

「Asia-Pacific Medical Network Project in
Kyushu University Hospital」 TEMDEC
(Telemedicine Development Center of Asia)
Annual Report : Vol.17

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**3. Retirement
Commemorative
Feature Article**



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Jan.
2-Gbps fiber-optic cable was laid between Busan, South Korea and Fukuoka, Japan.

Feb.
The first DVTS (digital video transport system) teleconference between Korea and Japan was held.

Apr.
Core University Projects started.

Aug.
1 The first live surgery via teleconference was performed and released to the media.

2003



Jan.
Connection to Thailand established.

Mar.
3 Successfully connected with four institutions (Fukuoka, Seoul, Beijing and Taipei) via DVTS

Apr.
Kyushu University Interdisciplinary Programs in Education and Projects in Research Development (P&P) started.
Launch of AQUA(Asia- Kyushu Advanced Medical Network)

Aug.
Medical Working Group was formally approved at the 20th APAN-Taipei.

Nov.
Connection to Singapore was established.

2005



The **20** Years of Prof. Shimizu and TEMDEC
Telemedicine Development Center of Asia

2002



May
FIFA World Cup soccer games were co-hosted by Korea and Japan.

Nov.
Kyushu University Hospital joined the Hyeonhae/Genkai Project with a medical team.

2004



Jan.
2 Connection to the United States of America (Hawaii) was established.

Jul.
Connection to Australia was established.

Oct.
Connection to China was established.

Dec.
Connection to Taiwan was established.

2006

Apr.
Asian Core Program started.

Jun.
4 Connection to Vietnam was established.

Jul.
Connections to Hong Kong and Indonesia were established.



2



4



6



8



10

Jan.
DVTs connections to the Philippines, India and Malaysia were established.

Mar.
Live surgery was released with HD quality.

Apr.
Japan-China Medical Exchange Program started.

Jun.
The number of events reached 100.

Aug.
The first connection to Europe (Germany, France) was established.

Dec.
5 Strategic Program for Building an Asian Science and Technology started. Community. The 1st Asia Telemedicine Symposium was held in Fukuoka.
Connection to Italy was established.

May.
The first connection to Africa (Egypt) was established.

Jun.
6 Connection to Norway was established.

Jul.
The first connection to Latin America (Brazil) was established.

Oct.
Connection to Mexico was established.

Dec.
The 3rd Asia Telemedicine Symposium was held in Fukuoka, Japan.

Mar.
7 Teleconference room was completed at TEMDEC.

Apr.
Grant-in-Aid for Scientific Research (A) started.

Accepted to Invitation Program for East Asia Young Researchers.
The first use of the Vidyo system.

Sep.
Succeeded a live surgery to the South African Republic.

Oct.
A Research Fellow was employed as the first dedicated staff.

Dec.
The 5th Asia Telemedicine Symposium was held in Fukuoka.

2007

2009

2011



2008

2010

10th

Apr.
Grant-in-Aid for Scientific Research (B) started.

Sep.
Connections to Czech Republic and Spain were established.

Oct.
Launch of Telemedicine Development Center of Asia. Dr. Masao Tanaka was appointed to the first Director of TEMDEC.

Dec.
The 2nd Asia Telemedicine Symposium held in Seoul.

Apr.
Special Education and Research Fund started.

Nov.
Connection to Chile was established.

Dec.
The 4th Asia Telemedicine Symposium was held in Seoul.



7



9



11



13

Jan.

TEMDEC activities were featured in a New Year's special program of The Sankei Shimbun, a Japanese newspaper.
 DVTS multi-point connection using Quatre-16 started.

9 Succeed an endoscopy DVTS conference with Latin America.

Feb.

The first connection to a participant's home.

Apr.

Connection to CAREN: Expansion into Central Asia

Jun.

The first implementation of video conference streaming.

Jul.

The first live surgery using a cadaver was held.

DVTS connection to Colombia was established.

