



ExchangeProgram



March 3th-28th 2025

Ririko Oshima(Wakayama Medical University)

○First week 〈Emergency Department〉



I spent March 3-15 in the Emergency Department. I observed patients in the ER and participated in conferences with residents and externs. I was very surprised to see externs working in the ER, taking blood samples, gastric lavage, etc., as if they were resident doctors in Japan. This is because in Japan, students only observe the doctor and rarely perform procedures. I also heard that students work the night shift in the emergency department. In Japan, there are very few universities where students work the night shift. We also participated in hands-on training in the Skills Lab. We did case studies with resident doctors using a simulator. What impressed me the most was a case of heat stroke. In Thailand, the temperature is high throughout the year, so there are many cases of heat stroke.

On March 14 and 15, I attended a lecture, EVERY SECOND COUNTS. This lecture is held once a year and I was very lucky to be able to attend. The lectures were given in Thai, but Extern translated them into English so that I could understand the content. The most interesting part was the lecture on rabies. I could not see any rabies cases during my training in the ER, but I was able to learn a lot from the lecture.

○Second week <Plastic Surgery >



From March 17 to 27, I went around the Plastic Surgery Department. I observed surgeries, rounds, participation in student case presentations and outpatient visits. The surgery was divided into regular and minor surgeries; I were told that the difference between the two was general or local anesthesia. I was surprised to see many cases of double incision of eyelids in minor operations. This is because in Japan, most of them are performed by cosmetic surgeons. The plastic surgery department handles a wide range of cases, including breast reconstruction, burns, cleft lip and palate, microtia, and double incision of eyelids. I learned that Dr. Nagata, who is Japanese, is an authority on microtia surgery. I was able to observe sex reassignment surgery, which would not be seen in Japan. I had heard that sex reassignment surgeries are rare in university hospitals, so I was lucky to be able to observe one.

○Interaction with Thai students



I met many Thai students during this study abroad program. All of my Thai friends were very kind and helped me immediately if I had any problems. After school and on weekends, I enjoyed having dinner with Thai students, playing badminton, going to karaoke, etc., and had a fulfilling time. I spent many exciting days talking with Thai students about cultural differences, love stories, the medical system, and the state of doctors. The time spent with them will be a memory that will last a lifetime.

