

## Crime in COVID-19 care Setting: A concern

Khon Khon<sup>1</sup>, Rujittika Mungmunpantipantip<sup>1</sup>, Viroj Wiwanitkit<sup>2</sup>

<sup>1</sup>Private Academic Consultant.

<sup>2</sup>Honoary Professor, Dr DY Patil University, Pune, India.

### Abstract

COVID-19 pandemic is the present global problem. Millions of patients were admitted to health care setting including to hospitals and field hospitals. The safety management of the health care setting for the COVID-19 patients is an important consideration. Here, the authors discuss on problem of crime occurring in crime in COVID-19 care setting.

**Keywords:** Crime, COVID-19, hospital.

### Introduction

COVID-19 pandemic is the present global problem. Millions of patients were admitted to health care setting including to hospitals and field hospitals. Abuse of health care worker is already reported and becomes an emerging issue for hospital safety [1]. However, it is necessary to have additional concern on patient. The safety management of the health care setting for the COVID-19 patients is an important consideration. Here, the authors discuss on problem of crime occurring in crime in COVID-19 care setting.

### Case study

According to a local news in an Indochina country (<https://www.bangkokpost.com/thailand/general/2137715/covid-patient-shot-dead-at-field-hospital>), there is an interesting case of murdering crime occurring in a field hospital for caring COVID-19 patients. At night (3 am), a murder silently invaded into a local field hospital complex and used his gun shoot to patients in the medical care unit. One COVID-19 patient died from gunshot.

### Discussion

Safety of the hospital and care unit for the patient is an important issue. The existence of crime in the hospital setting is an interesting topic that is limited mentioned. During the COVID-19, there are many hospital and field hospitals giving care to COVID-19 patients. During the crisis, there might be a neglected safety concern for the care setting.

Suicide and infanticide of COVID cases are already reported [2]. However, a more complex situation such as murdering in the COVID field hospital as shown in present article should be a more interesting topic in criminology.

---

In this article, it can show that serious crime might exist in care setting for COVID-19 patients. If a crime occurs, an investigation might be difficult. It is necessary to balance between crime prevention, infection control, caring of patient. In case that crime already occur, specific designed forensic investigation and site investigation is needed. Since forensic and crime investigator are also at risk to get disease from a contaminated place such as care setting for COVID-19 case, it is necessary to have a special prevention for any workers [3].

**Conflict of interest:** None

## References

1. Alsuliman T, Mouki A, Mohamad O. Prevalence of abuse against frontline health-care workers during the COVID-19 pandemic in low and middle-income countries. *East Mediterr Health J.* 2021 May 27; 27(5): 441-442.
  2. Mamun MA, Bhuiyan AKMI, Manzar MD. The first COVID-19 infanticide-suicide case: Financial crisis and fear of COVID-19 infection are the causative factors. *Asian J Psychiatr.* 2020 Dec; 54: 102365.
  3. Sriwijitalai W, Wiwanitkit V. Cite Share COVID-19 in forensic medicine unit personnel: Observation from Thailand. *J Forensic Leg Med.* 2020 May; 72: 101964.
-