

S08-4 **Activities of pharmacy students in elderly care nursing facilities: From the viewpoint of the receiving facility**

○Yumiko SEKI¹

¹Welfare plaza SAKURAGAWA

In elderly care nursing facilities, physicians, nurses, care workers, physiotherapists, etc. work in co-operation. Aged people may experience a sudden and very rapid deterioration in their health condition, triggered by a subtle matter. In elderly care nursing facilities, almost all residents are undergoing medication, and therefore the role of pharmacists is of critical importance. Nevertheless, there are no rules or regulations regarding the full-time employment of pharmacists in such facilities. Most are working part-time, and are overloaded with the daily work of dispensing. In reality, it is very difficult for pharmacists to closely observe the lives of clients in elderly care nursing facilities and to perceive signs of changes. Our facility opened in 2006. From the very beginning, we have had pharmacists focus on the dispensing and control of medicines, while pharmacy students have maintained close contact with the clients. Active involvement of the students in communication with the clients brought an opportunity for the faculty members and the pharmacist in charge to collaborate and this has led to improvements related to medication. In addition, we felt that the students' visits to the facility helped them understand better about the importance of the relationship between rehabilitation and medication. To further enhance such collaboration, we were provided with an opportunity to offer lectures to the pharmacy students helping them to understand the current situation of elderly care nursing facilities, to recognize the expectations for future pharmacists, and to be actively prepared before starting to work.