Establishment of the Central Committee on Chronic Obstructive Pulmonary Disease

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Introduction
Chronic Obstructive Pulmonary Disease (COPD) poses a significant public health problem, and creates a substantial economic and social burden that is on an increasing trend with aging population worldwide. In the local context, COPD is the 5th leading cause of death, occupies 8% of medical beds, and ranks the highest unplanned hospital readmission rate in the Hospital Authority (HA). The management of COPD is complex. An effective service delivery model of COPD requires a multi-disciplinary and integrative approach. It requires the collaboration between primary and secondary care, and the coordination between acute and rehabilitation services; It also requires the empowering of patients for self-management; and implementing sustainable COPD management initiatives.

Objectives
In this connection, the Central Committee of on Chronic Obstructive Pulmonary Disease [CC(COPD)] was established in November 2014. Members come from various specialties including physicians from respiratory medicine, geriatrics, rehabilitation, family medicine and emergency medicine; nurse, allied health and the head office management. The tasks of this committee are to formulate an integrative care model to reduce the burden of illness and disability relating to COPD; identify training needs, determine priorities and review effectiveness of training programmes related to COPD; advise HA on introduction and application of new technology and therapeutics in the area of COPD, including its assessment, prioritization, and management; and advise on the professional standards for quality assurance. We are hoping that the establishment of the committee can improve the management and quality of care of COPD patients in HA.
Methodology
NA

Result
NA