

Message from the President

Our Practice of Integrated Regional Medical Education and Contribution to Global Medicine

Asahikawa Medical University was founded at the behest of the national government in November 1973 as the first national medical university to be established to improve regional medical services and welfare, and reduce urban/rural medical-care disparities.

Since it was founded, Asahikawa Medical University has produced 4,393 graduates from the Medical Course and 1,377 graduates from the Nursing Course, many of whom are employed at the vanguard of community medicine, research institutes, and administrative bodies.

It is estimated that the population in Hokkaido will continue aging, and due to a declining birthrate, decreasing more rapidly than any other part of the country. That implies that public hospitals should be integrated and their medical functions made clear. Our university, as a national university hospital, follows the national policy and supports these public hospitals.

In order to achieve the mission, in 2019, we established the Center for Integrated Medical Education and Regional Symbiosis to nurture medical individuals who will work closely with local communities. The facility will prove highly beneficial to our medical students, 60% of whom are from Hokkaido, and to our clinical trainees, 56 of whom are from our university this year, which means we have the highest number of university graduates wishing to stay at their own university for clinical training in Japan.

We also developed Japan's first cloud-based medical system by which about 500 of our doctors use their smartphones and tablets to look at patient information sent by local core hospitals to the cloud on the internet. This makes it possible for our medical specialists to be prepared for treatment plans and operations while patients are being transported to our hospital. This is how we have strengthened our hospital for advanced acute care.

Our Nursing Department offers a Community-based Integrated Care course in each academic year, training future nurses, public health nurses, and midwives capable of offering this care. In 2019, we established the Nursing Support Center for Career Development, Education, and Research, in which more intensive training is provided to nursing professionals responsible for community-based integrated care. The aim is for them be able to offer advanced acute care and home

healthcare where they can see things from the perspective of the patients.

In order to train medical professionals from abroad and contribute to global medicine, we are going to establish the International Medical Educational Institute. We will accept doctors, nurses, and technicians from Russia, Asian countries, and Middle East countries, and our medical specialists will train them with Japan's most up-to-date medical technologies including our cloud-based telemedicine. Our global contribution is to apply our strength to building medical infrastructure so everyone in the world can receive high quality medical service.

We reformed our entrance examination and, in 2017, we introduced the Admissions Office Entrance Examination for the International Medical Professionals Course. We will send the students to foreign countries, encouraging and facilitating mutual exchange, education, and research.

In December 2018, we introduced the world's first laparoscopic surgery system with an 8K endoscope. This system makes it possible to recognize imagery with a higher resolution than before and to conduct safer surgery with a reduced risk of bleeding and surgery complications. We have a broad outlook and approach medicine with different perspectives. As a core medical organization we offer advanced medicine with cutting-edge technologies. Striving for the highest level of efficiency allows us to help our patients in the best way possible.



Seventh President
YOSHIDA Akitoshi
Since July 1, 2007