ปัจจัยที่มีผลต่อการปฏิบัติตามหลักการป้องกันโรคติดเชื้อแบบครอบจักรวาล ในสถาบันบำราศนราคูร



นาย สุทัศน์ โชคนะพันธ์

วิทยานิพนธ์นี้เป็นส่วนหนึ่งของการศึกษาตามหลักสูตรปริญญาสาธารณสุขศาสตรมหาบัณฑิต สาขาวิชาการพัฒนาระบบสาธารณสุข วิทยาลัยการสาธารณสุข จุฬาลงกรณ์มหาวิทยาลัย ปีการศึกษา 2545 ISBN 974-9599-04-7 ลิบสิทธิ์ของจุฬาลงกรณ์มหาวิทยาลัย

FACTORS AFFECTING PRACTICE OF UNIVERSAL PRECAUTIONS IN BAMRASNARADURA INSTITUTE



Mr. Suthat Chottanapund

A Thesis Submitted in Partial Fulfillment of the Requirements for the Degree of Master of Public Health in Health Systems Development The College of Public Health Chulalongkorn University Academic Year 2002 ISBN 974-9599-04-7 Copyright of Chulalongkorn University

Thesis Title	Factors affecting the practice of Universal Precautions in
	Bamrasnaradura Institute
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ABSTRACT

PH 022341: MAJOR HEALTH SYSTEMS DEVELOPMENT KEY WORD: HEALTHCARE WORKERS / BAMRASNARADURA INSTITUTE/ PROTECTION/INFECTION/UNIVERSAL PRECAUTIONS SUTHAT CHOTTANAPUND: FACTORS AFFECTING PRACTICE OF

UNIVERSAL PRECAUTIONS IN BAMRASNARADURA INSTITUTE. THESIS ADVISOR: DR. VALAIKANYA PLASAI, THESIS COADVISOR : ASSISTANT PROFESSOR SOMRAT LERTMAHARIT, 105 pp. ISBN 974-9599-04-7.

As an infectious disease hospital in an era of emerging and re-emerging infections, Bamrasnaradura Institute (BI) needs to strengthen its Universal Precautions (UPs) practices among its staff by first understanding the practices. This study, therefore, was proposed as the first one to understand factors that affect UPs practices among three groups of Health Care Workers (HCWs) in the Institute. A cross sectional descriptive design, with self-administered questionnaire, was employed among three groups of HCWs, doctors/dentists, nurses, and other HCWs, at BI from January 1 to 31, 2003. Altogether, 311 HCWs participated in the study.

The study found that factors that affect UPs practices among BI HCWs are age, level of education, work experience, place of work, previous experiences with UPs practices, previous UPs training, level of knowledge on UPs and its principles, attitude toward UPs effectiveness, and attitude toward hospital policy on UPs (p <0.01). On the other hand, factors that appeared to have no effect on the practices are gender, marital status, and working position.

Most of HCWs at BI has moderate to high levels of knowledge in UPs, 100% among doctors, dentists and nurses, and 94.5% of other HCWs. Nurse group has the highest number of participants with high level of knowledge (77.3%), while Doctor/dentist group has 65%. Only 5.5% of other HCWs have low level of UPs knowledge.

None of the HCWs has negative attitude toward UPs, with almost 90% having high level of attitude. Different level of attitude toward UPs among different groups of HCWs has no effects on UPs practice. HCWs cannot choose appropriate protective barriers, perhaps due to their insufficient knowledge. One important finding to take into account is that while HCWs has positive attitude toward UPs principles, they doubt its effectiveness against Human Immuno-deficiency Virus (HIV).

The study found that not all of HCWs in BI practice UPs, even if the Institute was responsible mainly for infectious diseases, especially HIV patients. UPs practices should be improved to ensure HCWs safety. Different types of training programs should be planned according to specific needs of HCWs.

College of Public Health Field of study: Health Systems Development Academic year 2002

Student's signature South at Advisor's signature Source Leibert

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

I never knew that thesis is a hard work, until I was in the College of Public Health. I would like to thank all doctors, nurses and other healthcare workers from Bamrasnaradura Institute who dedicated their time to answer my questions. For Chulalongkorn University, I would like to thank all my colleagues and every faculty staff who kindly helped me with my thesis. Special thanks have to be given to all of the following people who taught and helped me in this college. Without these people, I could say that I would not be able to finish my thesis. Ajarn Dr. Prapapen Suwan, my thesis chair person, who helped me to improve my thesis for behavioral part. Ajarn Somrat Lertmaharit, who is from Chulalongkorn Medical School, gave advices for my statistics. The most important person for my thesis, my thesis advisor Ajarn Dr. Valaikanya Plasai, who helped and pushed me up until I finished final draft of my thesis.

Lastly, I would like to thank the director of my hospital, Dr. Achara Chaovanit, who gave me a chance to be in this program.

Suthat chottanapund

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ABBREVIATIONS

AIDS	Acquired Immunodeficiency Syndrome
BI	Bamrasnaradura Institute
CDC	Center for Disease Control and Prevention
CMV	Cytomegalovirus
HBM	Health Belief Model
HIV	Human Immunodeficiency Virus
SARS	Severe Acute Respiratory Syndrome
UPs	Universal Precautions
HCWs	Health care workers