



Top Interview

Report from the Disaster Task Force Vol.3

Setsuo Takekawa, Chairman of Medical Corporate Body KEN-IKU KAI



March 17, 2011

I would like to extend my deepest sympathies to everyone who suffered loss and damage from the Great East Japan Earthquake. Furthermore, I would like to express my sincerest hopes that the disaster-stricken areas will be able to recover as soon as possible, and that everyone is safe and sound.

As of today, March 17, we have received media reports that the disaster-stricken areas are suffering quite badly from severe shortages in goods and materials, as well as foodstuffs. The hospitals and facilities of the Ken-Iku Kai Group are no exception. First of all, the Disaster Task Force is carrying out support activities to improve the situation of our hospitalized patients. I would like to take this opportunity to provide you with a report of the activities that have been carried out.

[Ishinomaki Hospital & Himawari Home Healthcare Service Division]

(March 15)

- Relief supplies, including heaters, winter clothes, and emergency power supply sources, were sent by the Ken-Iku Kai Group's Hanakawa Hospital, which is located in the city of Ishikari in Hokkaido. The relief supplies were transported via Aomori and delivered safely. (The third convoy)

(March 16)

- Medical supplies were provided by the Self Defense Forces.
- Two-way communication became possible by using cell phones, enabling us to ascertain what supplies were running short.
- A team of experts from a major construction company carried out a diagnostic inspection of the hospital building. The report we received stated that neither the framework nor the structure of the hospital building sustained any damage from the earthquake or tsunami.

(March 17)

- With the aim of reopening the hospital, a major construction company was commissioned to undertake recovery work on the 1st and 2nd floors of the hospital, which were rendered unusable by the tsunami. Work has already begun on repairing the hospital.
- Relief supplies (medical supplies and foodstuffs) were flown in by helicopter from Tokyo. The deliveries were completed at 4:10 p.m. (The fourth convoy)



<Planned activities>

- A medical team made up of six volunteers (doctors, nurses, and care providers) from within the Ken-Iku Kai Group is expected to leave for Ishinomaki early in the morning of March 18. (The team is scheduled to carry out activities for one week.)
- It is anticipated that recovery work on the 1st and 2nd floors of the hospital will be completed in two or three days.
- The Miyagi Prefecture Disaster Headquarters has informed us that power source cars will be provided to the hospital within two or three days.
- The Disaster Task Force plans to continue providing support hereafter.

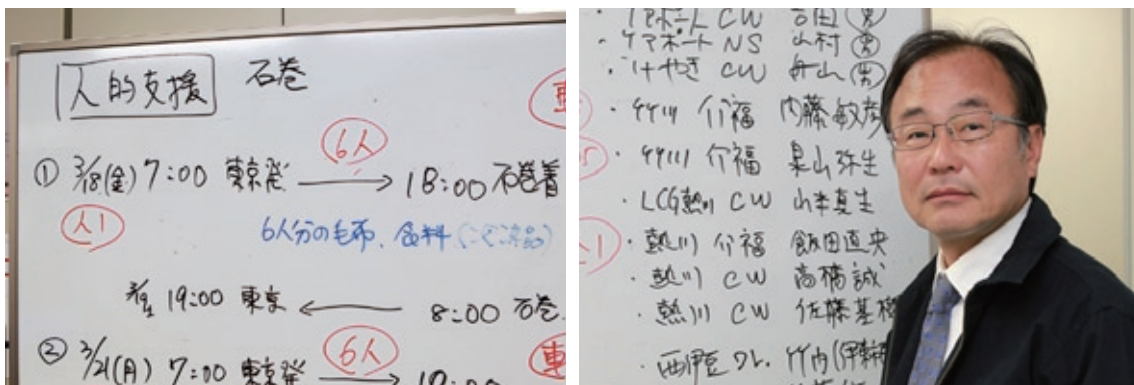
[Iwaki Yumoto Hospital]

- The Iwaki Yumoto Hospital is located in the city of Iwaki in Fukushima Prefecture. Because it is located to the south and outside of the designated evacuation zone of the nuclear power plant, the hospital is able to continue providing medical treatment to hospitalized patient.
- The hospital has electricity and gas, but due to the shortage of fuel, the city has stopped supplying water. In response to this situation, water supply trucks have been hurriedly secured from Shizuoka Prefecture, about 300 km from Fukushima Prefecture. Today, March 17, at 9:30 in the morning, water supply trucks departed Shizuoka Prefecture and delivered 11 tons of water to the hospital. In addition, the Disaster Task Force also sent relief supplies (special dietary foods for patients, emergency provisions, medical supplies, etc.). Delivery of these supplies has been completed (The fourth convoy).
- Aid (diapers, liquid food, medical consumables, etc.) that was sent by the Japan Association of Long Term Care Hospitals to its member hospitals arrived at Iwaki Yumoto Hospital. The hospital staff were extremely gratified to receive the supplies.
- The Disaster Task Force plans to continue providing support hereafter.



[Our other hospitals and facilities]

- The rolling power blackouts are being implemented as scheduled where Life Care Garden Shonan is located; however, operations are being carried out at the facility at almost the same level as in normal times.
- Though the Atagawa and Izu regions, where such facilities as Atagawa Onsen Hospital and Nishi Izu Hospital are located, are designated as areas where the rolling power blackouts are to be implemented, the power blackouts are not being carried out at the present time. However, various preparations are being undertaken to ensure that normal operations can be maintained, even in the event the rolling blackouts are implemented.
- Itabashi-ward, Tokyo, where Takekawa Hospital and Care Port Itabashi are located, is currently not in an area that is subject to the rolling power blackouts. However, these facilities have made preparations to promptly cope with power blackouts, should the rolling power blackouts be implemented.



The Ken Ikukai Group, too, is making every possible effort to continuously provide aid to Ishinomaki Hospital, its Himawari home healthcare service division, and Iwaki Yumoto Hospital, which are located in the disaster-stricken areas, but it is becoming more difficult to obtain fuel and procure supplies in the Tokyo Metropolitan Area. The Japanese government also mentioned in an announcement today that in order to make it possible to send supplies to the disaster-stricken areas, the people in the Tokyo Metropolitan Area need to refrain from taking such actions as stockpiling or hoarding goods, so we would like to ask everyone to respond to the disaster in a calm and levelheaded way.

Setsuo Takekawa
Head of the Disaster Task Force