

# Third Global Ministerial Summit on Patient Safety

## Panel Discussion 1 Patient Safety Culture

# Positive Impact on Patient Engagement

## -What I Have Undergone as a Bereaved Family-

**Ikuko Toyoda**

**Director of Patient Safety Office,  
IMS Rehabilitation Center Tokyo, Katsushika General Hospital**

**Chairman of NPO “Kakehashi (Bridge)”**,  
-connecting patients, families and medical staff

April 13, 2018



# My Son's pathology from Initial Consultation to Death

## <Initial Visit for Medical Consultation>

Emergency room → Treatment (enema) → Home → Symptom become severe

## <2nd Visit for Medical Consultation>

Return to Clinic (waited more than 20 minutes) → Examinations (X-ray, CT) →

Treatment (enema) → Examinations (blood collection) → Infusion →

Blood test result (waited for approximately 2 hours) → Hospital admission →

Vomited blood / CPA approx. 2 hours later without physician's visit to the ward → Code Blue (emergency medical treatment) → Confirmed Death



# Newspaper Coverage of the Medical Malpractice of My Son



The Asahi Shimbun (newspaper)  
Morning Edition on June 1, 2003



Onset of disease / Hospital visit

⇒ Admission ⇒ Sudden death

a month later, there was  
a sudden notice

A whistle-blower reported to  
several newspaper companies



Medical record disclosure

→ The hospital explained:  
“We did our best.”



Media Coverage

# Road to the Establishment of the Medical Accident Investigation System



- January 11, 1999 Accidental mix-up of patients undergoing surgery (Yokohama City University Hospital)
- February 11, 1999 Infusion of the wrong drug (Tokyo Metropolitan Hiroo Hospital)
- March 2001 Declared to be the “Year to Promote Medical Safety” and recommendation “Coalition of Healthcare Professionals to enhance Patient Safety”
- April 2001 Establishment of the Medical Safety Promotion Office, MHLW
- March 9, 2003 Sudden death of my son (Riki) due to medical accident
- September 2003 Jikei University School of Medicine Aoto Hospital Incident
- April 2004 Supreme Court decision on the Tokyo Metropolitan Hiroo Hospital. “Article 21 of the Medical Practitioners Act”
- April 2004 Joint statement of Japanese Society of Internal Medicine, the Japan Surgical Society, the Japanese Society of Pathology, and the Japanese Association of Medical Sciences  
“Notification of Medical Practice-related Patient Deaths  
~ Toward the Establishment of a Neutral Specialized Agency ~”

# Accommodation with the Hospital and Onwards

January 2004: Reported the incident to police.  
September 2005: Settled with the hospital.  
October 2006: Court finalized a decision not to charge the attending doctor.

“Medical Safety Promotion Week” was established in the hospital, the week falls on before and after the anniversary date of my son’s death. The hospital organizes a training seminar for medical safety every year on the week.

**Change in feelings against the hospital —**

**Nurse’s apology on the third year anniversary of death**

Lecture was given by the bereaved family in the seminar in 2007

(A face-to-face dialogue between the bereaved family and the hospital staff realized for the first time, which led to a good relationship.)





# Shinkatsushika hospital (at that time)

## Patient Support Office

## Medical Safety Management Office



【 Full-time 】 One medical safety manager  
【 Full-time 】 One medical dialogue facilitator  
【 Interlocking 】 Nurse · MSW · Medical Division

Training to promote the dialogue among medical professions & staffs. This training subsequently became NPO “KAKEHASHI (Bridge)”

【 Where the patients and family support office locates 】

1<sup>st</sup> floor, management building: in “Body Learning Center.”

【 Patient Counselling Counter: Library Hours 】 Mon-Fri: 9:00 to 17:00

Sat: 9:00 to 12:00 \*except holidays and Sundays

※ We have comment boxes in hospitals / clinics

Answers are posted on the notice board

( We also support staffs )



### Importance of face-to face talk

- Listen to the voice of the patients (listen)
- Sympathize ( imagine)
- Make an effort to have a dialogue (Communication)

# Received the first “a New Form of Healthcare”



## Sponsorship

Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare, Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science & Technology, Science Council Japan, All Japan Hospital Association, Japan Medical Association, Japan Nursing Association, Japan Dental Association, Japan Pharmaceutical Association, Japanese Society of Hospital Pharmacists, The Japan Association of Radiological Technologists, Japanese Association of Medical Technologists, Japan Council for Quality Health Care, The Japanese Society for Quality Control



