

Ambulatory Care for Patients with HIV-Infection at Srinagarind Hospital

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Background: Ambulatory care is an emerging role of pharmacist that appears to be valuable for patients including HIV patients. The pharmaceutical care services in the HIV-clinic at Srinagarind Hospital have been implemented since January 2005

Objective: To explore the roles of pharmacists in pharmaceutical care provision

Materials and method: The study was designed as prospective descriptive study, carried out between 1 July and 31 December 2005

Result: There were 217 patients treated with antiretroviral therapy at the HIV-clinic and recruited into the study. The medical review and pharmaceutical care service were provided to the patients

consisting of identifying, correcting and preventing drug related problems (DRPs) and medication errors (MEs). The pharmaceutical care activities included 217 medication profile collections and 310 patient counselings. One-hundred forty-eight of DRPs and 5 MEs were identified and were solved by pharmacists and physicians. Interestingly, patient counseling can statistically significant improve both patients' adherence and knowledge

Conclusion: The ambulatory care could help patients with HIV-infection by identifying, preventing and solving the DRPs and may improve the clinical outcome of the patients.

Keywords: HIV-infection, Ambulatory care