Training of Blood Morphology Testing for Clinicians and Laboratory Technologists in Mongolia

• Background (Year 2019)

In Mongolia, treatment of hematological malignancies including acute leukemia has frequently been carried out by transporting patients to neighboring countries. Meanwhile, in recent years, attempts to execute the diagnosis and the treatment of the diseases including stem cell transplantation by themselves has been initiated, however, it is still limited to central medical facilities in Ulaanbaatar. For expanding treatment in the country, the development of human resources (MDs and Lab technicians) that are capable of executing proper evaluation of hematopoietic cell morphology is required. The demand for professionals is not only in the capital city but also in large areas throughout the country, but such resources are largely lacking.

• Outline of the project

In this project, the project team established by the Japanese Society for Laboratory Hematology will commit on the development of human resources who take part in the morphological diagnosis of hematopoietic cells. The team will visit Mongolia, as well as invite Mongolian MDs and Lab technicians, to give an opportunity to train the skills for the diagnosis. A total of 10 medical staffs who are recommended by the Mongolian Association for Laboratory Medicine are going to be selected as trainees. In addition, with the cooperation of the Mongolian Ministry of Health and the Association for Laboratory Medicine, the outcome of our education will be shown in a meeting, and a seminar on the latest diagnosis and treatment of hematological malignancy will be hold as a part of this project.

• Expected outcome

10 medical staffs (MDs and Lab technicians) who perform morphological diagnosis in hospitals in Mongolia will be trained in 2019. In case the project continues for more than two years, the educated medical staffs are going to be expanded as much as 20. In addition, this project aims an establishment of an education tool for external quality assurance for hematology. The project team is going to collect images of normal and malignant hematopoietic cells and to provide an internet site (or a document) that will be widely used as a reference in Mongolia.