November 25, 2007





# Road to Establish a Medical Accident Investigation System

April 20, 2007 to December 1, 2008

**“Panel on method for investigating deaths associated with medical treatment” - meeting were held 17 times**

**October 2007** MHLW “Proposal Draft for investigating deaths associated with medical treatment – Second Draft Proposal”

**December 2007** Panel on Medical Dispute Solution “System for Identifying Causes of Medical Practice Related Deaths” Organized by Liberal Democratic Party

**April 2008** MHLW released the “Proposal Draft for Identification of Causes of Deaths Resulting from Medical Accidents and Prevention of Recurrence for Medical Safety Assurance – Third Draft –” (asking for public comments).

**June 2008** MHLW “Outline of the Bill to Set up a Medical Safety Investigation Committee (provisional title)”



# Road to Establish a Medical Accident Investigation System

**June 2008** Democratic Party of Japan “Draft Proposal for the Bill to Partially Revise the Medical Service Act etc. for the Provision of Information on Medical Care, Promotion of Counseling/Support and Proper Solution of Medical Disputes, and Prevention of Recurrence of Medical Accidents etc. (provisional title)” (commonly called “Patient Support Act Bill”), “System for Identifying Causes of Deaths (including Disability) Resulting from Medical Accidents etc. (Draft)”

**August 2008** Established the “Medical Safety Liaison Council from the Patient’s Perspective.”

**December 2008** Started distribution of leaflets and a campaign to collect signatures for the “Desire for Early Establishment of a Medical Accident Investigation Agency.”

**October 2008** Worked on compiling “Major Opinions Received on the Third Draft Proposal and Draft Outline and Current Opinion of the MHLW.”

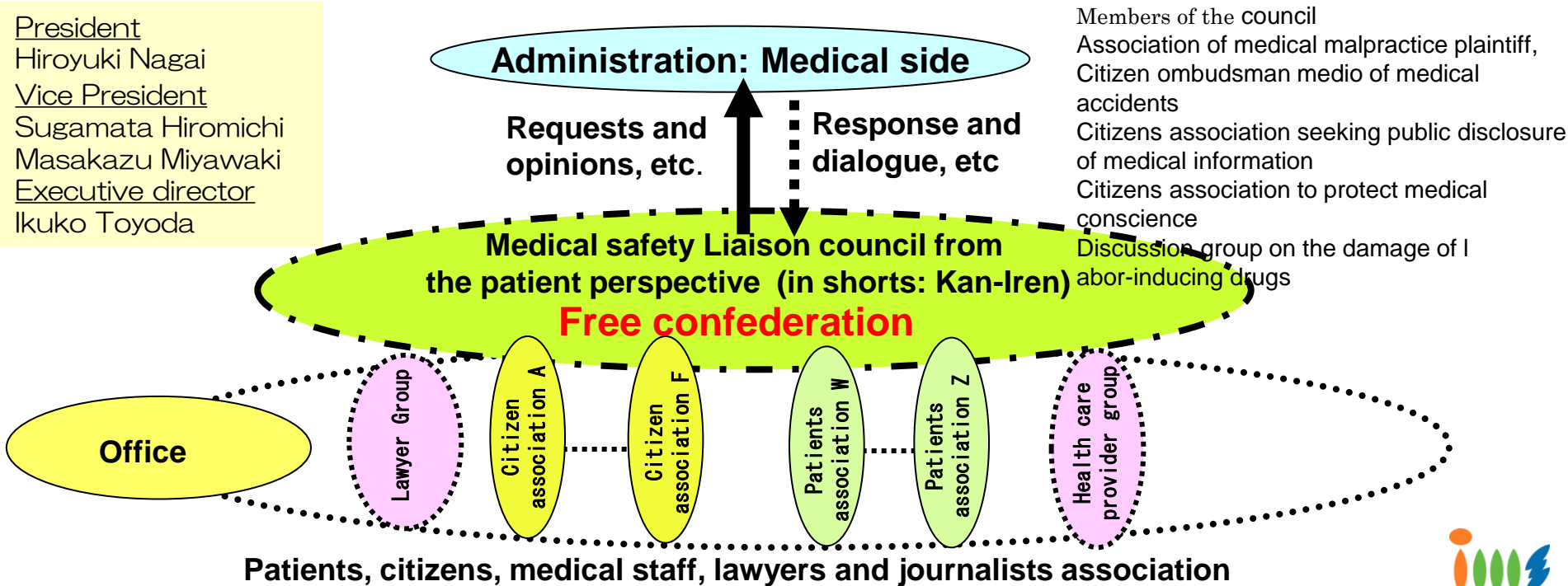
**January 2009** Started operation of the “Obstetric Medical Compensation System.”

