The Relief System for Sufferers from Adverse Drug Reactions and Diseases Infected from Biological Products

Overview

[The Relief System for Sufferers from Adverse Drug Reactions]
The purpose of this system is to provide various relief benefits and prompt relief to patients and their families, apart from civil liabilities, in relation to health damage caused by adverse reactions in spite of proper use of drugs. This system is operated by the Pharmaceuticals and Medical Devices Agency.

[The Relief System for Sufferers from Diseases Infected from Biological Products]
The purpose of this system is to provide various relief benefits, as in the relief system for sufferers from adverse drug reactions, in relation to health damage caused by infection in spite of proper use of biological products. This system is also operated by the Pharmaceuticals and Medical Devices Agency.

[Types of Relief Benefits]

- Cases where people received medical care requiring hospitalization for illness caused by adverse drug reactions or infection
  - Medical care expenses
  - Medical allowance
- Cases where people suffer from disabilities which markedly restrict daily life due to adverse drug reactions or infection
  - Disability Pension
  - Pension for rearing children with disabilities
- Cases where people have died due to adverse drug reactions or infection
  - Survivors' Pension
  - Lump-sum benefit for survivors
  - Funeral allowance

[Activities on the Relief for Caused Damages]
The Agency (former Organization for Drug ADR Relief, R&D Promotion and product Review), since 1979, has been commissioned by pharmaceutical enterprises and the government to pay health management allowances, etc. to SMON (subacute myelo-optico-neuropathy) patients who have settled the lawsuit out of court.

[The Relief Program for AIDS patients, etc. caused by Blood Products]
A survey and research program has been carried out since FY 1993 for helping HIV carriers infected through the use of contaminated blood products to prevent them from developing symptoms. For the prevention of the onset of AIDS and for health management in daily life, the government provides health management expenses and in turn requests the carriers report their health status. Since FY 1996, assistance on health management expenses has been provided for the health management of people who developed AIDS and accepted the court settlement.

Detailed Data

| Changes in the Status of Adverse Drug Reaction Relief (as of the end of each FY) |
|---------------------------------|----------|----------|----------|----------|----------|----------|----------|----------|----------|----------|----------|
| **Amount (¥1,000)**            | 4,663,690  | 701,915  | 692,611  | 797,556  | 928,986  | 920,419  | 935,148  | 1,022,185| 1,055,984| 1,204,243| 1,262,647| 1,587,567| 1,582,956|
| **Number of claims (case)**    | 2,151     | 217      | 297      | 399      | 361      | 389      | 480      | 483      | 629      | 783      | 769      | 760      | 788      |
| **Number of payments (case)**  | 1,714     | 172      | 190      | 294      | 306      | 289      | 343      | 352      | 352      | 465      | 513      | 838      | 676      |

Source: Pharmaceutical and Medical Devices Agency