Siriraj Hospital (โรงพยาบาลศิริราช)

• Oldest and largest hospital in Thailand
  • Founded by King Chulalongkorn in 1888, named after his son who died of dysentery
  • Associated medical school started in 1890.

• Hospital Statistics
  • 2233 beds
  • ~3 million outpatient visits/year
  • ~90,000 inpatient admissions
  • ~15,000 employees
  • >80 buildings
Thailand is in mourning of the Beloved King.

Typical sign found all over Thailand remembering the Beloved King. He died at Siriraj Hospital on October 13, 2016, and the official period of mourning is 1 year.
Surgery Department

- Plastic Surgery
- Cardiovascular and Thoracic Surgery
  - Daily grand rounds
  - Daily Conference
    - M&M
    - Journal Club
    - Case Conference
    - Internal Audit
- OR or outpatient clinic
Siriraj Surgical Attire

Women’s Uniform for Surgery

Communal flip-flops for inpatient wards and ORs

OR with washable drapes and footwear
Cute ORs and supplies

Labeled surgical supplies in the OR

Cute combs for patient use

Lead protective equipment with Tokidoki print
Surgery Department

CVT procedure in hybrid room

Plastic Surgery residents on "art day"
Topic of interest: Patient Autonomy

• Chosen based on profound clinical and cultural experiences at Siriraj Hospital
• In the context of emergent surgical management
  • Patient communication and Translation services
  • Pediatric Assent and measures for comfort surrounding invasive procedures
  • Advanced directives and withdrawal of interventions
• Application to Pediatrics for my future practice
Patient communication and Translation Services

• No equivalent of US Civil Rights Act of 1964 prohibiting discrimination based on race, color or national origin as it applies to health care
  • IE: Translation services required

• Clinical Experience: 3 year old child transferred from China – did not have translator services to communicate with family – attempted English and Thai only

• Improvements recommended: Paid translation services or use of online system
Pediatric Comfort re: invasive procedures

• Studies have shown that parental presence during induction of anesthesia in pediatric patients reduces anxiety of patient

• Clinical Experience: 3 year old child did not have parents present during post-op recovery at all times, and had to abide by the adult ward’s visitation hour policy

• Improvements recommended: pediatric patients should be placed on pediatric wards, not adult wards, and should allow for open visitation hours and “rooming in” with parents
Advanced Directives

• Study in Chiang Mai revealed that most physicians affirmed usefulness of Advance Directives but that actual planning of death was limited

• Thai National Health Act recently made it clear that patients should be able to refuse care in the terminal stages of life – an important first step in allowing Thai people to die according to their wishes

• Cultural Experience: Patients with terminal disease processes and trauma continued receiving invasive procedures and care that would not prolong life or improve quality of life

• Improvements recommended: required implementation of Advanced Directives, and attempt to change Paternalistic approach of medicine
Summary of strategies and interventions

• Individual
  • Each physician make effort to go over advanced directives with the patients
  • Don’t attempt to translate without being fluent

• Community
  • Information provided to patients urging them to ask their doctors about Advanced Directives

• System
  • Implement advanced directives using electronic medical record
  • Provide translation services through the hospital
Travel around Thailand: Chiang Mai Flower Festival

Floats made out of flowers

Traditional Thai Outfits
Travel around Thailand:
Experiencing Buddhist Traditions

Grand Palace

Monk walking on the street

Buddha
Travel around Thailand: Modes of Travel
Travel around Thailand: Food
References


• Faculty of Medicine Siriraj Hospital, Facts and Figures. http://www.si.mahidol.ac.th/en/index.asp?pg=hf

• Foreign Travel Advice, Thailand. https://www.gov.uk/foreign-travel-advice/thailand