Author's response to reviews

Title: Factors influencing injury severity score regarding Thai military personnel injured in mass casualty incident April 10th, 2010: Lessons learned from armed conflict casualties: a retrospective analytic study

Authors:

Nuttapong Boonthep (jeep_038@yahoo.com)
Suthee Eintharachart (suthee-er@hotmail.com)
Tassanee Iemsomboon (tassaitay@hotmail.com)

Version: 2 Date: 1 August 2011

Author's response to reviews: see over
Cover letter

I will explain revised manuscript the point-by-point response to the concerns as following:

1. According to correctly conform to the journal style (BMC template) that gets from the link (http://www.biomedcentral.com/info/ifora/medicine_journals) that demonstrated. First in the title of research, I modified “Factors Influencing Injury Severity Score in Thai Military Personnel Injured in Mass Casualty Incident on April 10th, 2010: retrospective analytic study” to new one by change preposition, avoid capitalization and add fulfilled phrase to clarify the MCI which be armed conflict casualties so that the new one is below:

“Factors influencing injury severity score regarding Thai military personnel injured in mass casualty incident April 10th, 2010: Lessons learned from armed conflict casualties: a retrospective analytic study”

Additional as BMC template recommendation, I delete some prefix and suffix (Maj.; MD) in the part of authors and report Dr. Niti Matheesiriwat to part of acknowledgements as appropriate in working in this research. Rearrangement of figure, table, additional files as proper sequence.

2. According to reviewer report by Luke Leenen

2.1. That wrote “quality of written English for needs some language corrections before being published.” I would like this research better so I corrected thorough-out files. Revised manuscript was tracked changes /underlines text for look easier (I also sent this draft version to compare with revised manuscript) sent with attachment in E-mail to Editorial board.

2.2. That wrote “missing in the manuscript is a clear description of the incident. It is not clear until reading the Tables this is not obvious from the text, however it would be nice to know how the hospital was organized and how many (military) people died before reaching the hospital or on the battle field.” I would like to clarify by adding sentence and figure demonstrating map area of MCI as figure1 in revised manuscript (figure2 is the same as figure1 in pre-revised manuscript) into section result as following

“The MCI occurred April 10th, 2010 in Bangkok, where crowds, controlled by law enforcement officers, created political conflict. Security forces' attempts to disperse these red-shirt protesters resulted in confrontations and clashes in several spots earlier in the afternoon. The first clash took place at about 2 pm when hundreds of protesters from Phan Fa Bridge went to the First Army Area of Royal Thai Army but this event could still be controlled.
The second clash took place at about 7 pm when red-shirt protesters stepped up their struggle in the night, firing grenades and bullets into security forces, drawing a response with live rounds at the Khok Wua Intersection near the Democracy Monument as shown in Figure 1. Finally, 20 people died from armed conflict casualty in Saturday's violence, including four soldiers, fifteen red shirts and one photojournalist. The injured Thai military personnel from armed conflict casualty were transferred to PMK Hospital where located away from scene about 5.2 kilometres to the northeast."

2.3. That wrote “The authors more or less refer to their own study some years ago, however much more is known, also from bombings on other occasions and battlefield experiences.” I would like to emphasize in section discussion that I already explain this discussion about the same & difference between this research and the article "Characteristics and distribution of blast and firearm injuries in Thai military personnel during conflict in southern Thailand." by Chaiphrom and colleagues, published in 2009 in J Med Assoc Thai (PMID: 21299179). Discussion of this article located in first and second paragraph of the title discussion. Furthermore, I also citation with the reference number [6].

3. According to reviewer report by Yaron Bar-Dayan

There is no recommendation to any change. The thorough review is look acceptable.

4. According to BMC template recommendation about Table that too length to demonstrate in one page, I revised a new one by divide Table 3 (Relation between factors and Injury Severity Score regarding to Thai military personnel injured in MCI) into Table 3 and Table 4 describing as below:

“Table 3. Relation between categorical independent variable and ISS regarding Thai military personnel injured in MCI”

“Table 4. Relation between injured body regions and ISS regarding Thai military personnel injured in MCI”

5. According to editorial comment about citation and discussion the article "Characteristics and distribution of blast and firearm injuries in Thai military personnel during conflict in southern Thailand." by Chaiphrom and colleagues, published in 2009 in J Med Assoc Thai (PMID: 21299179). I would like to explain as above sentence (Number 2.3)
With Best Wishes,

Nuttapong Boonthep

E-mail: jeep_038@yahoo.com or NuttapongB@bumrungraddoctor.com