

Initiative 11 Ensuring medical care in the affected areas

[Outline of Approach]

- In order to ensure the availability of health care providers in the especially the badly hit southeastern city of Rikuzentakata, the Iwate Medical Association opened a clinic in August 2011 where doctors from inland areas provide consultations in shifts.
- Medical equipment maintenance costs and clinic operating costs are paid for with assistance from both the national and prefectural governments. It is important to build a relationship of mutual trust and collaboration between governmental and medical bodies from before disaster strikes.

Approach 1: Establishment of clinics by Iwate Medical Association

Iwate Medical Association was established in August 2011 to ensure continuous medical support in the affected areas. It was the first prefectural medical association in Japan to open a clinic in the disaster-affected areas.

With support from related organizations, consultations are ongoing with nearby temporary housing within the same premises.



Rikuzentakata clinics

There is a lack of dermatology, pediatrics and otorhinolaryngology among other clinical departments in the affected areas, so a total of 11 clinics have been working in shifts. They are operated by local medical institutions and remain open even on Saturdays, Sundays, national holidays and year-end holidays.

Currently, with the cooperation of Iwate Pharmaceutical Association, the clinics are working to improve the convenience of facilities and to provide in-house prescriptions.



Interior of clinic



Consultation 1



Consultation 2