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THE IMPLEMENTATION OF INDOOR AIR QUALITY MANAGEMENT IN HOSPITALS IN THAILAND

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A Dissertation Submitted in Partial
Fulfillment of the Requirements for the Degree of
Doctor of Philosophy (Development Administration)
School of Public Administration
National Institute of Development Administration

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The Examining Committee Approved This Dissertation Submitted in Partial Fulfillment of the Requirements for the Degree of Doctor of Philosophy (Development Administration)

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ABSTRACT

Title of Dissertation	:	The Implementation of Indoor Air Quality Management in Hospitals in Thailand
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In 2005, the World Health Organization (WHO) assessed the contribution of a range of risk factors to the burden of disease and revealed indoor air pollution as the eighth most important risk factor. Also, many people realize that indoor air quality management implementation, especially in hospitals, is seriously needed. This research aims at identifying the factors affecting indoor air quality management implementation in hospitals and then at developing and testing a model of indoor air quality management implementation. The factors are derived based on an integration of structural contingency and institutional theories.

This research is a quantitative research, supported by a qualitative research. The data collection of the quantitative research and qualitative research has been carried out through questionnaires and interviews, respectively. The questionnaires were distributed to 900 hospitals, including HA (Hospital Accreditation) hospitals, as well as those under going the process of being HA

certified in Thailand. The stepwise regression analysis was used for the verification of causal relationships between the variables proposed in the conceptual framework.

The qualitative research was carried out through in-depth interviews with selected key informants. The results show that the factors affecting indoor air quality management implementation include strategy fit, resource fit, mimetic conformity, concern about environmental agents and organizational integrity. The qualitative research results reveal the general situation of indoor air quality management implementation in hospitals as well as the problems and obstacles involved in this implementation. Moreover, it also presents some interesting suggestions and recommendations for indoor air quality management implementation.

Hospitals in Thailand have to pay more attention to indoor air quality management in order to promote comfort and, more importantly, to achieve hygiene requirements, including prevention and treatment of disease. Besides consideration of the factors previously mentioned, it is recommended that Thailand have a national standard for indoor air quality management in hospitals. Furthermore, the government or the ministry of health must apply law enforcement to the implementation of indoor air quality management for both private and public hospitals. Finally, indoor air quality in hospitals can be improved if there is a knowledge center where information, literature, research, related to indoor air quality management, especially for hospitals, can be acquired.

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