

# Recent Activities

## Enrichment of Education

### Loan for Students

In order to help students concentrate on their studies without the burden of financial stress, we offer the following four types of financial support.

#### (i) Special Tuition Loan for Undergraduate Students

The special tuition loan was created in April 2011 for the undergraduate students that have difficulty completing tuition fees and thus may be expelled from school. In this system, money for unpaid tuition fees is loaned.

#### (ii) Loan for Students in the Medical Course

The loan system for students in the Medical Course was created in April 2011. If they belong to our hospital as postgraduate clinical trainees or remain in service after postgraduate clinical training, the amount of the loan reimbursement is reduced according to the period of affiliation (counted by month) at our hospital.

#### (iii) Loan for Students in the Nursing Course

The loan system for students in the Nursing Course was created in April 2008. If they are employed at our hospital as full-time nursing staff immediately after graduation from our university, the amount reimbursed is reduced according to the period of affiliation (counted by month) at our hospital.

#### (iv) Loan for Graduates

The loan system for graduates was created in April 2011 in order to provide financial support and help them concentrate on their studies for the doctor / nurse national examinations without the burden of financial stress. If they pass their examinations and decide to belong to our hospital as postgraduate clinical trainees or remain as full-time staff, the amount of the loan reimbursement is reduced based on the length of the period of affiliation (counted by month) at our hospital.

### Grant-in-Aid for Undergraduates' Globalization

In April and May in 2010, the following two grant-in-aid systems were created: Grant-in-Aid for Undergraduates' International Activities (such as academic exchanges with universities abroad and volunteer activities in other countries) and Grant-in-Aid for Undergraduates' Study Abroad (including language programs at universities abroad). These systems are intended to provide financial support to undergraduate students and promote their globalization, which enables them to contribute to the international society as doctors and nurses in the future.

### Affiliation Agreement with Hospitals in Neighboring Towns

In order to stipulate ways in which we will cooperate to provide healthy and secure lives to the people in Furano, Fukagawa, and Engaru, neighboring towns, by improving regional welfare and ensuring a stable medical system for regional medicine, we signed an affiliation agreement with Furano City and Furano Association Hospital in March 2014, with Fukagawa Municipal Hospital in April 2015, and with Engaru Town and Engaru-Kosei General Hospital in January 2016.

### Establishment of the Division of Cardiovascular Surgery at the Department of Surgery

In AY 2016, the Department of Surgery established a third division, the Division of Cardiovascular Surgery, adding to the existing Division of Cardiovascular Medicine, Respiratory and Surgical Oncology, and the Division of Gastroenterological and General Surgery.

We reorganized the clinical departments into the above three divisions and integrated Surgery I and II into the Department of Surgery. Based on patient need, care is provided within these divisions.

### Establishment of 38-Credit Curriculum for Certified Nurse Specialists in the Advanced Practice Course

The Graduate School of Nursing Science at the Medical Related Research of Asahikawa Medical University, aiming to nurture more advanced certified nurse specialists in cancer nursing, established the 38-credit curriculum, which was a modification from the 26-credit curriculum and assessed and approved by Japan Association of Nursing Programs in Universities. The curriculum has been in effect since AY 2016.

The 38-credit curriculum for certified nurse specialists in gerontological nursing has been also approved and has been in effect since AY 2017.

## Recent Activities

### Programs Supporting University Education Reform

#### Conducting Open Innovation Research

Since AY 2016, our university, Daiichi Sankyo Company, Limited, and Mitsubishi UFJ Capital Company, Limited have been conducting open innovation research for the development of cell sources for regenerative medicine and cell therapy. This research focuses on new stem cells, or capillary stem cells (CapSCs), which were discovered by Dr. Kawabe Jun-ichi, the specially appointed professor at the Department of Cardiovascular Regeneration and Innovation.

CapSCs differentiate into not only blood vessels but various tissue cells. We have been attempting to examine how this can be used for medical treatments for various diseases and to make CapSCs a source for cell therapy for practical use.

#### Holding the 100th Asahikawa Medical University Forum

On June 15, 2016, we held the 100th Asahikawa Medical University Forum. Since the first forum in 1998, Asahikawa Medical University Forum has offered opportunities for mainly young researchers and newly appointed professors to give lectures on their research and has invited people to attend from both inside and outside the university. In the 100th Asahikawa Medical University Forum, special lectures were given by Dr. Kurosima and Dr. Kubo, professors emeritus of our university, who have contributed to the prosperity of our university and suggested holding and organizing the Asahikawa Medical University Forum. Their special lectures attracted a wide audience. We will continue to hold the forum as opportunities to present research achievements.

