



IMJAI CHITAPANARUX

**M.D.
COMMITTEE
SUANDOK BREAST CANCER NETWORK
CHIANG MAI PROVINCE, THAILAND**

Application Title:

Fill the gaps in services for MBC patients

General Audience Summary:

Statement of Need Since 2005, Breast cancer has become the most common cancer in Thailand and two thirds of patients were diagnosed at advanced stages. Moreover, most of the women were under the universal coverage by the government which does not provide certain medical treatments such as trastuzumab or potent pain killers. There are no medical oncologists or breast surgeons in a district hospital or even in provincial hospitals in Thailand so the majority of this group of patients were taken care by general surgeons. A good palliative care (that should have a radiotherapy (RT) unit and potent pain medications) is limited to university hospitals and some provincial hospitals. All the clinical trials in MBC either global or local trials are also done in the university hospital. Patients with metastatic breast cancer (MBC) should receive multi-disciplinary care and support, as outlined in many breast quality standards. Project Description Project Goals Addressing gaps in services for MBC patients in the upper Northern part of Thailand including; accessibility, and timeliness for the treatments (medical, radiotherapy, psychological supports, and pain treatments) Project Implementation Our activities will be:

1. Help general surgeons in the district and provincial hospitals that belong to Suandok Cancer Network to give their MBC patients the best possible care with lectures or workshops focusing MBC treatment, and pain treatment, by our expert team.
2. Help general surgeons in the district and provincial hospitals that belong to Suandok Cancer Network to request the express queue online for the emergency palliative radiotherapy to their MBC patients as soon as possible by creating the express channel in our website www.suandokbreastcancer.com.
3. Building and training the health volunteers team (1 health volunteer/ 1 district). This includes teaching the volunteers all MBC information, the psychological support program, and the strategies necessary to find MBC patients in their districts and connect these patients to our network.

Collaborations

1. Nakornping Provincial Hospital - main network in Chiang Mai province
2. Lamphun Provincial Hospital - main network in Lamphun province
3. Chiang Rai Provincial Hospital - main network in Chiang Rai province
4. Mae Hong Son Provincial Hospital - main network in Mae Hong Son province
5. Payao Provincial Hospital - main network in Payao province

Anticipated Impact

1. Filling the gap...
2. ...

Keywords:

Earlier Diagnoses
Patient Navigation