

## Promotion of Footwear as a Treatment for Diabetic Foot Diseases in Vietnam

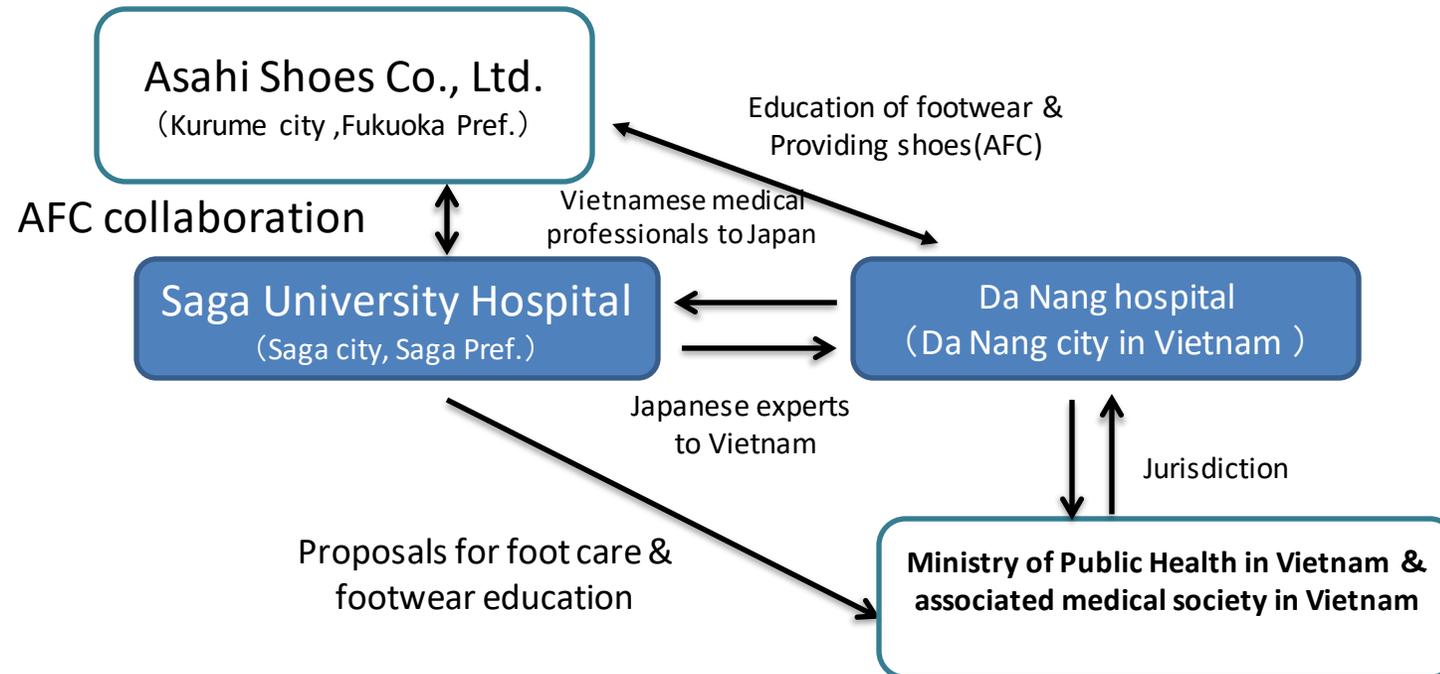
Background on the local conditions and needs: The number of patients with diabetic foot diseases, such as foot ulcers and gangrene, who are forced to undergo lower limb amputation is increasing in Vietnam. One reason for the increase is because barefoot and sandal lifestyles remain deeply rooted in Vietnam and current environmental conditions are conducive to increased foot injuries.

Objectives: To introduce Japanese guidelines for foot care and to provide footwear education for the prevention of foot diseases/injuries to Vietnamese. In particular, to improve barefoot and sandal lifestyles and to eventually provide the same type of programs to other ASEAN countries as well.

Outline of the project: Introduction of footwear education to prevent foot ulcers in Vietnamese patients in the central region of Vietnam with diabetic neuropathy.

Development of medical shoes through joint research between Saga University and Asahi Shoes Co. and manufactured in Vietnam. Collaboration in the education of Vietnamese medical professionals (doctors, nurses, orthotists, etc.) involved in foot care at Da Nang Hospital and experts dispatched to Vietnam in order to promote the proper use of the newly-developed medical footwear.

Expected results and ripple effects: By promoting the use of medical shoes developed through this joint research, the number of lower limb amputations is expected to decrease in the central region of Vietnam by 2025 due to an overall reduction of foot infections in patients with diabetes. It is our hope that the results from this project can then be expanded to other areas of Vietnam as well as other ASEAN countries in future.



### <Project schedule >

1. From November, 2022 to January,2023  
Online e-learning Training  
: ( We hopet the No. is over 200 for Drs. and nurses ,etc )
  - Footwear for patients with diabetic foot diseases
  - Online training and dissemination
- 2 . December 26<sup>th</sup> 2022 ( AM & PM)  
Dispatch of 8 Experts in DaNang
  - Footwear for patients with diabetic foot diseases
  - Holding of a local project dissemination seminar
  - Research in Factory (ASAHI Foot Care) in Ha Noi in December 29<sup>th</sup> 2022
3. February 2<sup>nd</sup> 2023  
Final online meeting of this Project 2022