

Special Lectures in Angeles University (2018 / 1 / 6)

Topics: How to make healthy and resilient society. Risk management of disaster related infectious disease.

Venue: Angeles University Foundation, School of Public Health (Angeles, Philippines)

On Jan. 6, 2018 (Sat), Prof. Shinichi Egawa (International Cooperation for Disaster Medicine) gave special lectures in the Angeles University Foundation, School of Public Health.

These lectures are under the Memorandum of Agreement between Angeles University and IRIDeS. The audience is nurses, public health nurses, midwives and other health professionals who are in the Master Course of Public Health. Prof. Egawa made the lecture interactive using the real time answer-pad system focusing on the disaster medicine and disaster related infectious disease.

Prof. Egawa uses the equation that Disaster Risk = Hazard (exposure) x Vulnerability / Capacity to make the audience understand how we can reduce the risk. It is easy to measure the understanding level of the audience in real-time by the answer-pad for the mini-tests at every corner of the talk. On the other hand, Prof. Egawa showed the similarity between disaster and disease and attracted the intense of the health workers. By these methods, it becomes easier to understand the risk reduction of the disaster i.e. preparedness and response, as well as the risk reduction of the disease such as prevention and treatment.

In the second part of the talk, Prof. Egawa indicated the instance of Ignaz Philipp Semmelweis in Austria who found the correlation between puerperal fever (child bed fever) and the hand sanitation of the treating physicians. Prof. Egawa insisted the importance of infection prevention and control, intense education of health care workers with appropriate Personal Protective Equipment (PPE). He also stressed the outreaching effort and cooperative attitude of health profession to general public and other clusters for efficient response.

Prof. Egawa cited the publication (Jones-Konneh TEC, Egawa S, et al, Tohoku J Exp Med 2017) in which the importance of intense education of health care workers for effective protection of health care workers themselves and the better outcome of the patients.

The audience asked many questions about how to prepare for the slow onset disasters such as drought, how to promote the cooperation with other clusters, national and local governments. They also asked why Japanese stayed calm without being panic after Great East Japan Earthquake, or how to cope with the increasing infectious disease such as HIV. Prof. Egawa indicated that there is no right answer and the importance of solution under local context. Prof. Egawa stressed the importance of risk perception. The risk perception of health has many common features with risk perception in disaster, especially nuclear accident in Great East Japan Earthquake, or Ebola Virus Disease Outbreak. Without being panic from fear, understanding the risk, governing the risk (preparedness or prevention) and the appropriate action (treatment or response) will suggest the way of solution. At each end of the lecture, Prof. Egawa asks the evaluation of the lecture. Each lecture got high evaluation with more than 75% of the audience answered “Very interesting” .



Prof. Egawa talking on Disaster Medicine and Disaster-related Infectious Disease



Active participation of master course students and faculties with answer-pad system



One of the audience asking questions



Dean of School of Public Health,
Professors and Prof. Egawa
Shinichi Egawa (Div. Disaster Medical Science)