Oct.

Grant of The Clinical Research Promotion Foundation started.

Nov.

Accepted to the special category of Kyushu University Interdisciplinary Programs in Education and Projects in Research Development (P&P).

Dec.

The 7th Asia Telemedicine Symposium was held in Bangkok.

Jan.

Started a project to diagnose and treat early gastric cancer as part of the Japan Society for the Promotion of Science (JSPS) Core-to-Core Program of Asia-Africa Science Platforms.

12 Launch of the International Medical Department (iMed) and the Overseas Exchange Center (OVEX) was decided.

Mar.

The Telemedicine Project was accepted to the Trans-Eurasia Information Network (TEIN4).

Jul.

Started the Telemedicine Engineering Train-the-Trainer Program in TEMDEC.

Oct.

Bangladesh Telemedicine Symposium was held.

Nov.

The 9th Asia Telemedicine Symposium was held at Chungbuk National University, Korea.

Dec.

Live Endoscopy demonstration was held from Oita University to four hospitals in Hanoi, Hue and Ho Chi Minh City, Vietnam.

2013

2015

2014

2016

2012

Mar.

Connection to Nepal was established.

Apr.

Dr. Shuji Shimizu was appointed to the 2nd Director of TEMDEC.

The Internationalization Project Team was launched as a part of the National University Hospital Council of Japan.

8 The 6th Asia Telemedicine Symposium was held in Fukuoka as the TEMDEC's 10th anniversary meeting.



12

Feb.

10 The 1st International Project Team Meeting of the National University Hospital Council of Japan held with connection 28 national universities via Vidyo.

May.

The first live demonstration was held at the 87th Congress of the Japan Gastroenterological Endoscopy Society.

Jun.

In-hospital operation of med-hok, a management system for remote medical education programs started.

Jul.

Monthly Child Cancer Teleconference started.

Sep.

The 2nd International Project Team Meeting of the National University Hospital Council of Japan was held in connection with 28 national universities using H.323.

TEIN4 Application Workshop 2014 started.

Nov.

11 The first live demonstration from Japan broadcast to Mexican Digestive Disease was held.

Dec.

The 8th Asia Telemedicine Symposium was held in Fukuoka, co-organized with the National University Hospital Council of Japan.

The number of events reached 500.

Apr.

Introduction of JoinView, a contents sharing companion tool.

May.

Latin American Early Gastric Cancer Project has started.

Jul.

The 1st Philippines Telemedicine Workshop was held.

Issued the engineer's manual for telemedicine conferencing.

Aug.

13 The 1st Indonesia Telemedicine Workshop was held.

Sep.

The 1st Nepal Telemedicine Workshop was held.

Oct.

Monthly Indonesian Endoscopy Case Teleconference started.

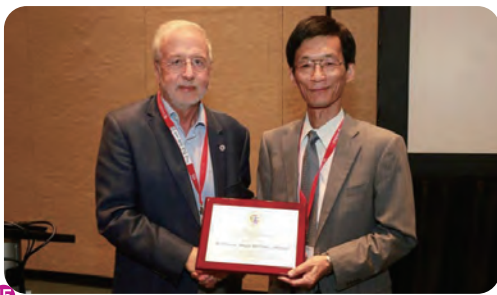
Nov.

14 Live Endoscopy demonstration was held at Asian Pacific Digestive Week (APDW).

Dec.

The 1st Vietnam Telemedicine Workshop was held.

Started trial of remote medical consultation for overseas patients.



15

Feb.

First use of Zoom at the 43rd APAN Conference.

Regular Indonesian Neuroimmunology Case Teleconference started.

Jun.

Started Telemedicine Engineer Training Program as Asi@Connect project.

Activity Policy was stipulated.

Oct.

15 Prof. Shimizu, Director of TEMDEC became the first Japanese to receive the highest honor award at the World Gastroenterology Organisation.

Nov.

The 1st Chile Telemedicine Workshop was held.

