

「Asia-Pacific Medical Network Project in
Kyushu University Hospital」 TEMDEC
(Telemedicine Development Center of Asia)
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1. Preface

The first topic of this fiscal year is the establishment of the International Medical Department (iMed) in April 2015, after acceptance of our hospital internationalization proposal by the University Renovation/Activation Project. Our department consists of three centers, the Telemedicine Development Center of Asia (TEMDEC), the International Patient Support Center (IPAC), to support and encourage foreign patients, and the Overseas Exchange Center (OVEX), designed to promote internationalization in the hospital. Two new permanent posts were provided to lead the department, one full and one associate professor.

The second topic is that the Trans-Eurasia Information Network (TEIN) project started, and has already organized various education and training programs. Engineering workshops during the Asia-Pacific Advanced Network (APAN) meeting were a good example of truly meaningful training and discussions. Additionally, 25 trainees, including both doctors and engineers, were invited to our hospital from Asian countries for a month's training.

Core-to-Core Platforms for the Japan Society for the Promotion of Science (JSPS) also started this fiscal year, and will be continued for three years. They manage continuous remote medical education for the diagnosis of early gastric cancer in Asia.

In November, the 9th Asia Telemedicine Symposium was held in Chungbuk, Korea, with 150 participants from 14 countries. The theme was "Asia Telemedicine for Public Health Crisis", reflecting global awareness of Ebola virus, dengue fever and the national prevalence of Middle East respiratory syndrome (MERS) in Korea last year.

In total, 596 remote medical education programs were provided, through collaborations with 423 medical institutions in 56 countries. In April, we connected with Nigeria and Ethiopia for the first time, and live endoscopy workshops were successfully performed in Mexico and Colombia.

Domestically, we organized a joint meeting of the National University Hospital Internationalization team in Sapporo. A beginner's engineering manual is in production, with plans to produce an English version in due course. Promotional goods with the TEMDEC logos were also released, and have proved popular.

I hope that 2016 brings more collaboration to promote telemedicine.

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