

Securing Physicians on Remote Islands and in Remote Areas (Medical Support Centre Project for Remote Islands and Remote Areas)

Nagasaki Prefecture



The Shimasuketto Group uses RIMCAS (Remote Island Medical Co-operation Air Service) to provide medical support

Situation (background, aims, etc.)

The shortage of physicians in remote islands and areas has become a growing challenge due to the concentration of physicians in urban areas, making it difficult for individual municipalities to secure medical staff independently. To address this disparity, the prefecture provides comprehensive support to secure physicians for municipal clinics located in remote islands.

Details (project outline, etc.)

In April 2004, the Prefecture created the Nagasaki Prefecture Medical Support Centre for Remote Islands and Remote Areas. The Centre ensures access to medical care in remote islands and areas by securing medical professionals and promoting innovative community medicine. The Centre also provides support for medical care in remote islands and remote areas in cooperation with the Regional Medical Resources Support Centre in Nagasaki, established in FY2012.

Support

1. Shimasuketto Group
The Centre arranges for physicians from the Shimasuketto Group to be dispatched to the clinic on a short-term basis when full-time physicians become unavailable, ensuring continued medical care in remote islands and remote areas.
2. Dispatch of Substitute Physicians
The prefecture dispatches full-time physicians from the Nagasaki Regional Medical Human Resource Support Centre at the request of municipalities when their regular physicians are unavailable.
3. Recruitment, Placement, and Referring Full-Time Physicians
The Centre also assists with recruiting and referring physicians by providing information about job opportunities and connecting interested physicians with remote area clinics.

Results (features and innovations, future developments, etc.)

So far, 69 full-time physicians have been employed in municipal clinics, hospitals within the Nagasaki Prefectural Hospital Corporation, and municipal hospitals.