

Khwanchai Visithanon, M.D. Deputy Director-General Department of Thai Traditional and Alternative Medicine Thailand

Dr. Khwanchai Visithanon, 59, joined the Department of Thai Traditional and Alternative Medicine (DTAM), Ministry of Public Health, Thailand in 2012, when he appointed the Director of Bureau of Strategy. Subsequently, he became the Director of Institute of Thai Traditional Medicine in 2016. Currently, he has served as the Deputy Director-General of Department of Thai Traditional and Alternative Medicine since 2021.

As a medical doctor, he started his job in a community hospital in Khon-Khaen province in 1987 and became the director of 4 community hospitals in Khon-Khaen and Phra Nakhon Si Ayutthaya province from 1988 to 2001. He decided to join the Office of the Permanent Secretary, Ministry of Public Health, Thailand, in 2008 before joining DTAM.

He obtained the Doctor of Medicine from Chulalongkorn University, Thailand in 1986 and Master of Arts in Human Resources in Health, from Keele University the United Kingdom in 2001.

The presentation will prescribe the national policy and role of Thai traditional medicine and herbal medicine against COVID-19 during the pandemic from 2020-2022. It will include the research study on potential herb, *andrographis paniculata* (Fa Talai Chon) and the role of Fa Talai Chon and Thai traditional medicine preparations for alleviating COVID-19 from 2020-2022 when Fa Talai Chon and Thai traditional medicine preparations were applied in the field hospitals, the pilot hospitals and prisons, the home isolation, and across the country.