2017

2019

2021



2018

2020

Jan.

Renewed the structure of the Asia Pacific Advanced Network (APAN) Medical Working Group

Connection to Tanzania was established.

Aug.

Won the "Most Complete Session Description Award" for Medical Working Group session at the 46th APAN Conference.

Nov.

16 The 12th Asia Telemedicine Symposium was held in Fukuoka, Japan, co-hosted with the 22nd Japan Telemedicine Conference.

The 1st Africa Teleconference was held.

The 1st Mexico Telemedicine Workshop was held.

The 2nd Chile Telemedicine Workshop was held, and MOU with Hospital Alemany, Chile was concluded.

Dec.

The 1st Myanmar Telemedicine Workshop was held.

MOU with Vladivostok Railway Hospital, Russia was concluded.



14



16



18

Mar.

The number of events reached 1000

Jun.

The 1st Kyrgyz Telemedicine Workshop was held.

Jul.

17 Launch of the Kyushu University Institute for Asian and Oceanian Studies (Q-AOS)

18 The Russia Project started.

Visit to Mongolia

Won the "Best Session Award" for the medical group session at the 48th APAN Conference.

Sep.

The Myanmar project started as a project of Global Extension of Medical Technologies of the National Center for Global Health and Medicines.

Oct.

The Kyrgyzstan Endoscopy Seminar was held.

The 1st Bhutan Telemedicine Workshop was held.

Dec.

The 13th Asia Telemedicine Symposium was held in Manila.

The 4th Annual Meeting of International Society of Clinical Medicines was held in Fukuoka.



17



19

Jan.

The first Bhutan Medical Seminar was held online.

Feb.

Online visit for patients and online informed consent started at Kyushu University Hospital.

Number of connected institutions:

1117 institutions **78** countries **1330** events

As of February 28, 2021

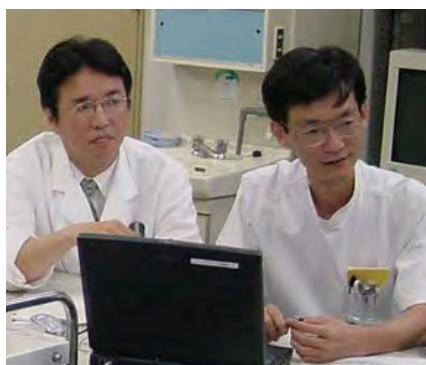
Retirement Celebration of Prof. Shuji Shimizu

Naoki Nakashima, MD PhD

Director/Professor, Medical Information Center
 Director, International Patient Support Center, International Medical Department
 Kyushu University Hospital, Japan

The first conversation between Prof. Shimizu and me were “Why don’ t you support me to connect Fukuoka and Korea by video network?” probably in 2002. Afterwards, I have continued global medical activities because I have always gotten affected by him. Prof. Shimizu has always talked happily about oversea works and international telemedicine. I also have always been inspired by his attitude, and enjoyed global medical activities up to the present day.

Before Telemedicine development center of Asia (TEMDEC) was established in 2008, we had worked just like as side business without any authorities. In contrast today, TEMDEC has been accomplished to be a representative telemedicine activity hub in not only Japan but entire Asia. Additionally, He established International Medical Department in Kyushu University Hospital, which consists of the core of international exchange, medical education, and medical service. These his success are unbelievable to me, as if a familiar senior friend became a Hollywood star. However, I believe he has not wanted to be so always, and he had a big flower in his hand before he knew it, after he had just



worked on what he like, and on what contributes to the world.

Of course I know his continues efforts and hardship, but I envy him because he is truly international talented and minded.

Through his wonderful international carrier, he has a lot of fans and disciples in the worldwide. But I take pride I was the first person of them. Prof. Shimizu, I do not say, “Best wishes for your continued success” because you of course will do it while having fun. I only wish your health and future happiness.

