

Foreign Patients Hospitalized at Our Institution for COVID-19 (Equivalent to Category II Infectious Disease)

We are conducting a study at the National Hospital Organization Fukuoka Higashi Medical Center to clarify the systems and nursing challenges involved in accepting foreign patients with infectious diseases, with the aim of improving the quality of medical care in the future. In this study, we will use medical information (electronic medical records) of patients whose treatment has already been completed. Therefore, instead of obtaining written consent individually from each patient, we adopt an “opt-out” method, in which the study is publicly disclosed, and patients may decline participation if they wish.

【Research Title】	Study on Necessary Preparations for Accepting Foreign Patients with Infectious Diseases
【Study Period】	From the date of approval by the ethics committee to March 31, 2028
【Research Institution and Principal Investigator】	National Hospital Organization Fukuoka Higashi Medical Center Principal Investigator: Kanae Watanuki
【Eligible Participants】	Foreign patients who were hospitalized at Fukuoka Higashi Medical Center for COVID-19 (equivalent to Category II at that time) during the period from March 1, 2020 to May 7, 2023. <i>※Patients with incomplete medical records may be excluded from the study.</i>
【Significance, Purpose, and Methods of the Study】	Significance: Considering the special characteristics of hospitals with an infectious disease center, this study aims to clarify the challenges, necessary preparations, and responses involved in accepting foreign patients with infectious diseases at facilities equipped to treat Category I infectious diseases. Purpose: (To be determined / not clearly described in the original text) Methods: Information will be collected and analyzed from the electronic medical records of the study participants.

【Types of Data to Be Used】	In this study, the following information will be collected from electronic medical records: ① Data collection from electronic medical records A list of potential study participants will be created based on data held by the Infection Control Office, and the electronic medical records of the identified individuals will be reviewed. ② The following items will be collected from the electronic medical records: ・ Basic attributes (age, sex, nationality, length of hospitalization) ・ Diagnosis of infectious disease and treatment details ・ Nursing records (care provided, observation items, responses, patient statements) ・ Status of infection control measures (e.g., isolation status) ・ Other necessary information (e.g., number of translation devices and supported languages) No personally identifiable information, such as name, address, date of birth, or medical record number, will be collected.
【Protection of Personal Information】	During the study, no personally identifiable information, such as date of birth, medical record number, address, or name, will be collected. In addition, when the study results are published, careful measures will be taken to ensure that individuals cannot be identified.
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