

2015

Exchange Program

Siriraj hospital, Mahidol university, Thailand

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1. Introduction

I studied at Siriraj hospital attached to Mahidol University in Bangkok, Thailand from 6th April to 30th April. Within 4 weeks, I spent first 2 weeks in Infectious Disease department, and other 2 weeks in Trauma Surgery department.

2. About Siriraj hospital

Siriraj hospital is one of the most prestigious hospitals in Thailand. King Chulalongkorn established it in 1888. This hospital has more than 2000 beds and more than 100 operation rooms. It is said that the site area of this hospital is the widest in the Eastern Asia. Siriraj hospital is well-known because the King attends here. During I studied at Siriraj hospital the King was ill in this hospital, so SAIT team of the Thai army stays and guards for 24 hours. The hospital has each wards of Internal medicine department or Surgery department, dormitories where medical students and staffs live, restaurants, a library, convenience stores, supermarkets, a bank and even a sports gym. It is like a small city. I stayed in the guest room called SIMR building. This building was built 4 years ago, so it was new and clean. I could live comfortably.



3. Infectious Disease department

In Infectious Disease department I went rounding every day and learned how to examine patients and how to use antibiotics. All presentations in the rounding is performed in English. Doctors explained me so kindly. I could learned rare infectious diseases we seldom see in Japanese hospital and antibiotic-resistant bacteria. I attended the conference, too. The Microbiology Round was the most interesting. In that rounding I heard the history of the patients, observed pathogenic cultured from blood or sputum and discussed which antibiotics we should use. That was a good learning experience for me. Because Thai medical students learn medicine by using textbooks written in English, they can perform the presentation in English easily. I was surprised that the level of Thai student was so high. In addition they were very diligent.



4. Trauma Surgery

In Trauma Surgery department I mainly observed operations and the treatment of outpatients. I watched so many patients injured by motorcycle accident or animal bite. In Thailand there are various animal bite, for example dog bite, cat bite, snake bite, and insect bite. If a patient bitten by a snake comes, we have to examine what kind of poison that snake has. If a patient bitten by a dog, we have to inject the vaccine against rabies to that patient. Everything was new to me. The most impressive activity was the night shift. I could watch many cases. I was surprised that 5th grade student injected anesthesia to the patient and sutured a wound.



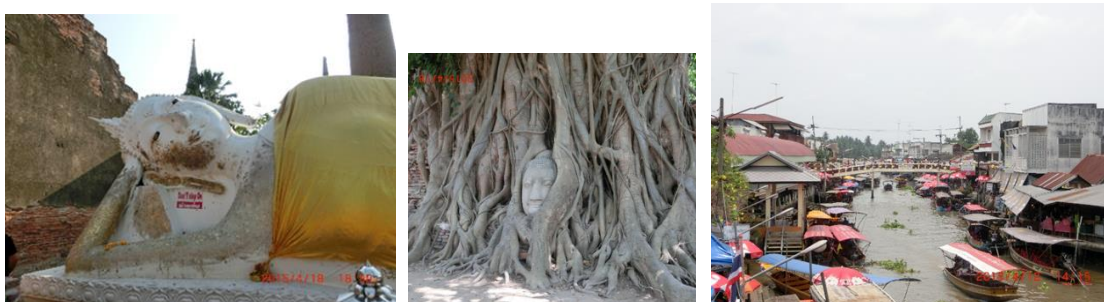
5. Daily life

Basically I had lunch in Siriraj hospital or in the market next to the hospital, and dinner out of the hospital. The students in Siriraj hospital often took us for dinner. Thai food

was so delicious and that price was cheap. My favorite Thai food were “phad thai” (rice noodle) and “Som Tam” (Chili-Papaya Salad). Because mangos were in season in April, we could eat a lot of delicious mangos.



Doctors and students in Thailand were so kind to us Japanese exchange student. Thai students took us for sightseeing in Bangkok. I went to Wat Pho, Wat Arun and royal palace with them. And I went to Ayutthaya on weekend. The ruins in Ayutthaya were worth visiting. They were so beautiful. I could come in touch with Thai culture during this staying, and the culture was so fascinating. I enjoyed staying in Thailand a lot.



6. Conclusion

Although I stayed in Thailand for very short time, I was able to spend wonderful time. I learned many things and I could know the medical education in Thailand and the difference of the medical system between Thailand and Japan. I'm sure that all these things will be really good and useful experience for me as I become a doctor.