

Practice and Development of Pharmaceutical Care: What Have We Learned from the USA?

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We have carried out two projects to increase the quality of practices in pharmaceutical care by hospital pharmacists during the 5 years from 1998. These projects were supported by a Grant from the Ministry, Health, Labor and Welfare.

- 1) We sent 23 young hospital pharmacists to clinical institutions in the USA for 3 to 6 months of training in pharmaceutical care.
- 2) We invited 32 clinical pharmacists and professors of clinical pharmacy to Japan and sent them to clinical institutions nationwide for 2 weeks. We received their evaluation of our clinical practices and guidance to improve those practices.

In this symposium, we would like to introduce how our practices of pharmaceutical care have improved and which types of new practices related to pharmaceutical care were developed in Japan due to these projects. The titles of the presentations are: 1) Overview; 2) How to prevent medication errors; 3) Management of adverse drug effects; 4) Algorithm of cancer chemotherapy based on specialty of The Board of Pharmaceutical Specialties (BPS)-certified pharmacists; 5) Role of pharmacists in cancer chemotherapy and training of professionals; 6) Group consultation for outpatients; 7) Outpatient clinic for asthma operated by pharmacists; 8) Role of pharmacists in advanced medicine; 9) Problem-based learning in pharmacist education; and 10) Future perspectives.