

Mobile Pharmacy Vehicle (2012/11/17)

Venue: Miyagi Pref. Pharmaceutical Association (Sendai)

Topics: Functions required for the emergent pharmaceutical assistant vehicle

On Nov. 17, Prof. Egawa visited Miyagi Pref. Pharmaceutical Association to watch Mobile Pharmacy Vehicle. The Association raised its own fund to build up the vehicle in order to cope with future wide area disasters. In Great East Japan Earthquake, many pharmacies were severely damaged and suffered from the lack of stock to provide not only emergent drugs but also daily prescriptions. A lot of drugs were sent to the affected area but the lack of pharmacist and lack of information flow made the confusion of stock piles. Space and instruments for drug preparation was quite insufficient. Thus, the Association raised fund and built up an original mobile pharmacy vehicle as shown below.

This vehicle have lots of gadgets to cope with various situations with affordable cost by customizing a camping car with a car maker in Yamagata Pref. Inside of the vehicle is specialized for drug preparation. Side tent works as a reception for patients and families. The tent can be a calm space and small clinic by side curtains even in bad weather with TV monitor using satellite. The vehicle is equipped with diesel engine and a private power generator by gasoline, accommodates three staffs including a driver with ordinary license. Loft space for two and a toilet with shower, home air conditioner and roof fan makes comfortable space even in bad weather conditions. Small drawers for more than 100 kinds of drugs, automated powder packaging machine, precision balance, water sink, and refrigerator are also available and protected from motion damage on a bad road condition. Satellite network is connecting the Miyagi Medical and Welfare Information Network for the patient's medical record and past prescriptions. Transceivers help the local communication. This original mobile pharmacy vehicle can be a model for pharmaceutical preparedness.



Side tent opening



Drawers and automated packaging machine

Shinichi Egawa (Disaster Medical Science)、Photos: Takuro Yamada (Miyagi Pref. Pharmaceutical Association)