

# Abstract

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Based on the study of 34 Lan Na manuscripts on the traditional medicine, the project titled, "The Knowledge Management in Lan Na Traditional Medicine: A Case Study of Mareng (Baheng) Illness," has made the 2 conclusions about mareng ('baheng' in the Northern Thai dialect). It was divided into 2 groups. First, Mareng (Baheng) which means a disease having symptoms similar to skin disease such as itching, rash, boil, saan. It is not a severe disease, e.g. mareng khai pla, mareng fa-mahn, mareng fai. Second, Mareng Kut (Lom baheng kut) is a disease encompassing all symptoms of the wind element and pain or other symptoms that occur on different spots on the body such as mareng kut headache, mareng kut which appears on the eyes, mareng kut sannibaht klang lai. These kinds of mareng were curable. The mareng therapy included the use of medicinal plants in conjunction with chanting magical formulas and performing a ritual according to traditional belief. As for the use of herbs, it was found that of the 300 tamrab, 155 were used for curing mareng; and of 368 tamrab, 140 were used for curing mareng kut. However, there are 19 types of herbs that are endowed with properties for curing the diseases in the mareng group. We have noted the frequency of herbs mentioned in the aforesaid medicinal texts. Ranking from high to low, we have found the following: khao chao (200), thua poo (130), phuk waan (91), pid torh (71), rang yen (64), ngaa chang (60), phuk diid (50), luem dam (46), joi nang (45), huan moo (41), lab muen luang (41), phuk khao (40), phuk khab (38), jii puk (34), nam man ngaa (33), lom lang (27), khi lek (27), pid piaw daeng (26), and khao min (25). The above-mentioned herbs are medicinally important. Thus, related studies should be made of them in pharmaceutical sense. Also, they should be widely cultivated for use in health care, marketing, and sustainable development.