

Thai Dietetic Association: Celebrating the AFDA 30th Anniversary

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To celebrate the AFDA's 30th anniversary, TDA would like to congratulate to AFDA for achieving AFDA's objectives, promoting the development of the dietetic profession, striving to promote quality dietetic practices and education, and pledging to enhance health and well-being in Asian population. Sincere thanks to the twelve National Dietetic Association members for our great collaboration that have made AFDA widely recognized as the Asian Organization for Dietetics Professionals. The purpose of this article is to document what activities TDA organized to support the objectives of AFDA and TDA.

About Thai Dietetic Association (TDA)

TDA was first established as The Thai Dietetic Club in 1974 and became the Association on March 18, 2005. It is a non-profit private organization and is a professional member organization. The seven key contributors as shown below (Photo 1) supported the establishment and participation of TDA. TDA was formed to support and advance the dietetic profession, to promote quality improvement of dietetic practices and education in Thailand. The activities conducted by TDA including studies related to the education and work of dietitians, and developing the standards of education and practice of dietitians in the regions. Currently, TDA has 4,028 members from all over the country.

The Aims and Activities of TDA

Vision of TDA:

Achieving healthy Thais through the excellence of dietetic practices

Mission of TDA:

1. Maintain dietetic education and professional standards and continually quality improvement of dietetic practices.
2. To be a center for information regarding all aspects of nutrition and dietetics to dietitians, health care professionals and general public.
3. Exchange knowledge and experience in nutrition and dietetics with corporate networks domestically and internationally, to improve the quality of life of the population.

Registration/Licensing of Dietitians in Thailand

Dietitians received a royal order to enact a royal decree and King Rama the 10th approved on June 20, 2020 and published in the Government Gazette, given on June 23, 2020 (Photo 2-3). There are 2550 dietitians passed the first registration examination out of 2577 eligible members applying for the registration and taking the examination. Currently, there are 2923 registered dietitians obtained a dietitian license.



Photo 1: The Seven Key Contributors Supported the Establishment and Participation of TDA

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Photo 2: Dietitians Received a Royal Order to Enact a Royal Decree on 2020



Photo 3: The First Meeting of the Professional Committee

The Activities for TDA

TDA organizes the Annual Conference for 3 days in April. There are approximately 700-800 dietitians from various hospitals of the country attending the conference. The E-posters are presented during the Conference. (Photo: 4-6) In addition, to promote Asian Food Culture, to encourage dietitians to conduct research on nutrition and nutrition therapy and also

develop the recipes to patients and general population using soy products for the study, TDA provides the Soybean and Soymilk Study Awards annually. The food demonstration of the modified soy recipes with nutrient composition, ingredients, cooking method are presented via video and E-poster. (Photo: 7-9)



Photo 4-6: Organize the TDA Annual Conference



Photo 7-9: TDA provides the Soybean and Soymilk Study Awards annually



Photo 10-11: Organize Regional Meeting, Short Courses Training for Professional Development



Photo 12-14: Establish a Network of Dietetic Professionals in 13 Health Districts



Photo 15-16: Support the TDA Research Award to Promote the Research Activities



Photo 17-18: Set the Standards of Dietitian Education and Training

Certified Dietitian of Thailand (CDT)

To standardize the knowledge and practice of dietitians, TDA organized the examination for certified dietitian of Thailand (CDT.) since the year 2010. There are 2173 dietitians passed the CDT examination out of 4028 members. The CDT certificate is valid for 5 years and should be renewed (Photo 19-20)

Asian Dietitian's Day

TDA and the members organize the activities for Asian Dietitian's Day during September annually in Thailand to recognize dietitian's contributions in providing nutrition care and dietitian's roles. TDA also provides the fund to the members for support the activities. (Photo 21-26)



Photo 19-20: Organize the Examination for Certified Dietitian of Thailand (CDT)



Photo 21-26: Asian Dietitian 's Day

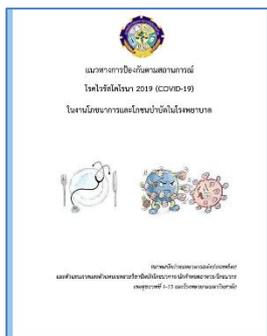


Photo 27-29: Participate the Activities During Disaster and Covid-19

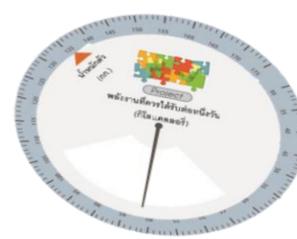
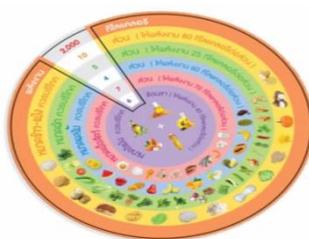


Photo 30-35: The Educational Tool Box Providing Diet Counseling According to Stage of Change



Photo 36-37: The Educational Tools : Food-Based Dietary Guideline & Food Model

The Activities with AFDA



Photo 38-40: TDA Organized the 5th Asian Congress of Dietetics (ACD) 2010, Bangkok, Thailand



Photo 41-43: The 5th ACD 2010, Opening Ceremony and Invited Speakers



Photo 44-46: The 5th ACD 2010, AFDA Committees, Food Demonstration and Asian Night



Photo 47-49: AFDA COUNCIL AND BUSINESS MEETING

Photo 47-48: The 5th ACD 2010, Bangkok, Thailand

Photo 49: The 6th ACD 2014, Taipei, Taiwan

The Asian Dietetics Forum (ADF)



Photo 50-51: TDA joined the First Asian Dietetic Education Forum (ADF) 2016, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia

Conclusion

In celebration of the AFDA 30th Anniversary, give us a chance to reflect on our Dietetic Associations' history and events, our founders who have contributed to our success along the way and also to look at the challenges and future directions to come. The National Dietetic Associations in Asia have to join our hands together to enhance health and well-being in Asian population. There are many more career opportunities available for dietitians, not only in the hospitals but today we are entrepreneurial. Dietitians are in private practices, in specialties, as well as personalized dietitians and so on.

Our dietetic professions have come a long way with many challenges in the last three decades but yet a unique opportunity for innovation and collaboration among us to promote the value of the dietetic professions that we can make a difference in health and well-being through food, nutrition and dietetics.

Lastly, TDA would like to thank AFDA that brings us to work together toward our mutual vision, moving forward together to accomplish our common goal "To be the best as we can as the Asian dietitians"

