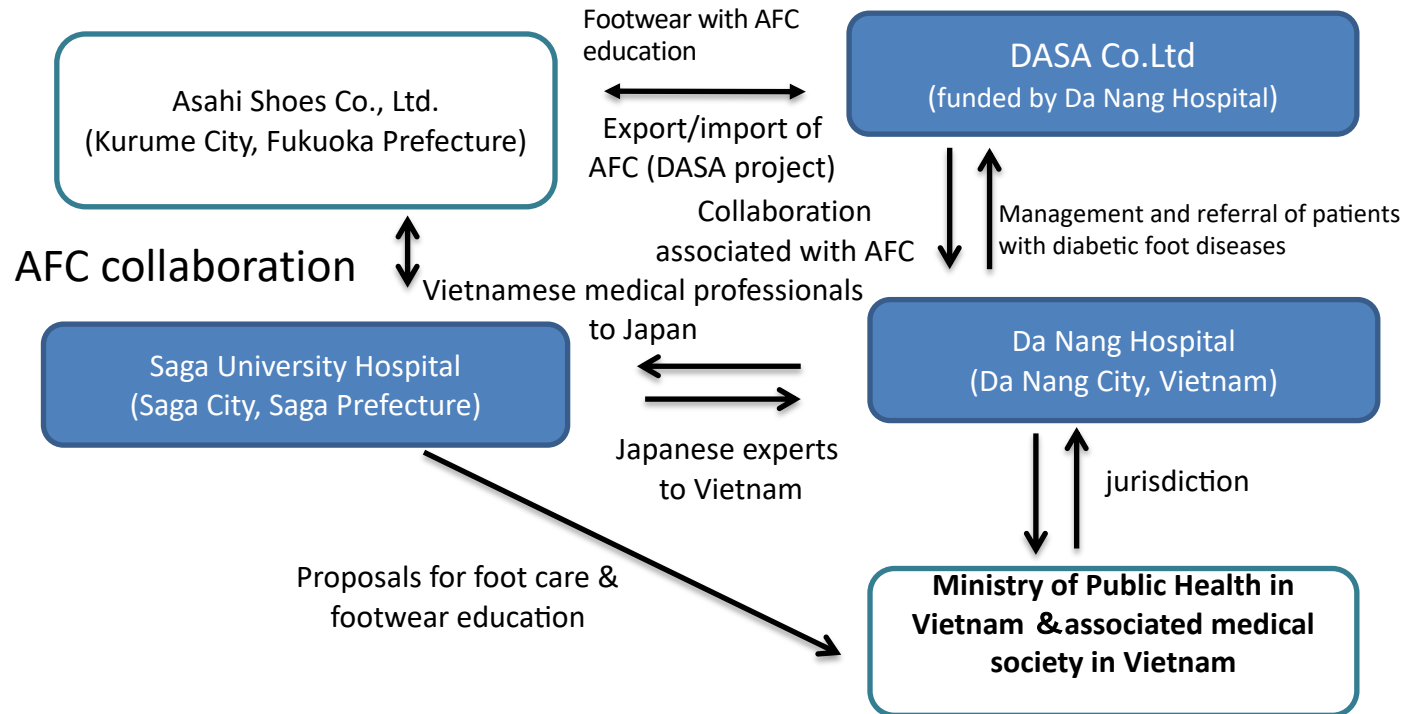


Promotion of Footwear as a Treatment for Diabetic Foot Diseases in Vietnam

Creation date: May 17, 2024

- Background information on local conditions and needs: As in Japan, diabetes is rapidly increasing in Vietnam, and an increasing number of patients are forced to have lower-limb amputations due to diabetic foot diseases such as foot ulcers and gangrene, which cause scars on the feet. In particular, the lifestyle of bare feet and sandals still persists, and the current living environment is prone to foot scarring.
- Project Objective: To introduce Japanese foot care and footwear education for preventing foot injuries to Vietnam. To improve the lifestyle of bare feet and sandals in ASEAN countries including Vietnam.
- Project Summary: Introduce footwear education in Vietnam to prevent foot injuries using medical shoes (hereinafter referred to as AFC) developed through joint research by Saga University and Asahi Shoes Co.Ltd. Educate medical professionals (doctors, nurses, orthotists, etc.) concerned with foot care at Da Nang Hospital in Vietnam through online education and training in Japan, and dispatch experts (doctors, nurses, shoe companies, etc.) to Vietnam to promote footwear in the central region of Vietnam, and to establish a sales channel in Vietnam for AFC, which was developed through industry-university collaboration in Japan. AFC, which was developed through industry-academia collaboration in Japan, will be purchased and marketed in Vietnam by a new company; DASA Co.Ltd, in which Da Nang Hospital has invested.
- Expected results and subsequent ripple effects: By introducing guidelines for foot wounds at Saga University and Da Nang Hospital, instructing medical personnel (doctors, nurses, orthotists, etc.) involved in foot care at Da Nang Hospital, and disseminating the AFC developed through joint research, the number of leg amputations will decrease in the central region of Vietnam by 2025 from a reduction in foot infection among diabetic patients. The number of lower limb amputations will be reduced due to the reduction of foot infections among diabetic patients in the central region of Vietnam by 2025. As a result, medical guidelines using AFC will be incorporated into the medical insurance system in Vietnam.



- <Training Schedule>
1. Online meetings (June-December)
Clinical conferences for patients with diabetic foot diseases and Business meetings on AFC exports and imports (7 times in total)
 2. on-site visit to Vietnam and training in Japan (on-site meeting)
Visited Vietnam twice (July and September)
(Danang Hospital, DASACo.ltd)
Visited Japan twice (August and October)
(Saga University, Asahi Shoes Co.Ltd)
Workshop on the dissemination of footwear for patients with diabetic foot diseases
 3. Dissemination of AFC/educational materials on patient data (5 materials created) (July-August, November-December)
 4. November: Japanese experts visited Vietnam (8 people)
Local clinical conference for patients with diabetic foot diseases
31 patients monitored using AFC
Medium-term (1 year) data collection of
Visit to the Ministry of public health in Vietnam (Hanoi)
 5. December 2024 final Online Conference
Discussions on evaluation and improvement of exchange
Meeting on Phase II projects