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TRENDS IN RESEARCH, FIVE YEAR EXPERIENCES IN A TERTIARY REFERRAL HOSPITAL

Charuwan Manmee^a, Kanya Janpol^a and Krissana Arsayot^a^aRajavithi Hospital, Thailand

Statement of the Problem: Research is important to solve health problems. Hospitals under the Ministry of Public Health, Thailand give priority to conduct medical and public health research. Rajavithi Hospital, a tertiary referral hospital promotes research to be used for promotion, prevention, protection and treatment of patients. Moreover, some researches are further created to be medical innovation. The purpose of this descriptive study is to describe research database and trends between 2011 and 2015 in Rajavithi hospital.

Methodology & Theoretical Orientation: The data of investigator background, research types and designs and subjects were collected. Descriptive statistics was employed for describe research characteristics and trend. The ethics committee of Rajavithi Hospital approved this study.

Findings: There were 930 research projects for five year duration. A number of researches were 185, 203, 178, 166, and 198 projects by years. The majority of principal investigators were female (82.7%). Three-fourths of research was mainly conducted by physicians followed by nurses and multidisciplinary team. Most of researches were single project and conducted in one year. Research fund was given to almost 80%. Regarding research types, medical research (85.4%), public health research (15.8%) and social science research (1.8%) were performed. According to study designs, cross-sectional, experiment and cohort study were the top three most carried out. Almost 62% of researches were explored in out-patients. Ultrasound, X-ray, laboratory and specific procedures were used for clinical examination. Data were collected using medical records, experiment and interview. The research findings clearly stated the magnitude of problem, causation and association, and diagnostic test.

Conclusion & Significance: Research identification and classification is useful for service management. The findings examine key issues to inform the policy making process. The utilization of these research data are used to develop the electronic research management system which is informative, easy to access and user friendly.

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