

Improving Occupational Safety and Health of Healthcare Workers in Public Hospitals in Thailand

Background

Occupational safety for healthcare workers has been emphasized as one of the most important components and indicators of the quality in the national health care standard and has been identified as the main important goal by WHO and the government of Thailand to ensure the long-term sustainability of the healthcare system development of the country. However, there is still a gap in theoretical and practical knowledge on the proper implementation of occupational safety at the operational basis among the healthcare workers in Thailand, which results in the risk of developing work-related diseases, stress and injuries from work. In addition to potentially jeopardize the safety and wellness of healthcare workers, unsafe procedures and behaviors are also leading to increased costs for the hospitals and the national healthcare system. In the present, the majority of public hospitals in Thailand are still facing with the following constraints:

- Limited knowledge on clinical standards and proper usage of medical instruments among healthcare workers
- Insufficient training provided, including inadequate information received, on occupational safety and efficient clinical procedures for healthcare workers and hospital managers
- Underdeveloped accurate monitoring system to enforce and encourage hospitals to improve safety for healthcare workers



With the realization on the importance of improving occupational safety for healthcare workers in Thailand, the German International Cooperation (GIZ), which operates on behalf of the German Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ), and B. Braun (Thailand) Ltd. and Aesculap Academy have jointly developed and implemented the “Improving Occupational Safety for Healthcare Workers in Public Hospitals in Thailand” project to promote and enhance the occupational safety among Thai healthcare workers, which will result in the increasing safety of both personal and patient safety in the future.



Goal

The occupational safety of healthcare workers in public hospitals in Thailand is improved.

Objectives

- To promote and enhance occupational safety and health among Thai healthcare workers; “safety of personnel and patient safety”
- To create an enabling environment to enhance the safety and effectiveness of healthcare services, reducing the major work risks for healthcare workers in Thailand.

Targets

- Healthcare workers.
- Hospital senior management.

Project Framework



Development of competency standard, curriculum and guiding manual in 3 areas;

- Hand Hygiene
- Safe Infusion Therapy
- Safety in Oncology Therapy



Personnel capacity development of healthcare workers in 3 areas.



Support middle and senior management of pilot hospitals to apply occupational safety and health measures



Implementation of e-monitoring system

Implementing Agencies

- The Healthcare Accreditation of Thailand (Public Organization)
- Ramathibodi Hospital, Faculty of Medicine, Mahidol University
- Infusion Nurse Network of Thailand
- Thai Oncology Nurse Society
- B. Braun (Thailand) Ltd. and Aesculap Academy
- GIZ Thailand

Main Financiers

- B. Braun Melsungen AG
- German Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ)

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