

## Special Lecture of disaster medicine in Angeles University (2015/1/9)

Venue: Angeles University, Philippines

Topics: Disaster and infectious disease, Mental health in disaster

On Jan 9, Profs. Shinichi Egawa and Hiroaki Tomita gave special lectures about disaster medicine in Angeles University, Central Luzon, Philippines. This is the third and final of special lecture series according to IRIDeS and Angeles University Foundation.

Prof Egawa summarized the infectious disease into three categories: a. possible outbreak in disaster, b. tetanus due to the mass casualties, c. emerging infectious disease as a biohazard according to the climate change and globalization of the human being. Prof. Egawa introduced the audience about the story of Ignaz Semmelweis in 19<sup>th</sup> century before the concept of infection was scientifically established. Semmelweis practically clarified that puerperal (child bed) fever is due to the dirty hand of surgeons, but not the something evil in the hospital. In the disaster situation without sufficient resource, sanitation, nutrition and education of the affected people is the basic and most effective method to reduce the risk of outbreak.

Prof. Tomita lectured about the post-traumatic stress response (PTSR), part of PTSD is the symptom sustains) from its psycho-physical mechanisms and the method of intervention. Mental health was the last issue that was taken care in disaster in Philippines. Since the number of psychiatrist in Philippines with 7000 islands are about 500, it is impossible for psychiatrist to response the mental health problem in disaster. The education of first responders and general health professionals are vital. Prof. Tomita introduced the results of Shichigahama cohort study and emphasized that the awareness of PTSR to gradually decrease the fear from the people and if it is persistent, treatment can be applied.

This final lecture also gave us the insight of establishing curriculum of disaster medicine. We are going to promote education and training of scientists related to disaster, health professionals and general population about the mental and physical health in and after disaster, appropriate response and its preparedness.



Prof. Hiroaki Tomita



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