

SPECIAL ISSUE

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Brief overview of Faculty of Medicine Ramathibodi Hospital, Mahidol University

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I. INTRODUCTION

Established in 1965, the Faculty of Medicine Ramathibodi Hospital, Mahidol University, Bangkok, Thailand, embodies the fundamental belief that students possess the capacity to bring about positive transformations for the betterment of society. The faculty has firmly ingrained the Western paradigm of critical thinking and a progressive mindset into the organisation after receiving funding from the Rockefeller Foundation. In order to provide students with comprehensive exposure to various aspects of healthcare in a favorable educational setting, the faculty made the decision in 2010 to construct a student-centered campus called Chakri Naruebodindra Medical Institute (CNMI). The primary objective of this initiative was to enhance the capabilities of graduates to bring about positive transformations in societal health. As the new campus developed, we revised our curriculum to improve competency-based learning. The program spans over a period of six years and consists of 1,200 medical students. Every year, the program admits 200 students who have completed high school. The curriculum incorporates integrated modules and focuses on achieving specific outcomes.

II. OUR CONTRIBUTION TO THE ASEAN MEDICAL DEANS' SUMMIT

The Faculty of Medicine Ramathibodi Hospital, Mahidol University, Bangkok, Thailand, has continuously contributed to the ASEAN Medical Deans' Summit meeting, sharing perspectives and experiences from the faculty's representatives regarding medical education, research, accreditation, and international exchanges.

In 2020, during the COVID-19 pandemic, AMSN organised a series of international webinars aimed at sharing experiences and solutions about medical innovation and development, as well as medical education. Our faculty members gave two honorable speeches at the 9th ASEAN Medical School Network Virtual Conference. Asst. Prof. Tulyapruek Tawonsawatruk, M.D., Ph.D., shared his experiences conducting online assessments for clinical skills in orthopedics and Asst. Prof. Chusak Okascharoen shared his perspective on the transition to online learning: the Ramathibodi Experience. In 2021, Prof. Suradej Hongeng, our senior researcher and oncologist, joined the 10th ASEAN Medical Dean's Summit Virtual Conference and gave a fruitful talk about Thai herbs in COVID-19 research.

In 2022, AMSN organised the Global Classroom Initiative, and our faculty supported the program with our two expert speakers, Asst. Prof. Dr. Sirintorn Chansirikarnjana and Dr. Prin Vathesatogkit, M.D., contributed as content experts on Alzheimer's and Ischemic Heart Disease. These can encourage ASEAN medical students and professionals to gain knowledge and understanding about the diseases and apply it to managing their patients. In the same years, our faculty also contributed to the AMSN webinar series Assist. Prof. Komsan Kiatrungrit and Assoc. Prof. Teerapat



Yingchoncharoen shared their experiences supporting student well-being, establishing the student well-being center, and discussing simulation-based training and clinical outcomes. In 2023, we supported our faculty representative and two medical students attending the AMSN meeting to present their research projects and traditional Thai dance, Loy Krathong.

Recently, in 2024, the Faculty of Medicine Ramathibodi Hospital, Mahidol University, Bangkok, Thailand, with Clinical Prof. Artit Ungkanont, M.D., Dean of the Faculty, hosted the ASEAN Medical Deans' Summit (13th AMDS) and the 9th AMSN Board Meeting in conjunction with the TMEC 23rd Thai Medical Education Conference 2024. The meeting was successful and fruitful, with 55 AMSN member representatives from 19 institutions and 9 countries attending. During the AMSN meetings, members presented and discussed various topics, such as AI in Radiology at Mahidol-Siriraj Hospital, presented by Assoc. Prof. Trongtham Tongdee, Chairman of the Department of Radiology; The Road to Sustainable Medicine and Net Zero Healthcare by NUS presented by Prof. Nick Watts, the Director of the Centre for Sustainable Medicine: Dr. Coralie Therese D. Dimacali, M.D., Associate Dean for Academic Development, oversees the accreditation of medical schools in the Philippines at UPPGH College of Medicine highlighted the importance of essential research for nation building and health policy development at the UP-PGH College of Medicine; Harmonisation of Curricula Across ASEAN: Education without Borders by the University of Malaya presented by Prof. Dr. April Camilla Roslani, Dean, Faculty of Medicine, Universiti Malaya; Do Admission Scores into Medical School Predict Academic Performance in Medical Students? by Universiti Brunei Darussalam presented by Dr. Hjh Fazean Irdayati Binti Hj Idris. This TMEC, in conjunction with the AMSN meeting, has drawn significant attention from more than 1,000 international participants and provided a researchsharing platform with around 100 research presentations. Furthermore, it strengthened international medical student networking, with 42 medical students from 7 countries participating and shredding 8 outstanding projects during the meeting and performing their national traditional dances during the welcome dinner.

Our faculty has continuously contributed to the ASEAN Medical Deans' Summit and has a solid intention to support the growth and development of the ASEAN medical school community.

Notes on Contributors

Usanarat Anurathapan, Suchin Worawichawong, and Pongtong Puranitee wrote the manuscripts. All authors read and edited the final version.

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Declaration of Interest

There is no conflict of interest to declare.

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