

Training course lends bite to dentistry in Vientiane province



(From left, seated) Dr Sengphouvanh Ngonephady, Dr Takashi Miyata and Dr Aloungnadet Sitthiphanh pose for a group photo with participants at the training course.

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Dental and oral therapy in Vientiane province looks set to reach new heights after dental professionals took a skills upgrade course last week.

The two-day training course held in the province aimed to improve the dental skills of 60 teachers, students, doctors and nurses from the provincial public health school, provincial nursing school and dispensaries.

Vice President of the University of Health Sciences in Vientiane, Dr Aloungnadet Sitthiphanh, was present at this second training course on capacity building for nurses through dental and oral health training. He said the course was expected to improve oral and dental medical services in the years to come.

"We plan to hold similar training courses in other parts of the country if this training proves to be effective. We hope that it can become a model for future use," he said. A third training course is expected to take place on January 24-25, and the results of the

training sessions will be evaluated at the end of the year.

The training is being funded by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan and the Organisation of International Support for Dental Education (OISDE) is implementing the project.

The Vientiane provincial Health Department, Faculty of Dentistry and OISDE are pleased to see that the oral and dental health of the Lao people is good. This is because dental and oral problems are an integral part of general healthcare.

In the past, OISDE has run various training courses at the Faculty of Dentistry of the University of Health Sciences, including the supply of teaching and learning materials. The organisation has also supported dental and oral promotion in Pakkading district, Borikhamxay province.

Dean of the Faculty of Dentistry, Associate Prof. Dr Sengphouvanh Ngonephady, and President of the Organisation of International Support for Dental Education, Dr Takashi Miyata, attended the training course.