

Exchange program in kobe university hospital report during 2-27 september 2013

I am a 6th year medical student from Thailand, Mahidol university, Ramathibodi hospital. And I had been studying in Kobe university as an exchange student during september, 2013. It was a great time staying in japan for me. Though it was second time for me to visit japan; but it always fascinates me. I met many kind people, tried delicious food, and visited many impressed places.

About my training program, I stayed in the department of plastic surgery for two weeks and department of cardiovascular medicine for another 2 weeks. I had chances to see or to do many things that I would never do in Thailand. For example, I saw many operations that was so amazing and high technology, I have a chance to observe the OR, OPD, and Ward, I experienced the catheter room and saw the OCP thing which barely see in Thailand, and had a good time studying and getting to know other Japanese students.

In the department of plastic surgery, I met Dr. Sakakibara who was in charge for taking care of me during my staying. To be honest, he is my idol as he is so kind and take very good care of students. I feel passionate after finish this department to be a plastic surgeon. And also in the department of cardiovascular medicine, Dr. Sasaki is my in charge. He also a nice teacher and doctor as well.

Not only the knowledge I gain during my training, I also experience how japanese medical student's life is. I see the way Japanese students study which totally different from Thai students.

Such as in Thailand, we more hands on the patients, we are allowed to touch the patients since 4th year but in Japan I saw that they are not allowed to touch the patients much. And it is very important to concern about the patient's right in Japan. And the way we study in Thailand, we learn from the cases and we have to work so hard since clinical year. Thai students have to do night shift and we

never finish our day before 6 pm. We work 7 days a week, while Japanese students work freely as long as they can finish their jobs. And they start clerkship and end the day exact time, no overtime. In my opinion, this makes Thai students can do more practice and after finish 6 years of medical school we can be a real doctor confidently but in contrary we do not have much time to review the knowledge as we work so hard and barely have time to sleep. I think that this because the structure of our public health is not similar. Thailand we are short of doctors so after medical school all students have to practice as a general physician and go directly to the rural, while Japan, they are many students graduate a year and most of them continue study the residency.

Moreover, the extra curriculum activities were interesting. I have many good Japanese friends and all of them are so kind and very helpful. And the Kobe city itself is very beautiful. I enjoy very much about sightseeing around this city.

Every moment I spent in Kobe, it is one of the best time in my life. I have met a very good Japanese people, and living in the civilized, well organized, safety country. I will not forget all the good things here. And hopefully one day I will come back here again.

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