

# Internationalization of Medical Services Initiative

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The Japanese government places great emphasis on 'Life' (healthcare and nursing care), in line with 'Green' (energy and environment), as part of its economic growth strategy.

Five-year healthcare innovation strategy (excerpt)

[Healthcare innovation strategy for achieving economic growth]

- International expansion of superior Japanese style medical services
- Improving the R&D environment in Japan Making Japan into an appealing place to gather for researchers from home and abroad



Changing Japan into an appealing

place

Gathering researchers from

abroad







# <u>Our goal</u>

We aim to provide the world with a superior healthcare system, medical technologies, and hospitable medical services, all of which Japan has, to improve the level of healthcare in Japan and overseas.

# <u>Key point</u>

Business feasibility needs to be ensured for long-term, extensive internationalization of medical services.



## We are making the following efforts:

## Supporting international expansion

 In order to meet needs overseas, we help to promote international expansion of the best combination of Japanese medical services and medical equipment.

## Maintaining an environment for patients coming to Japan

• We maintain an environment in which patients from abroad can receive treatment and undergo examinations in peace in Japan.

## Promoting international medical exchange

• We promote international exchanges between healthcare professionals/hospitals.



## What is Medical Excellence JAPAN (MEJ)?

- An organization established with METI support
- A single point of contact for foreign nationals wishing to receive medical treatment in Japan, which is also able to answer a variety of needs
- Supports international expansion of Japanese medical



http://www.medical-excellence-japan.org/ Languages: English, Russian, Chinese

services

## The Functions of Medical Excellence JAPAN (MEJ)

#### Current:

✓ Point of contact for foreign patients

Recommendations and referrals to medical institutions, translations of medical records, assistance with the visa application process, arranging lodging, interpretation services, and more.

\*By MEJ-authorized EAJ and PJL

 Overseas promotion of Japanese medical facilities with advanced capabilities

Information disseminated through catalogs and websites.



### Near Future:

In addition to current functions:

- Promote international exchange between hospitals
- ✓ Promote international exchange between healthcare professionals
- Help Japanese hospitals promote international expansion based on international needs
- Develop international human resources for healthcare services

#### Research on international expansion of Japanese medical devices and services in fiscal year 2012



# *Project for providing diagnostic imaging services in Russia* (*Vladivostok*)



#### Overview

- Establish a 'Diagnostic Imaging Center (tentative name)' in Vladivostok. The facility will provide high-level diagnostic imaging services in Vladivostok and will be a point of contact for patients wishing to receive treatment in Japan.
- (1) Assess the business feasibility of establishing a Japanese-style diagnostic center in the field (including market research on physician-run clinics); and (2) create a network with local hospitals.



### Project for providing diagnostic imaging services in Russia (Vladivostok) Pictures





Proposed site for establishing the diagnostic center (inside a local hospital)



Meeting with a local construction company, medical device company, etc.



Plan to cooperate with Vladivostok State Medical University



Lecture at the university on Japanese-style medical examinations

# Medical infrastructure and educational development research in Cambodia (Phnom Penh)



#### Overview

- Plan to establish Cambodia's first critical care center; subsequently, staged construction of hospitals providing advanced medical services and facilities for developing medical human resources.
- (1) Assess business feasibility by providing medical services; (2) investigate various regulations for introducing medical devices, information systems, and other products; and (3) raise awareness of Japanese medical services.



### Medical infrastructure and educational development research in Cambodia (Phnom Penh) Pictures





Hearing opinions from healthcare professionals



Demonstration research on rehabilitation



Kitahara Japan Clinic in Cambodia, Phnom Penh



### Japan's government introduced the 'Visa for Medical Stay' in January 2011

About 230 people have used the 'Visa for Medical Stay' to receive treatment in Japan (as of Februay 2013) \*Number of people calculated from the guarantors registered with METI

## Characteristics of 'Visa for Medical Stay'

Scope of medical services	All types of medical care, from advanced forms of treatment to 'Ningen Dock' examinations
Multiple visas	Multiple-entry visas issued based upon need
Accompanying person(s)	Visas made available to accompanying family and/or other travel companions
Period of validity	Up to 3 years based upon need
Period of stay	Up to 6 months based upon need

Disadvantages of a conventional short-stay visa:

- Unsuitable for long-term treatment due to the short duration of stay
- A separate visa required for an accompanying person

User of the 'Visa for Medical Stay'

## by country

