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### Initial Medical Response to the Fukushima Nuclear Accident at Fukushima Medical University Hospital

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### Contents

- Medical response in the early phase of the Nuclear Power Plant accident
- Current issues in the chronic phase

#### Fukushima Medical University Hospital (FMU)



### **Complex Disaster**



#### <u>Tsunami</u> aspiration pneumonia, hypothermia



Disaster station hospital (35 teams, 180 Medical staff) Number of patients (12–14 Mar): 168 (Total) (Green 93; Yellow 44, Red 30, Black 1)



#### Nuclear Disaster among the Complex Disaster



### What we wanted to know at that time

- What is happening at the NPP?
- What dose of radiation is dangerous?
   ✓ for patients?
   ✓ for medical staff?
- What level of contamination is dangerous?
   ✓ for patients?
   ✓ for medical staff ?
- What types of radionuclides
   ✓ are released?
  - ✓ pose health risks?
- What is the appropriate decontamination level?



#### REM net

ТОР	Publications/Videos	Education/Trainings	Regional Informa	
)n this site, you can a	ccess broad-ranging information fi	rom basic knowledge of, to actual	medical activities in, Rad	dia
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## Regular Exercise, Training and Education for Radiation Emergency

• Aug. zoth (Sat)

Dr. Gamma

## **REM** collapse in Fukushima Prefecture

Radiation Emergency Medicine Information network

Prefecture	Plant	Primary REM Hp	Secondary	<b>H</b> Tertiary
FUKUSHIMA	1F 2F	OHNO prefectural Hp FUTABA welfare Hp IMAMURA Hp South SOMA city Hp Workers compensation Hp IWAKI city Hp	FMU (Level I Emergency Medical Center)	NIRS (National Institute of Radiological Sciences)



hospitals in evacuation zone



15/Mar/2011: Arrival of external support

#### REMAT (Radiation Emergency Medical Assistance Team)

- Radiation Emergency Medical support
  - ✓ Notification
  - ✓ Education
- National Self Defense Force
- Japan Atomic Energy Agency (JAEA)
- Decontamination support
   Whole body decon shower setting

"be close to explosion" "mission as the front hospital in the battle field" Prepare for mass casualty incident

Activity point in Fukushima Medical University



## Patients transported from NPP to FMU (11<sup>th</sup>-31<sup>st</sup>/Mar/2011)

	Date	Patient diagnosis	Decon methods	Outcome
1	14/03/2011	Cervical wound, brachial plexus injury		Admission→ Discharge 16 Mar
2	15/03/2011	Right leg wound	Undress	No admission
3		Left leg wound	and wiping	No admission
4		Right leg wound		No admission
5	16/03/2011	Abdominal wall injury		No admission
6	25/03/2011	Cont. of feet skin		Admission→NIRS
7		Facial rash due to HZV	Whole body	No admission
8	24/03/2011	Cont. of feet skin, s/o internal contamination.	decon (shower)	Admission→NIRS
9		Cont. of feet skin, s/o internal contamination.		Admission→NIRS

# The patients examined with undress and wiping decontamination



### **Decontamination Support**



Whole body decontamination shower tent (Base-X) + water supply truck (Self Defense Force)



Whole body shower bus Japan Atomic Energy Agency (JAEA)

### Decontamination support by SDF and JAEA

#### JAEA shower bus

Shower tent 1

JAEA surface contamination detection bus

40





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		, , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , ,		
6	25/03/2011	Cont. of feet skin		Admission→NIRS
6 7	25/03/2011	Cont. of feet skin Facial rash due to HZV	Whole body	Admission→NIRS No admission
6 7 8	25/03/2011 24/03/2011	Cont. of feet skin Facial rash due to HZV Cont. of feet skin, s/o internal contamination.	Whole body decon (shower)	Admission→NIRS No admission Admission→NIRS

#### **REM Examination Procedure on Initial Phase**





# The patients examined with whole body shower decontamination



#### The high level contaminated patients in their feet, examined with whole body and local shower decon





## Dose estimation for high level contaminated patients transported to NIRS

	Case 8	Case 9	Case 6
Reading of Personal Dosimeter *1	180	179	173
Skin equivalent dose *2	466	466	3
Committed effective dose *3	39	35	0
Thyroid equivalent dose *4	259	137	1.7

[mSv]

\*1: Reading of Personal Dosimeter; External exposure dose
\*2: Skin equivalent dose; Calculated from concentration of contaminated water and working time by NIRS
\*3: Committed effective dose; Estimated from the measurement of WBC and radionuclide intake scenario of each person by NIRS
\*4: Thyroid equivalent dose; Estimated by the measurement of thyroid monitor by I-131 intake scenario of each person by NIRS

Data from NIRS

Summary : injured and sick workers in NPP

- I. <u>Contaminated patients; Unable to clear the</u> <u>screening level 12</u>
  - Trauma 12(dead 2), including Force commander
- 31 Mar 2011
  - II. Not Contaminated patients; Clear the screening level 309
    - External cause 185
      - > Trauma (mild) 86
      - Trauma (moderate) 43
      - > Trauma (severe) 5
      - heat stroke 51
    - Internal cause 124
      - > ACS 8 (dead 3)
      - > Stroke 4
      - Others 112 (1F medical team : 11/Mar/2011~31/Aug/2012)



#### Before disaster: Number of physicians per 100,000 people

Survey of Physicians, Dentists and Pharmacists 2008 Ministry of Health, Labor and Welfare



Time trend	Survey Number of year physician		Shift	Number of ph people	hysicians per 100,000		
				Fukushima	Average in Japan	Ranking/ 47	
	2004	3601	-12	171.0	201.0	38	
1	2006	3663	+62	176.0	206.3	38	
	2008	3760	+97	183.0	212.9	37	
	2010	3705	-55	182.6	219.0	41	
					Fukushima	Prefecture H.P	

# After disaster: decrease number of full-time physicians in Fukushima

					棄斤
	Year	Number of physician	Shift	医	<b>北</b> 日本
2 1 1	Mar, 2011	2024		副語	<b></b> 勤
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	Aug, 2012	1945	-8	地止	現在
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## Current **REM 7 net** in Fukushima Prefecture



### Shift from "Uncommon" to "Common"

#### Uncommon

- Perceived as uncommon
- Poor medical support system
  - no CBRNE-DMAT
  - only one REMAT
- Education and Facility
  - radiation protection
  - contamination control
- Low priority
  - other medical problems

- Perceived as common by physicians
- Maintain the support system
- Useful Education and maintain Facility for common medical protection
  - estimate and real acceptance for minimized risk

Common

- preparation for CRBNE causality
- REM is one of the local community medical system

Chronic phase disaster medicine = Local community healthcare service

## Three targets of our work

Target	Situation	Method
Plant workers	High risk in radiation exposure & contamination, diseases & accidents	Radiation Emergency Medicine
Emergency responder	High risk in radiation exposure & contamination	Radiation clinic
Residents	Chronic low dose exposure, stress/fear	education/communi cation/coordination

## Conclusion

- No patients with severe radiological problem such as ARS
- All contaminated patients were physiologically stable
- Decontamination supports from the Force and JAEA were essential in radiation emergency medicine
- Support from REMAT gave us confidence to respond the nuclear disaster
- Not well prepared Nuclear or CBRNE disaster medical support system
- Maintaining radiation emergency medical system to deal with the disaster
- Difficult, but have dream to consider the chronic phase radiation disaster medicine as part of the common local community medical system.