

Thesis Title	The Role of Professional Nurse in Community Hospital in aspect of Medical Indicating with Nursing and Midwifery Profession Act B.E. 2528
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#### ABSTRACT

The main objective of this study was to survey basic medical care roles of professional nurses in community hospital. The study was on the basis of Nursing and Midwifery act B.E. 2528 and the Ministry of Public Health regulations and laws on related medical cares. Data collecting was done by mailing questionnaires to 365 professional nurses from 83 community hospitals. 73% of them was completed and returned. The results were as follows.

It has long been frequently thought that professional nurses have limited scale of action in the role of BMC under the Ministry of Public Health regulations guidelines B.E. 2518. But practically it was apparent from this study that some medical cares in community hospital had to be performed by professional nurses without following

regulations guidelines. Moreover, the proportion was as high as over 70% in some areas, for example, 79.4% in diarrhea with severe dehydration, 74.4% in hypertension, 73.4% in severe wound suture, 72.2% in hemorrhagic fever, 40% in abnormal delivery and 14.9% in plaste cast.

More than 80% of profession nurses could perform medical cares in the areas of Medicine, Surgery and Obstetrics through their own experience and knowledge, while in the area of Emergency treatment the proportion was only 50%. 60% of them had to perform medical care themselves even in some restricted areas in occasion that the doctor on call could not be contacted. In case of existing routine standing order for some diseases, i.e. Pertussis, all of them had no difficulty in management.

In the group that did not strictly follow the regulations guidelines, the nurses performance related significantly with the number of doctors in the hospital, while in another group that followed the regulation guidelines there were comparatively significant relationship ( $P < 0.05$ ) between the performance and bed occupancy rate, number of daily patient attendance, and number of doctors in the hospital.

Majority of professional nurses agreed that one of the practical problems was the inadequacy of doctor and professional nurse. And their suggestions for solution of the most frequently found practical problem, the difficulty to contact the doctor especially after official time, were possibilities for them to play more roles in management of the patients while waiting for doctor, i.e. in medical treatment, hospitalizing patient, or referring severe patient to the other hospitals.

In addition, there were proposals, first to improve nursing curriculum by adding more contents in BMC both theoretically and practically, and second to increase distributing of knowledge about law of nursing practices from Nursing Council to the nurses in order to help strengthen legal protection for nurses and people security.