

Overview

Medical Safety Measures

[Basic idea] Implement respective measures with great respect being paid to the viewpoint of medical safety and quality improvement taking into consideration report of the study group on medical safety measures (June 2005).

<Key Suggestions>

[Improvement of medical quality and safety]

- Systematization of establishment of certain safety management system in clinics with no beds, dental clinics, maternity clinics, and pharmacies (①preparation of safety management guideline manual,②conducting training on medical safety, and ③internal report of accidents, etc.)
- Improvement of measures against hospital infection in medical institutions (①preparation of guidelines/manuals for preventing hospital infection,②conducting training regarding hospital infection, ③ internal report on situation of infection, and ④establishment of committee on hospital infection (only in hospitals and clinics with beds))
- Securing drug/medical device safety (①clarification of responsibilities regarding safety use,②establishment of work processes regarding safety use, and ③regular maintenance check on medical devices)
- Improvement of quality of medical professionals
- Obligating administratively punished medical professionals to take re-education training

[Thorough implementation of preventive measures against recurrence through investigation/analysis of causes of medical accident cases]

- Thorough implementation of preventive measures against recurrence through investigation/analysis of causes of accident cases
- Discussion on reporting system of medical related deaths, investigation system of cause of medical related deaths, and out of court disputes resolution system in medical areas.

[Sharing information with patients and people and promotion of independent participation from patients and people]

- Sharing information with patients and people and promotion of independent participation from patients and people
- Systemization of medical safety support centers

[Roles of the government and local governments on medical safety]

- Clarification of responsibilities of the government, prefectures, and medical institutions and roles of patients and people
- Establishment of laws and regulations, promotion of research, and financial support, etc.

<Measures>

- Enhancement of medical safety management system (revision of law in 2006)
- Obligating establishment of hospital infection control system (revision of Ordinance of the Ministry in 2006)
- Obligating placement of responsible persons regarding safety use of drugs/medical devices (revision of Ordinance of the Ministry in 2006)
- Work guidelines for medical safety managers and guidelines for formulation of training programs (March 2007)
- Obligating administratively punished doctors, etc. to take re-education training (revision of law in 2006)

- Promotion of programs to collect information on medical accidents (since FY 2004)
- Providing "medical safety information" (since FY 2006)
- Model programs for investigation/analysis of deaths related to medical practices (since FY 2005)
- Programs to train human resources to engage in coordination/mediation of medical disputes
- Discussion on investigation of causes and prevention of recurrences of deaths caused by medical accidents (since April 2007)
- Support for establishment of obstetric compensation system (since FY 2006)

- Promotion of Patient Safety Action (PSA) (since FY 2001)
- Obligating medical institutions, etc. to make efforts to provide appropriate consultations for patients (revision of law in 2006)
- Systemization of medical safety support centers (revision of law in 2006)

- Clarification of responsibilities of the government, local governments, and medical institutions (revision of law in 2006)
- Promotion of comprehensive support programs of medical safety support centers (since FY 2003)
- Research for promoting medical safety management system (scientific research of health and welfare)
- Guidelines for safety management in intensive care unit (ICU) (March 2007)
- Model programs of perinatal medical institutions to become open hospitals (from FY 2005 to FY 2007)