thailand, a tropical country in Indochina, some local drug developments can be seen. According to the governmental policies on One Tambon One Product (OTOP) project in Thailand, which promote the local production of product based on local wisdoms, the promotion of OTOP workers can be seen [1]. According to the project, some cases of local herbal drugs can be seen.

CASES OF HERBAL DRUG PRODUCTS IN OTOP PROJECT IN THAILAND

According to the local database of OTOP (www.thaitambon.com), there are many registered local herbal products. Up to 7,465 herbals product can be seen in the database. Most of the herbal products are the local drug

for local use (such as herbal balm products or herbal soaps or herbal beverages).

DISCUSSION

The promotion of local wisdom on herbal drug production is interesting and might be the way to correct the problem of recourse limitation in poor developing countries. The use of local production might stimulate the local pharmacy business. It also makes use of locally available herbs for producing of the herbal products. The can significantly decrease the cost for imported drug into the country.

To support the productions, the support on knowledge to the local pharmacy producer is needed. Also, the quality control becomes the important issue to be addressed. The safety of the locally produced herbal product in Thailand is still the issue to be mentioned [2]. Indeed, without good control, the locally produced herbal product might be a dangerous thing [3].

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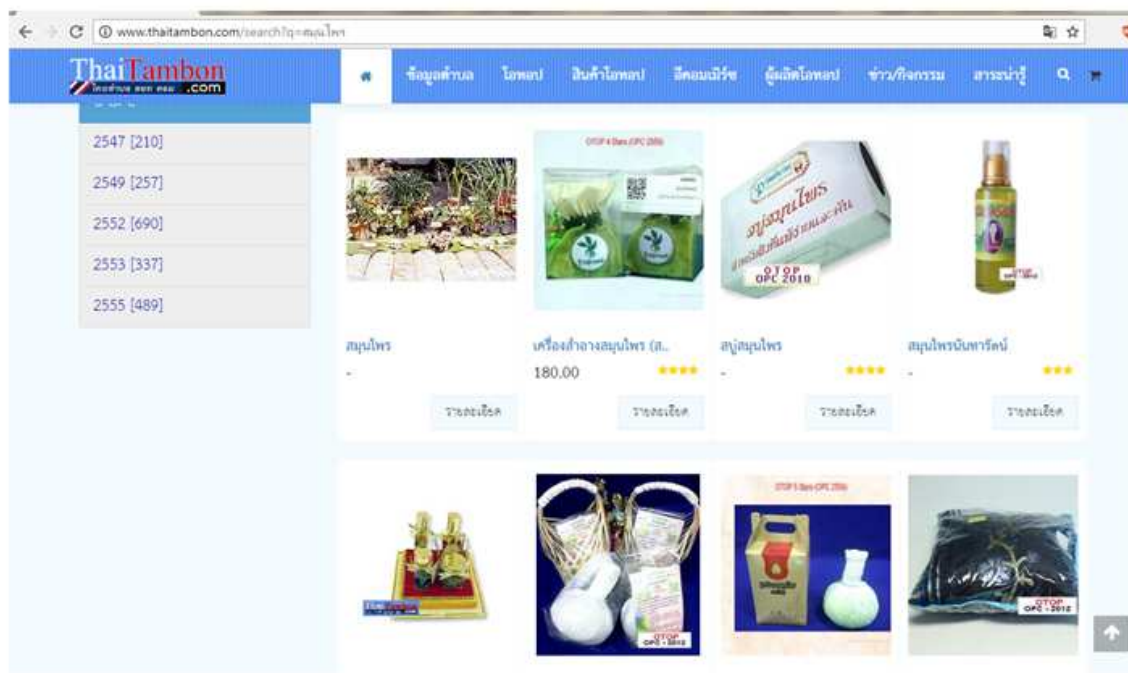


Figure 1. Examples of Thai local herbal products registered in the OTOP website

The use of OTOP system in Thailand usually focuses on production and business process, the gap on the quality control still exists and there is a need for further correction of this important pitfall. The successful management can result in solution to the high cost for health care to the local Thai people.

CONFLICT OF INTEREST: None

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