

INTERNATIONAL MEDICAL CENTER

A word from the Director

Departments

- ✓ Cardiology
 - Ischemic heart disorder
 - Arrhythmia
 - Pacemaker
- ✓ Cardiovascular Surgery
 - Cardiac surgery
 - Major vascular surgery
 - Peripheral vascular surgery
 - Varicose veins
- ✓ Nephrology
- ✓ Hemodialysis
- ✓ General Internal Medicine
- ✓ Department of Diabetes
- ✓ Gastroenterology
- ✓ Pulmonary Medicine
- ✓ Others
 - General health check
 - Cardiac health check
 - Vascular health check

Center Staff

President

Dr. Moriichi Sugama

Nursing Department

Ms. Takako Hokama, Director

Facility/Administrative Management

Mr. Hiroaki Akamine, Director-general

International Medical Liaison Department

Mr. Satoshi Kobashikawa, Section Chief

Ms. Kimie Kakazu

Ms. Kiet Long Chinen

Makiminato Chuo Hospital (MCH) has endeavored herself to be of service to active duty U.S. military personnel stationed in Okinawa, their family, U.S. veterans residing in Okinawa, employees of U.S. military bases, and non-Japanese residents of Okinawa with cardiovascular diseases and travelers with hemodialysis needs since 2009. To better serve our non-Japanese community, MCH now has an international liaison department with staff fluent in English and Chinese. Moreover, signs and labels within the hospital complex are written in Japanese, English, Chinese, and Korean, as well as pamphlets and documents for patient use, which are available in Japanese, English, and Chinese.

Under the efforts of our staff, the number of non-Japanese outpatients has grown from 238 persons in 2013 to 565 persons in 2018, with apparent increase of referred angina, myocardial infarction, and arrhythmia patients from on-base US medical facilities, as well as travelers requiring hemodialysis services. Last year (2018), my staff and I paid a fruitful visit to the Taiwan Association for Dialysis Patients' Quality of Life (TDQ) to exchange views on travel hemodialysis, resulting in TDQ referring Taiwan tourists with dialysis needs to our facility for service.

According to the Okinawa Convention & Visitors Bureau, the number of tourists to Okinawa is surging on a yearly basis and expects to reach 15.23 million persons by 2030 (7 million being overseas tourists). Given our hospital is situated not far from the soon-to-be open commercial mall complex and hotels on the newly finished West Coast Expressway and the prefectural government's strive to promote tourism, we foresee an increasing need for medical services for travelers in Okinawa.

Our prospect, is to expand our medical services beyond cardiology and hemodialysis to include all patients. Hence the institution of this International Medical Center. In addition to our comprehensive cardiologic and surgical treatment of angina, myocardial infarction, arrhythmia, valvular heart diseases, vascular and peripheral vascular diseases, the Center will also provide medical services in general internal medicine, nephrology, diabetes, gastroenterology, and pulmonary medicine; lungs and digestive system requiring specialty surgical treatment will be referred to our liaison hospitals in the area. In future, MCH will continue to advance the International Medical Center by further professionalizing the staff and enriching the Center's services.

Moriichi Sugama, M.D.

Consultations are by appointment only. However, 24H service is available for cardiovascular and hemodialysis access emergencies.



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