The Health Care for Elderly Population in Lao PDR

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Introduction

- Lao society still preserves the good tradition of respecting the older people.
- Older people customary lives with family, children, and grand children until the end of their life.
- Number of elderly population trends to increase gradually, undoubtedly they can live longer, and requires more attention from medical care providers.

Facts & Figures

- Country's name: Lao People's Democratic Republic
- Population: 5.6 million (2005)
- Population density: 24 people per square kilometer
- Distribution of population: 23 percent in urban
  77 percent in rural
- Income per capita: US $ 491 (2005)
- GDP growth: 6 percent per annum (2006)
- Religion: Buddhism 67%, other 33%
- Percentage of elderly population: 5.3 % of whole population

Expectation of Elderly Population Growth from 2007 to 2020

Aged groups	2007	2010	2015	2020
60-64	107,000	113,700	145,300	174,900
65-69	82,700	87,800	95,100	121,600
70-74	60,500	60,500	67,800	73,500
75-79	37,700	37,700	42,100	46,600
80+	42,000	42,000	43,200	44,900

Source: International Trade & Human Development Lao PDR 2006; UNDP

Health Care for the Elderly

- A National policy towards the elderly can defined as; to have opportunity to develop their health, body, and soul.
- There is no significant differences in treating between elderly people and other aged groups.

Conclusion

- Demands of elderly population for quality health care going to rise in the years ahead.
- Step forwards policy is better for anyone, getting old is a natural.