# Medical safety Liaison council from the patient perspective (Kan-I ren)

HP: <http://kan-iren.txt-nifty.com/top/>

President  
Hiroyuki Nagai  
Vice President  
Sugamata Hiromichi  
Masakazu Miyawaki  
Executive director  
Ikuko Toyoda

Members of the council  
Association of medical malpractice plaintiff,  
Citizen ombudsman medio of medical accidents  
Citizens association seeking public disclosure of medical information  
Citizens association to protect medical conscience  
Discussion group on the damage of labor-inducing drugs



This council was founded in 2008 to collaborate the bereaved families of medical accident victims, the citizens, the medical practitioners who are making active effort towards medical accidents reduction and health care quality and safety improvement.



# Activities Undertaken so far to Establish a Medical Accident Investigation System

March 2010 Established the “Liaison and Adjustment Council of Agencies for Alternative Medical Dispute Resolution (ADR).”

June 2010 Established the “Panel on Autopsy Imaging that Contributes to the Identification of the Cause of Death.” - July 2010 Submitted the report.

August 2011 Established the “Panel on No-fault Compensation System that Contributes to Improvement of Health Service Quality.”

February 15, 2012 to May 29, 2013

“Panel on Medical Accident Investigation System” - 13 meetings were held.

May 2013 MHLW “Discussions on Basic Policy for Medical Accident Investigation System ”





# Symposium to Establish the NPO “Kakehashi(Bridge)”

May 27, 2012



# NPO Corporation “Bridge (Kakehashi)”

## Bridging Patients/Families and Health Care



◆ With the aim of building a mutual trust relationship between medical staff and patients/family, we provide **support and enlightenment to medical staff** to facilitate communication and dialogue.

◆ By learning from the feelings of patients/family members who encountered medical accidents, we **contribute to the improvement of the future medical safety and quality.**

◆ patients/family members who encountered medical accidents and involved people **provide opportunities for healthcare professionals and citizens to think** about the importance of dialogue between patients/family and related persons to restore the post-accident mutual trust relationship.

### < Background >

May 2006: Started workshops aiming to facilitate dialogue between staffs in Shinkatsushika Hospital.

September 2008: Due to the needs, we established “Kakehashi(Bridge) Study Group for Dialogues Leading to the Trust Relationship with Patients/Family” and expanded the workshops outside the hospital.

2011: Conducted workshops to train patient-supporting staff (in-hospital supporting staff) in Tokyo, Osaka, and Sapporo.

April 2012: Established the NPO Corporation with the focus on education projects for training of medical dialogue facilitators.

\*April 2012: During the revision of the medical service fees, an additional incentive for a well-organized patient support system was adopted.



# Well-organized Patient Support System

(Additional incentive for a well-organized patient support system:  
From April 2012)


## I. Guideline for Medical Dialogue Facilitators

### 1. Positioning of medical dialogue facilitators at medical institutions

A medical dialogue facilitator is authorized by the supervisor of each medical institution to serve as a **person who plays a role in coordinating the patient/family support system and facilitating dialogue between the persons involved**, and responds to inquiries/consultations etc. from the patient/family systematically in collaboration with the medical safety manager, each department of medical services, and administrative departments based on the instructions of the supervisor.



# Medical dialogue facilitators training by NPO bridge

Three-day training focused on **group discussion of case study** to earn basic knowledge of medical safety, communication, law and dialogue. 



Director, lecturer members





May 9, 2008



# At Ms. Sorrel King's house (Baltimore)



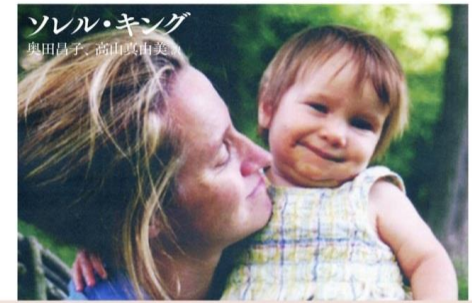
At the Josie King Foundation office



Patient stories, rather than data, are considered to have significant meaning in the US medical setting.

