



Bangkok Training Center

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Siriraj hospital is a World Gastroenterology Organisation (WGO) training center for endoscopy in the heart of Bangkok, Thailand. There they run parallel training sessions throughout the calendar year on basic to advanced diagnostic and therapeutic endoscopy courses. The entire application process for these courses is highly competitive as they receive many applications from scores of international candidates, and only a handful are selected. Fortunately, I was selected for a three-month hands-on ERCP training course, which ended in January 2011, where I was the first doctor from Pakistan to be accepted into this course. My training went on very smoothly as the consultants and staff were very helpful and co-operative. The consultants, in particular, guided and assisted me by providing useful tips and tricks during procedures and also by taking regular lectures. Also, they provided me with reading material in the form of a textbook and atlas.

This training not only allowed me to grow as an advanced Endoscopist, but it also helped me in patient management. Furthermore, because of this, I was able to help my junior consultants, teach and train gastroenterology fellows in my department upon my return. In these years, I have also written a few manuscripts on this topic. As I moved on in my career, the hospital I worked at wished to start an EUS program and I could not think of any other training center to attend for to get this started. In 2019, I was again accepted and welcomed wholeheartedly at the Siriraj hospital for further training. WGO training centers are an excellent opportunity for young physicians to get advanced endoscopic training, especially when the training is not available in their host country. I believe that there should be more WGO training centers like Siriraj hospital where the maximum number of trainees get selected and trained, especially if they are from a developing country with limited resources.

I am very grateful to all my trainers in Siriraj hospital for providing impeccable training that reshaped my Endoscopy career and made a difference in my patient care.



