

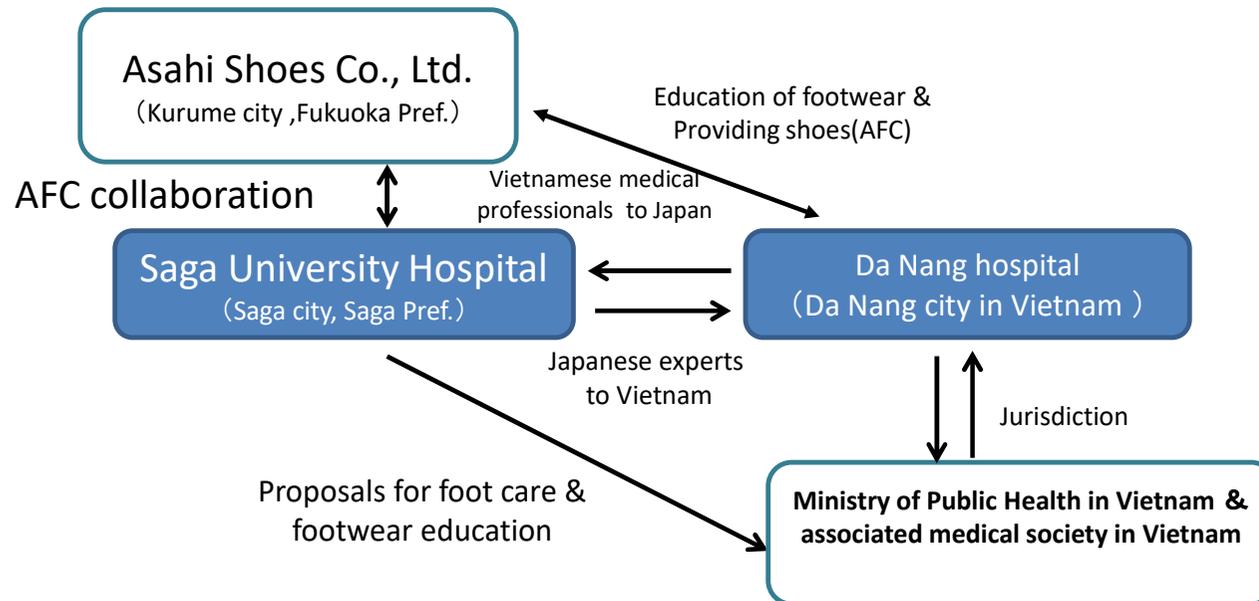
Promotion of Footwear as a Treatment for Diabetic Foot Diseases in Vietnam

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. As a result, AFC-based practice guidelines will be incorporated into the medical insurance system in Vietnam.



<Project schedule >

1. Online Conference between Japan and DaNang hospital in June to September,2023
 - Onsite meeting;Dispatch of 3 experts in Da Nang hospital in 26 -30th June,2023
 - Footwear for patients with diabetic foot diseases
 - Online training and dissemination
2. Onsite training ; 4rd to 12th October,2023 in Saga,Fukuoka,Ooita,Japan
 - Visiting Japan of 5 Vietnamese Experts in DaNang hospital
 - Footwear for patients with diabetic foot diseases
 - Attending a local meeting in Fukuoka
 - Research of factory (ASAHI) in Kurume
3. Onsite meeting and training in December, 2023
 - 7 Japanese Experts in DaNang hospital
4. Final online meeting of this Project 2023 in January,2024