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KEY WORD: : THIRD GENERATION CEPHALOSPORINS/DRUG USE EVALUATION/RAJAVITHI HOSPITAL

TAVIPEN SUTATTAKUL, FLG.OFF.: DRUG USE EVALUATION OF THIRD GENERATION CEPHALOSPORINS FOR IN-PATIENTS AT RAJAVITHI HOSPITAL. THESIS ADVISOR : ASST. PROF. ACHARA UTISWANNAKUL, M. SC. PHARM. THESIS CO-ADVISOR : YONGYUTH JITTAROPAS, MD., M.R.C.P. (U.K.) 246 pp. ISBS 974-583-815-2.

A retrospective study (first phase) of the third generation cephalosporins usage was performed in six different surgical wards at Rajavithi Hospital to determine whether such antibiotics were appropriately prescribed according to the strict criteria. A concurrent evaluation (second phase) following the introduction of the criteria to the physician.

First phase study was done between May to August 1993. By using a set of criteria approved by an outside expert panel as well as a Rajavithi Hospital Infection Committee, it was found that only 14.86% of 128 prescriptions were appropriated in terms of indication, drug administration and ADR.

The second phase (September to December 1993) comprised of reevaluation of prescription appropriateness of the same antibiotics and the amount of money that could be saved after the criteria has been introduced to the physician and corrective interventions were suggested. Of 2,299 patients, 143 (6.22%) received third generation cephalosporins. 66.25% of these were correctly prescribed (equivalent to 399,700 baht in expense) whereas the remaining 30.36% (264,944 baht) were considered incorrect. 89 corrective interventions were done which could save approximately 120,000 baht.

The attitude of the physician toward this intervention was positive.

The results of this study suggest a beneficial trend when there was a strict criteria for prescription guideline and regular surveillance especially by a clinical pharmacist.