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Travel Dialysis in Korea, Japan and Taiwan

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Objectives: As the survival period of patients with hemodialysis increased, demand for overseas travel began to increase in order to improve the quality of life of hemodialysis patients. The objective of this study is to introduce the current status of travel dialysis centered on Korea, Japan and Taiwan, which began after 2017, and to explore ways to move forward.

Methods:

In July 2016, medical staffs at Suginoki Clinic in Japan visited Beomil Yonsei Clinic in Busan, and then the exchange of hemodialysis patients began between Korea and Japan for travel or business trip.

Results:

After the first Japanese travel dialysis patient visited Busan in February 2017 and completed hemodialysis at Beomil Yonsei Clinic, Taiwanese travel dialysis patients began to visit Korea after agreement with Taiwan Association for Dialysis Patients' Quality of life (TDQ) in 2018, and 26 cases of travel dialysis in 2019 were done within this network.

In June 2019, World Travel Dialysis Medical Network (WTDM) is established with medical staffs and hospitals from Korea, Japan, and Taiwan.

Conclusions:

In the future, WTDM will endeavor to provide a safe environment for travel dialysis to improve the quality of life of hemodialysis patients and look forward to the participation of many interested medical staffs and hospitals.

Figure 1. The performance of World Travel Dialysis Network in 2019

한국 뿐만 아니라 아시아를 중심으로 한 외국과의 관계를 강화하고 있는 세계여행투석 네트워크 (WTDM)의 실적은 다음과 같다. (2019년)

일본→한국	4
일본→대만	1
일본→중국	1
일본→베트남	1
일본→필리핀	1
한국→일본	2
한국→베트남	1
대만→일본	5
대만→한국	10



Figure 2. The activities of World Travel Dialysis Network in 2019

