

Main research group activities in 2017

Dec 28, 2017

Research group on ascertaining the health and living status and creation of a support infrastructure for thalidomide-impaired people in Japan

Principal investigator: Fumihiko Hinoshita

§ Organization of the renewed research group

The research group on thalidomide embryopathy of Japan is based on a group officially organized by MHLW; namely, “The research group on ascertaining the health and living status and the creation of a support infrastructure for thalidomide-impaired people in Japan.” The secondary group completed its mandate in March, 2017, and a new research group (the 3rd) was organized and initiated various activities from April, 2017. The head and principal investigator of the new group is Dr. Hinoshita, who also served as the head and principal investigator of the former group.

Research group members

Head (Principal Investigator)	Fumihiko Hinoshita	Department of Nephrology, NCGM
Co-investigator	Shin Onishi	Hospital director, NCGM
	Tsuyoshi Tajima	Department of Diagnostic Radiology, NCGM
	Kobun Imai	Department of Psychiatry, NCGM
	Tetsuya Tagami	Center for Health Examination, NHO Kyoto Medical Center
	Nobuhiko Haga	Department of Rehabilitation Medicine, University of Tokyo
	Hiroyuki Nagase	Department of Medicine, Teikyo University
Research collaborator	Ryoji Kayamori	Department of Physical Therapy, Teikyo Heisei University
	Niro Tayama	Department of Otolaryngology and Tracheo- esophagology, NCGM
	Yutaka Maruoka	Department of Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery, NCGM
	Junko Fujitani	Department of Rehabilitation, NCGM
	Hiromu Inoue	Medical Examination Center, NCGM
	Ryuichi Saura	Department of Rehabilitation Medicine, Osaka Medical College
	Tomoko Shiga	Department of General Medicine, Tokyo Women's Medical University Hospital

Research collaborator	Tomoyuki Mochizuki	Department of Orthopedics, Nissan Tamagawa Hospital
	Yuichiro Akagi	Department of Nephrology, NCGM
	Shingo Shioji	Department of Nephrology, NCGM
	Hiroko Beppu	Department of Nephrology, NCGM
	Hanae Sone	Department of Psychiatry, NCGM
	Ken Otomo	Department of Psychiatry, NCGM
	Yuki Nakano	Department of Psychiatry, NCGM
	Masafumi Takino	Department of Rehabilitation, NHO Sendai Medical Center

NCGM = National Center for Global Health and Medicine NHO = National Hospital Organization

§ Publication of the “Medical Guidebook of Thalidomide Embryopathy 2017”

The Medical Guidebook of Thalidomide Embryopathy was published on Mar 31, 2017. This is the standard textbook of clinical practice for thalidomide embryopathy (TE) in Japan and covers almost all areas of TE. Please contact our research group for information and advice on the treatment of TE at local medical facilities.

§ Participation in the “Health Meeting for thalidomiders in local districts”

Members of the research staff have been participating in the Health Meeting for thalidomiders in local districts for the promotion of health and the improvement of ADL in thalidomiders in cooperation with “Ishizue.” Participating members include the head of the research group and rehabilitation experts of the same group, who have attended the meetings of 5 local districts, speaking casually with thalidomiders and providing individual advice on health and physical problems.

§ Exchanges with foreign experts

We are maintaining cooperation established by the former research group with experts in European countries, and mutually exchanging useful information. A member of the research group, Dr. Haga, attended the international symposium, “Mobility Maintenance of People with Thalidomide Embryopathy,” held by Dr Beyer in Hamburg in September 2017.

* Please see other items in this HP.

§ Health and Life Survey

We conducted a health and life survey of thalidomiders living in Japan to identify areas in which individuals are struggling and to compare the results with those obtained in a survey conducted 5 years ago. A questionnaire was sent in late December, 2017, and collected by the end of January 2018. The results will be analyzed later.