

Report of Doctor Dispatch to Soma City

Four doctors, Drs Izumo, Watada, Makinodan and Ashitate, from Boston-Japan Medical Relief Initiative (BJMRI) left for Soma city in Fukushima prefecture to provide medical supports to evacuees from coastal areas engulfed by tsunami on March 11th.

Overview of Soma City

Soma and Minami Soma are coastal cities of Fukushima prefecture and approximately 10-30 miles north of Fukushima I Nuclear Power Plant where the nuclear accident followed the tsunami disaster. The city cannot manage to provide a basic life to the evacuees from tsunami-affected areas and neighborhood of Fukushima I Nuclear Power Plant. Many evacuees remained staying in shelters, where medical cares are far below the optimal.

	Prior Population	Casualty	Missing Person	Casualty & Missing Person	Total Evacuees
Soma	37,796	426 (1.1%)	104 (0.3%)	530 (1.4%)	1,424 (3.8%)
Minami Soma	70,772	456 (0.6%)	1,018 (1.4%)	1,474 (2.1%)	5,713 (8.1%)

Percentage is of each prior population size in the Soma city and Minami Soma city

Brief Medical Report:

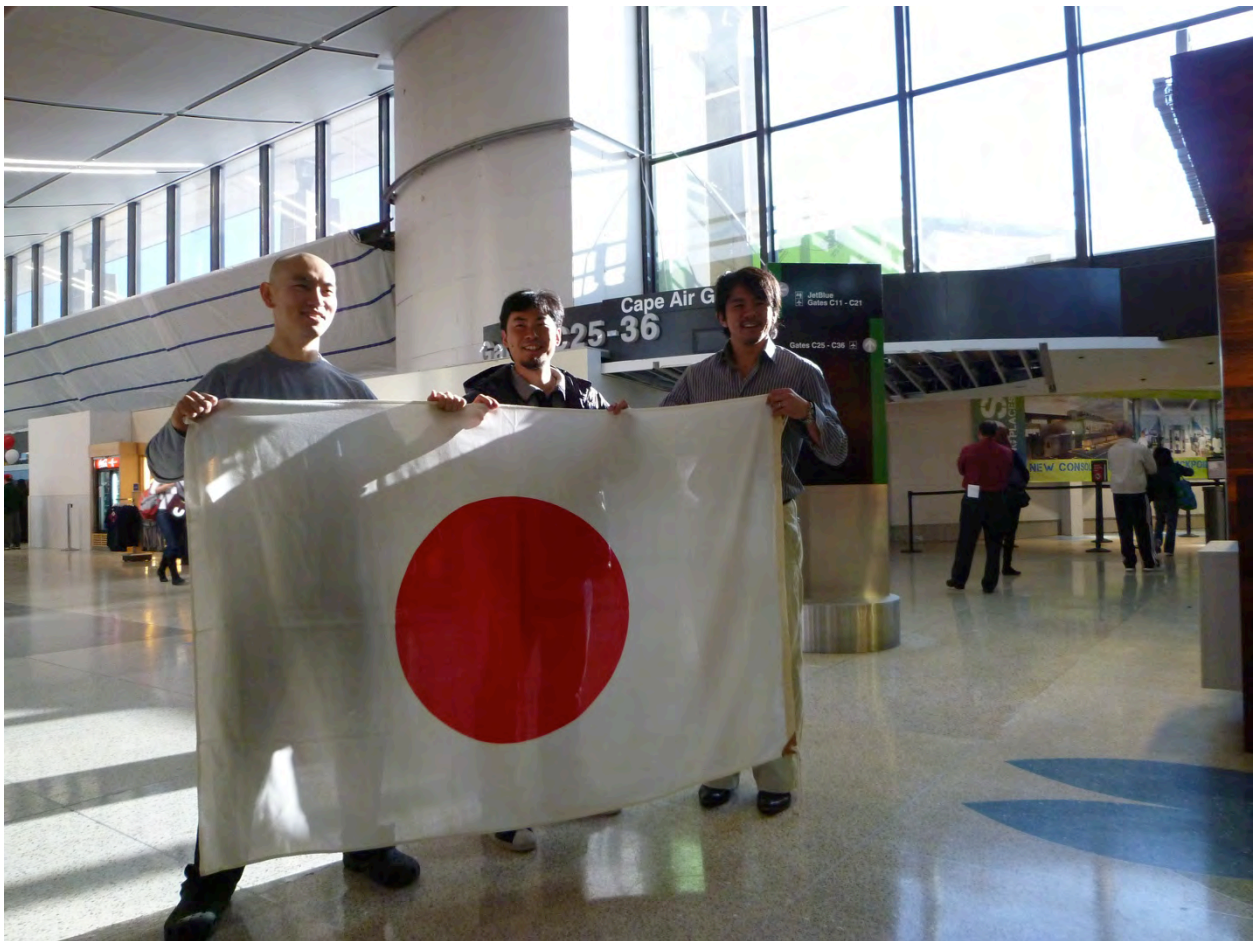
Medical Support Group in Soma City

- 9 shelters were founded in Soma city. Medical cares were provided collaboratively by All Japan Hospital Association (AJHA) team, Ishikawa prefecture Japan Medical Association Team (JMAT), Shizuoka Prefecture JMAT, and medical support team from Tokyo Medical University
- BJMRI doctors joined the Soma city medical support group as a member of AJHA. Dr Izumo temporarily directed the medical supports in Soma city as the representative of AJHA.
- Dr. Makinodan joined “Kokoro no Kea (Care of Mind)” team which is organized by Fukushima Medical University, composed of psychiatrists all over Japan.

Kyu Soma Joshi School Shelter

- BJMRI doctors visited Kyu-Soma Jyoshi School shelter where 541 evacuees stayed.
- 95% of them evacuated from Minami Soma City, where is 15-mile south from Soma city.
- The medical team consisted of 3 medical doctors, 6 nurses, 1 pharmacist, 1 physical therapist and 3 office staff.
- Before BJMRI group arrived, only 1 doctor had been available there.

- Meals provided were sufficient, but not controlled nutritionally. To improve the issue, the medical team has included a dietician since April 12th.
- The evacuees tended to be physically inactive. The shelter offers the gymnastic program twice a day.
- Disease conditions, such as high blood pressure, diabetes and arthritis, appeared deteriorated. The doctors actively screened the evacuees to identify asymptomatic cases.
- After BJMRI doctors left, on April 18th, Kyu Soma Joshi School Shelter was closed down because it had been appointed as a damaged building after the series of earthquakes.



Above: Medical team from AJHA
(From left side, Drs Ashitate, Watada and Makinodan)



Above: On the way to Soma City