

# A Visit to the Faculty of Medicine, Khon Karen University in Thailand

December 16th-19th, 2015

From December 16th to the 19th, 2015, we participated in a seminar in the faculty of medicine in Khon Karen University thanks to professor Suzumiya of Shimane University .

Three people from our department participated in the seminar, professor Hashimoto and two residents, Dr. Murakami and Dr. Kanai. It was the first time we participated.

The Khon Karen prefecture is located in the northeast of Thailand.

The Khon Karen University is a national university. There are 17 departments and 34,000 students enrolled. The university is about 9km<sup>2</sup> , and students move around the campus by bus.

In spite of slightly old information, the number of doctors is apporoximately 20,000 and of these only 500 are pathologist in Thailand, 2009.

A resident who majored in pathology said, only 20 residents will take the pathology licence examination next year.,

We left Japan in the morning on December 16th and arrived at Khon Kaen that night.

A seminar started on Dec. 17th.  
Prof. Hashimoto introduced Fukushima prefecture and presented the case report about lymphoma. Dr. Murakami presented the case report too.



The upper right: Murakami

The lower right: Prof. Hashimoto





The pathology resident showed us an interesting case with a microscope.

We exchanged opinions actively.

Left: the pathology resident in Thailand

Center: Prof. Suzumiya

Right: Dr. Murakami

On Dec. 18th, we inspected community clinics in Khon Karen prefecture.

One problem is uneven distribution of doctors in bigger cities has lead to a shortage of local doctors. There is one doctor in this clinic, and other doctors such as pediatricians or dentists are dispatched by the university on a fixed day. To resolve these problems, the health volunteers play an important role in such countries. They visit homes, where patients, the elderly and children live, checking for illness using early detection and teach health education.

In addition, another problem is the number of people who have high blood pressure and diabetes is increasing. Also, due to air pollution, asthma patients are increasing.



At the clinic in the country



The primary care doctor



The facilities which provide a holistic remedies were added to a middle scale hospital

On Dec. 19th, Professor Banchob Sripa lectured to us about the liver fluke which causes the cholangiocarcinoma outbreak. There was a problem in the Khon Kaen prefecture because of a high rate of cholangiocarcinoma.

That was because there are customs of eating raw river fish in the northeastern part of Thailand.

By eating such fish which were infected by the liver fluke, people can get infected and could develop cholangiocarcinoma.

Cholangiocarcinoma occurs when there is damage and cirrhosis caused by chronic inflammation from an infection of liver fluke. There was liver fluke in 70% of river fish as of 2008 when Prof, Banchob Sripa started the study, but now, it decreased to under 1% as a result of earnest education and enlightening the local people.



Prof. Banchob Sripa



In front of the river where a lot of liver fluke lived

Not only for studing but also for sightseeing.



The 9-storey ptupa



At Kohn Karen University



State of the night Khon Kaen city