Speed of Prof. Shimizu

Kuriko Kudo

Telemedicine Development Center of Asia (TEMDEC)

When I first met Prof. Shimizu 10 years ago, my first impression was surprise at his speed and straightforward communication style. Before starting at TEMDEC, I was overly cautious when it came to writing, and it would take me an hour to compose one email. By contrast, the communication style at TEMDEC instigated by Prof. Shimizu was up-tempo and cheerful, and I found that a very pleasant change. The work at TEMDEC moved quickly. It covered such areas as the following: simplification of the videoconferencing system; increase in the content and scale; involvement in National University Hospital Council of Japan; creating a manual; starting engineering training with Asian and Latin American colleagues; and hosting workshops in variety of countries. To cope with a rapidly changing world, I learned that it is necessary always to consider the future while advancing toward it. I learned

many things from Prof. Shimizu. Examples are the following: if you catch a cold, just rest; be constantly interested in what other people are doing; if you see a word you don't know, look it up; don't misspell a person's name; prepare elegant documents; be objective about your personal achievements; do not lose sight of your goal, no matter how many times you fail; if you are bold, the world may move with you. I still intend to learn from Prof. Shimizu. I assume he has no objections with that.

My gratitude to Prof. Shimizu is something I cannot express in words. I can only congratulate him on his retirement. We at TEMDEC will attempt to do our work at the same speed as he adopted while he vividly "connects" the dissociation in the world!



Dear Professor Shuji Shimizu



Time flies!

When I hear that you are going to retire soon, it seems unbelievable.

Looking back years, which we have spent together, it is like a series of drama.

We have known each other around for 20 years.

At first, maybe in 2001, you tried to find the surgeon who are very active in laparoscopic surgery in some conferences. The man from the conference booth for medical equipment have introduced us together.

Then, we have visited each other's hospital for invited lectures and exchange of informations.

Around 2002, there has been a small meeting of network engineer for Hyunhae-Genkai project, which is big project for research network between Korea and Japan. We are fascinated by this project and started co-works on tele-medical activities. The year 2002 was also memorable as the World cup game was held in Korea and Japan together. Then, we have started connection between Seoul and Fukuoka, which is a start of tele-medical activity.

We traveled a lot together globally if there is any possibilities to expand our activities, including SAGES in LA, USA. Definitely, we have never omitted APAN meeting twice a year, which were held all around Asian cities and Hawaii too.

The activities have stimulated technical development in network and also expanded technical engineer as well.

We have met so many wonderful people around the world, make them close by network as a family.

This activity also has propagated up-to-date knowledge or techniques to our neighboring countries. When we found that many people benefit from our activity, we are very happy. Current situation due to Corona pandemics have urged us to use teleconference in many meetings. But we have used this teleconference long before Corona pandemic begins. Now after 20 years of passion and dedication, you will step down from the head of TEMDEC. But you are happy that there are so many very excellent successor and followers of you. It is very timely and honorable that you will become vice president of Kyushu University. Although, you may retire from leadership position, it is good that you will be continuous supporter for this activity. I will be happy to join with you as a supporter for this group. Many congratulations for your honorable retirement. Cheers!



Ho-Seong Han

Department of Surgery,

Seoul National University Bundang Hospital, College of Medicine, Seoul National University.

Retirement Celebration

Back in 2003, there was a fine-looking Japanese endoscopic surgeon with a warm smile came to visit our hospital. That was the first time I met Prof. Shimizu.

For many years, we had worked side by side not only in the OR but in several telemedicine activities. I respect Prof. Shimizu for his professionalism in laparoscopic surgery, as well as his trustworthiness, his dedication, and his generous support to our surgical residents, MIS fellows, and junior staff.

Last but not least, I would like to send my heartfelt wishes to our beloved Prof. Shimizu for his next phase of life. It has been our pleasure and privilege to know and to work with you.

Congratulations on your wonderful career, and happy retirement!



Prof. Thawatchai Akaraviputh
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