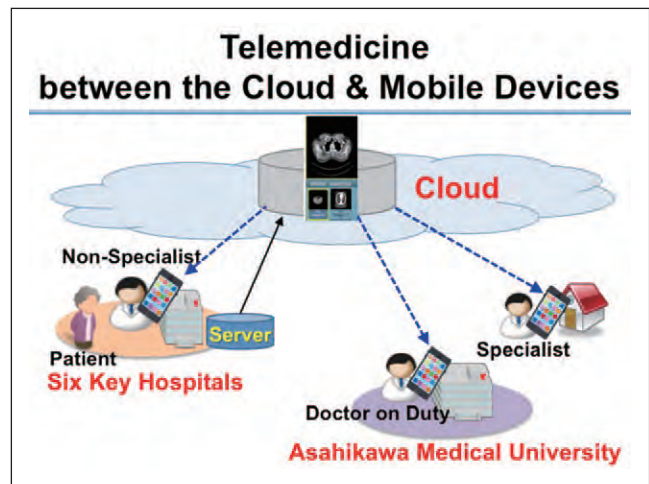
#### Start of the Open Laboratory in the Center for Advanced Research and Education

We established the Open Laboratory in the Center for Advanced Research and Education. Its purpose is to encourage research judged high-priority, to collaborate with private-sector research, to research product development and industrial development, and to acquire external funds for large-scale projects. The laboratory has 7 booths and is now being used for research projects.

### Enrichment of Medical System

#### Project to Support Collaborative Emergency Medicine Using the Cloud

As a part of research conducted by the Ministry of Internal Affairs and Communications, which aims to realize a secure information-sharing model in medical fields using mobile terminals and cloud technology, we started a project to support collaborative emergency medicine using the cloud. In this project, we collaborated with six hospitals in Hokkaido (Japanese Red Cross Kitami Hospital, Hokkaido Prefectural Kitami Hospital, Engaru-Kosei General Hospital, Furano Association Hospital, Fukagawa Municipal Hospital, and Rumoi City Hospital) and our medical specialists, using their smartphones and tablets. We looked at patient information sent to the cloud on the Internet, and offered advice on diagnoses and treatment plans and judged whether ambulance transportation to our hospital was necessary. This has made it possible to provide quicker treatments for patients suffering from heart diseases.



#### Support for Working Cancer Patients by the Cancer Support Center and Public Employment Security Office

Since January 2017, the Cancer Support Center in Asahikawa Medical University and the Public Employment Security Office in Asahikawa jointly started to provide support for working cancer patients. The purpose of this activity is to support cancer patients who continue working and receive long-term medical treatments at the same time.

## Regional and International Contributions

### Basic Affiliation Agreement with Asahikawa City Hospital

In December 2016, we signed a basic affiliation agreement with Asahikawa City Hospital. The purpose of this agreement is to provide Asahikawa City Hospital, which is facing a difficult financial situation, with guidance, advice, and human resources. We aim to help our partner hospital establish a stable financial underpinning, and to train employees so they can effectively support local communities and improve regional medicine.

## Enrichment of Work Environment

### Receiving an Award from Asahikawa City for Enhancing Work-Life Balance

We received an award that Asahikawa City established in 2016 to encourage corporations to enhance work-life balance in their working environments. We were noted for our system of child-rearing and nursing-care leave, which goes further than the Child and Family Care Leave Law stipulates with the establishment of a day nursery on campus, and Nirinso Center offering back to work support programs, career support, a backup nurse system, and sick and convalescent child nursing.

## Other

### Establishment of the Asahikawa Medical University Fund

In October 2016, we established the Asahikawa Medical University Fund to enhance education and research activities at Asahikawa Medical University and to further improve medical treatments and welfare rooted in regional medicine.

Truly appreciating the gifts to our fund, we are determined to nurture medical professionals and researchers that can contribute to regional medicine, and further develop as a central hospital supporting regional medicine.



# History

## 1972 July 1

Executive office for establishing Asahikawa Medical University opened

## 1973 September 29

Asahikawa Medical University established

## November 5

First Entrance Ceremony

## November 20

University Foundation Ceremony

## 1975 April 1

Executive office for establishing University Hospital opened

## 1976 October 26

University Hospital Opening Ceremony

## November 1

University Hospital opened

## 1979 March 24

First Graduation Ceremony

## April 1

Graduate School established

## 1981 April 1

Central Laboratory for Research and Education established

## 1983 March 25

First Graduation Ceremony for the Graduate School

## June 15

The 10th Anniversary Ceremony

## 1993 June 11

Funded Department of Clinical Pharmacology (Tsumura; –March 31, 1999)



School Building in 1973

## 1993 November 5

The 20th Anniversary Ceremony

## 1996 April 1

Nursing Course established

## 1999 April 1

Telemedicine Center established

## 2000 April 1

Medical Research Graduate Course renamed Medicine-Related Graduate Course

Master's Program in Nursing established in the Medicine-Related Graduate Course

## 2002 April 1

3 Departments of Nursing reorganized into 1 Department of Nursing

Admissions Office opened

## 2003 April 1

Department of Hygiene and Department of Public Health reorganized into Department of Health Science

## November 5

The 30th Anniversary Ceremony

## 2004 April 1

National University Corporation Asahikawa Medical University started

Admissions Office reorganized into Admission Center

## 2005 April 1

Funded Department of Gastro Intestinal Immunology and Regenerative Medicine (–March 31, 2016)

Funded Department of Ocular Tissue Engineering (–March 31, 2019)



First Graduation Ceremony