

2015

EXCHANGE PROGRAM

At Siriraj Hospital, Mahidol University in Thailand



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1 Introduction

From 6th April to 30th April, I did my clinical clerkship at Siriraj hospital of Mahidol university in Bangkok, Thailand. Siriraj hospital is the oldest hospital in Thailand and the biggest in Southeastern Asia. Siriraj hospital take on cases which couldn't be treated at other hospitals, so Siriraj hospital deals with a lot of rare cases.



I spent my first 2 weeks in infectious disease department, and other 2 weeks in trauma surgery department.

2 infectious disease department

To my surprise, there are a lot of cases of Dengii(Deng fever) and HIV and also complications ,like hepatitis B and tuberculosis ,associated with HIV infection in Thailand. With those cases, drug resistant bacillus makes it difficult to control. Through those cases, doctors explained us the situation of cases and how to consider the treatment and so I had chance to organize direction of treatment.

In ID department, we went round every day. In the ward, doctors checked vital and problem of the patients, examine patients and talk with the problem again at once. it was surprising for me that they use Thai when they examine patients and use English when they discuss.



I could also join Microbacterium conference. In that conference, we gram stain bacilli derived from patients and identify it. It was first time for me to consider what was the pathogenic, checking drug history and clinical history and using microscope. It was really difficult, but that experience increased my knowledge.

3 trauma surgery department

Trauma surgery department is mixed with what is called emergency department in japan and orthopedic surgery. (however, 'emergency department' in Thailand undertake internal emergency cases such as MI.)

In Siriraj hospital, Trauma surgery department has its own building and it has consultation room, treatment room, inpatients' ward, BURN unit, ICU and operation room. There are a lot of cases of traffic accident and insect/animal bite (by dog, cat and snake etc.) In Thailand, medical students are allowed to do procedures, so they sutured the wound. It was surprising for me.

In my practice, I could have lectures with medical students, observe outpatient consultation, go round, enter the operation room and suture the wound. I also had night shift with medical students. At night, I had unique cases, such as blunt force injury and sting.■



4 Daily Life in Thailand

Including me, Japanese students stayed at building 'SiMR' which has research institute in Siriraj hospital. That building was clean and generally doctors come from other hospitals or professors stay there.

Thai people are really kind and Thai students usually with us and took us out for dinner and sightseeing, so we could have a lot of delicious Thai food.■



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In the second week, I could join Songkran festival, traditional Thai New Year festival, with them. This festival used to celebrate New Year by pouring water on Buddhist tower, Buddha statues and elders' hands. I'm really glad to join such a wonderful festival.

5 Conclusion

All experiences in Thailand were new to me and became valuable memories. I could make friends in Thailand and they are the best asset that I could gain in Thailand. They are good English speakers, so I could receive a lot of stimulation from them.

Actually, by Thai strong spices and weather, I usually had stomachaches and fever, so I wasn't in good condition. Thai medical students and doctors worried about me and gave me medicines. Thanks to them, I could finish my practice successfully.

In closing, I'm grateful to all the people who involved this program.