

CHAPTER 5

RECOMMENDATIONS

Some limitations, problems and obstacles of this research project together with successful factors mentioned in Chapter 4 have led to several useful recommendations for any further studies as the followings:

1. Evaluation of perception and understanding of OPD patients on drug details and advice should be conducted in one type of study group such as a group of chronic patients or a group of non-chronic patients who only pick up medicines for their present symptoms. This is because the techniques for detailing medicines to those two types of patients are different. Most chronic patients already know the use instructions of the drugs being prescribed and sometimes have been informed of more medication practices than for non-chronic patients. This discrepancy could affect the outcome of the study.
2. There should be additional study on factors affecting perception and understanding the medication instructions of OPD patients such as age, education level and so on, in order to improve the dispensing system for the group of patients whose perception and understanding are influenced by such factors.

3. Further study should extend and cover the relationship between perception/ understanding of medication instructions and compliance of the patients with the instructions, as the ultimate goal for providing instructions for the patients is for them to understand and be able to use medications correctly at home.

4. The interviewers should not be the personnel from the hospital being studied but should be health or medical personnel for the purpose of clearer communication and easy understanding.