

Detailed Information 1 Special Functioning Hospitals

Purpose

As part of efforts to systematize medical facility functions, the Minister of Health, Labour and Welfare approves individual hospitals having capabilities of providing advanced medical care, development of advanced medical technologies, and conducting advanced medical care training.

Roles

- Provide advanced medical care
- Develop/evaluate advanced medical technologies
- Conduct advanced medical care training

Requirements for Approval

- Having capabilities of providing, developing, evaluating, and conduct training of advanced medical care
- Providing medical care to patients who are referred to by other hospitals and clinics
- Number of beds Must have 400 or more beds
- Staff deployment
 - Doctors Twice as many as ordinary hospitals, etc.
- Facilities Must have intensive care units, sterile rooms, and drug information management rooms etc.

* The number of approved hospitals (as of September 30, 2009) ... 83 hospitals

Detailed Information 2 Regional Medical Care Support Hospitals (since 1997)

Purpose

Prefectural governors approve individual hospitals that are competent enough to secure regional medical care having capabilities of supporting family doctors who are taking roles of providing regional medical care.

Roles

- Provide medical care to patients on referral (including the reverse case in which patients are referred to family doctors)
- Implement joint use of medical devices
- Provide emergency medical care
- Conduct training for regional medical professionals

Requirements for Approval

[Establisher]

In principle, national government, prefectures, municipalities, special medical corporations, public medical institutions, non-profit medical corporations, etc.

- Provide medical care mainly to patients on referral
 - Percentage of patients on referral exceeds 80%, etc.
- Capable of providing emergency medical care
- Secure a system in which regional doctors, etc. can use buildings, facilities, and devices
- Provide education to regional medical professionals
- In principle, have 200 or more beds and facilities that are considered sufficient for a regional medical support

* The number of approved hospitals (as of September 30, 2009) ... 267 hospitals