## ジョージの物語

小さな女の子の死が医療にもたらした大きな変化



これは、一人の母親の喪失と再生の記録である。

ある日、幸せな家族を悲劇が襲った――。世界トップクラスの病院で治療を受けた1歳半のジョージが、医療事故で命を奪われたのだ。娘の死を受け入れられない母ソレル。病院との対立、夫婦の危機、苦悩と葛藤……。絶望の底に沈んだ彼女だったが、同じ悲劇があまりにも多い現実を知り、医療の安全を目指して立ちあがる。改革を身を押ける医師と看護師たち、思いをともにする無数の患者と家族たち。多くの協力者と出会い一歩ずつ進むなかでソレルが見いだしたものは……。 英治出版

世界を変える50人の女性に選ばれた著者が語る涙のメッセージ

Ms. Sorrel King's book titled "Josie's Story" [Eiji Press]





**From 2009**

**National Hospital Organization**

**Kanto Shinetsu Group Seminars for Training of Supervisory Doctors**

**“Communication Education Aimed for Patient Safety”**





# IMS Rehabilitation Center Tokyo, Katsushika General Hospital

Workshop Co-sponsored by the  
World Health Organization (WHO)  
Quality of Medical Care at Hospitals and  
Patient Safety Management Course

Held every March from 2016



At Katsushika Royal Care Center,  
Shinkatsushika Royal Clinic



## Scenery of the coursework

# From 2017 Curriculum of the Department of Medicine, International University of Health and Welfare

## ◆ Medical Professionalism I (Basic)

First-year: Medical Ethics and  
Medical Safety



# Participation of Patients/Family (Bereaved Family)

Hisashi Katsumura

Member in charge of Arrangement/Administration/Recurrence Prevention for the Obstetric Medical Compensation System

Hiroyuki Nagai

Member in charge of Administration, Medical Accident Investigation/Support Center, Medical Accident Investigation System

Masakazu Miyawaki

Member of the Liaison and Adjustment Council of Agencies for Alternative Medical Dispute Resolution (ADR)

Ikuko Toyoda

Member of the Cause Analysis Committee, Obstetric Medical Compensation System

Member of the General Research Committee, Medical Accident Investigation/Support Center, Medical Accident Investigation System

Junko Kitada

Member of the Cause Analysis Committee, Obstetric Medical Compensation System

Ayako Kawada

Expert Advisor for the Obstetric Medical Compensation System



# Seven Things That Should Be Kept in Mind by Medical Dialogue Facilitators



## 1. Stay in touch with the pain/suffering of involved persons with empathy

Malpractice deeply hurts the feelings of patients/family and healthcare providers. Medical dialogue facilitators therefore have to consider the feelings of persons involved to the greatest extent.

## 2. Listen to stories of involved persons and think together

Medical dialogue facilitators should first devote their full attention to “listening” to understand the feelings of persons involved. They should then support the patients/family and healthcare providers, and think together about what they are going to do, rather than giving proposals and/or advice.

## 3. Sincerely respect the patients, their family, and healthcare providers

What is important for medical dialogue facilitators is to sincerely respect and try to understand the feelings of patients/family and healthcare providers. Medical dialogue facilitators should not control their feelings. It is necessary to undergo training to acquire such skills, but the final result should not be copybook skills (listening and/or paraphrasing techniques).





# Seven Things That Should Be Kept in Mind by Medical Dialogue Facilitators



## 4. Try not to cover others' roles but help them to face the facts

Medical dialogue facilitators should not stand in for “victims/victimizers,” e.g., offer an apology on someone’s behalf.

What medical dialogue facilitators need to do is to help patients/family and healthcare providers face the fact and organize an environment that makes it possible for them.

## 5. Act beyond an “impartial/neutral” position

Being neutral is a measure to gain trust from patients/family and healthcare providers; however, hospital staff may not seem to be “impartial/neutral” on some occasions. Medical dialogue facilitators have to build a trust relationship by remaining on the side of the sufferers depending on the situation.

## 6. Not getting involved in, but work together on the investigation of malpractice analysis

Medical dialogue facilitators should not get directly involved in the investigation of the malpractice analysis but have to collaborate appropriately.

## 7. Gain a small trust to grow into a big trust

There is no single correct answer or measure to deal with malpractice once it has occurred. Medical dialogue facilitators then need to help build a process whereby a small trust can be gained and then grown into a big trust through truthful dialogues between patients/family and healthcare providers.

