

Search: [Go](#)

[More Options](#) | [Search Tips](#)

Emerging Social Issues Division

Social Policy and Population Section

Asia-Pacific Population Journal

Article **An Assessment of the Thai Government's Health Services for the Aged**

Author *Peerasit Kamnuansilpa, Supawatanakorn Wongthanavas, John Bryant and Aree Prohmmo*

Abstract This article assesses services which the Thai Ministry of Public Health provides to old people. It is based on data collected in hospitals and communities across Thailand in 1998. At that time, all Thais aged 60 or older were entitled to old people's cards giving them free health care at public facilities. About 80 per cent of the respondents held such cards; most of the remainder were, however, covered by other schemes or received cheap or free care from hospitals. The study found that a surprisingly large proportion of elderly people traveled to the hospital unaccompanied. Less surprisingly, it also found that urban elderly people were disproportionately likely to seek medical care at hospitals. Rather than reducing the urban bias, existing outreach programmes may be increasing it.

[Print this abstract](#)

[more ...](#)

