The Western Pacific Region (WPR) has more than 43 million people with diabetes. The number is gradually increasing, and the number of diabetic foot lesions and subsequent amputations is also raising. However, there are no foot care specialists in WPR and there is much ignorance amongst medical staff as to how to identify and educate those at risk and treat those who develop foot problems. Furthermore, data about diabetic foot problems specifically in our region are very scarce. In this difficult situation, we determined to commit to serve as a key facility of diabetic foot problems in WPR with a support from WHO and IDF. The followings are some of our main activities relating to our mission.

**KYOTO FOOT MEETING –International Meeting on Diabetic Foot in Western Pacific Region–**

Since 2006, we have been hosting an annual international meeting to discuss the common problems of diabetes and its complications in WPR in Kyoto, Japan. The focus of our meeting had been set for the management of diabetic foot problems since 2007, and we have been inviting attendees from various countries throughout WPR to discuss diabetic foot problems that are specific to their countries. Along with the participants from WPR, we also invite international experts on diabetic foot to improve our knowledge and skills of the management of diabetic foot, and seek for their expert opinions on our complicated cases. The invited lecturers in the past meeting are shown below. In 2016, we had doctors participating from 7 countries from WPR (see the map on the left), and invited Dr. Kristien Van Acker from Belgium to share her expertise to our participants.

Past Invited Lecturers:
- Prof. Andrew J.M. Boulton from UK (2006)
- Prof. Lawrence B. Harkless from USA (2007)
- Ms. Alethea V. M. Foster from UK (2009)
- Prof. Benjamin A. Lipsky & Dr. Thomas Lyons (video conference 2010)
- Prof. Benjamin A. Lipsky from USA (2011)
- Prof. Jan Apelqvist from Sweden (2012)
- Prof. Carlo Caravaggi from Italy (2013)
- Dr. Zulfikarali G. Abbas from Tanzania (2015)
- Dr. Kristien Van Acker from Belgium (2016)

**ASIPAC FOOT STUDY –Multinational Collaborative study of Diabetic Foot–**

ASIPAC FOOT STUDY is a multinational collaborative study of Diabetic foot, and it was launched in 2009 to investigate the characteristics of diabetic patients with foot ulcers in 7 hospitals in 7 counties; Vietnam, Philippines, Indonesia, China, Mongolia, Thailand, and Japan). The tertiary government hospital at Phnom Penh in Cambodia joined this study group in 2010, and since then, we have been collecting data from our counterparts on various topics related to diabetic foot care in our region. The main aims of our ASIPAC FOOT STUDY are to obtain data on clinical outcome in patients with diabetic foot ulcer and to identify common problems and solutions that are specific to our region. The another aim of this study is to raise awareness of diabetic foot problems and to share the knowledge and experience within our region. The followings are the topics we discussed at KYOTO Foot Meeting as a part of ASIPAC FOOT STUDY. Each of the participants from various countries are required to investigate on a designated topic and present the data at the meeting. The data gets consolidated after each meeting and it is used to plan strategies to improve diabetic foot situations in WPR.

- Demographics of Patients with Diabetic Foot in WPR (2008)
- Charcot Foot in in Western Pacific Region (2009)
- Foot related life style Difference in WPR (2011)
- Diabetic Complications in WPR (2012)
- Medical cost on Diabetic Foot in WPR (2013)
- Diabetic Complications in WPR (2014)
- Osteomyelitis of the foot in the diabetics (2015)
- Diabetic Foot Complication (2016)

**IDF-WPR Foot Care Project –Recognition of IDF-WPR Diabetic Foot Center & WPR DF Registry–**

Following our Kyoto Foot Meeting, the new project: “Diabetic Foot Care in WPR” had been started in 2011 as a main project of IDF-WPR collaborating with WHO-WPR. One major aim of this project is to help the tertiary care hospital in developing countries that are recognized by IDF-WPR or the Ministry of Health to set up the diabetic foot centers and their networks in their countries. For this purpose, we recognized 12 hospitals in 10 counties (Mongolia, China, Taiwan, Thailand, Philippines, Japan, Malaysia, Australia, Cambodia, Fiji) as “IDF-WPR recognized Diabetic Foot Center” at IDF-WPR council meeting in 2012. We had 22 delegates from 12 countries in WPR attending our kick-off meeting for this project in Kyoto, and the numbers grew to 25 delegates from 15 countries attending our second meeting held in 2013. Through the discussion, we reached a conclusion that we need to establish diabetic foot registry using a same format to accumulate clinical data to investigate our unique needs of diabetic foot management. Based on these regional data, we will make up the regional guidelines of diabetic foot care.

**Medical Support Project for ASEAN Countries**

The new project has launched in 2015 to assist medical professionals in ASEAN countries on the prevention and the treatment of diabetic foot. Nine medical professionals visited Kyoto Medical Center for 10 days to 2 weeks each time to learn how to prevent and care diabetic foot problems. The trainees comes from Vietnam, Cambodia, Thai and Philippines, and the main training was held at Kyoto Medical Center along with Kyoto University Hospital and Kansai Electric Power hospital. After the training, the trainees from Kyoto Medical Center visit trainees’ hospitals to give lectures to their local staff and see their patients together to provide technical advice. The total of 36 trainees have completed this training course between 2015-2016 and the following the completion, each trainee takes leadership role in prevention and treatment of diabetic foot in their home countries.

**Training & Technical Support at the Counterparts’ institutions & at the Kyoto Medical Center**

Dr. Shigeo Kono, a director of WHO collaborating center for Diabetes in Kyoto has visited institutions in counterparts’ countries such as China, Indonesia, Vietnam, Fiji, Singapore, Vietnam, Thailand and others multiple times to provide lectures to local medical professionals as well as on-sight technical support for their complicated cases.

**Educational Materials for patients and medical professionals**

We set up our website for WHO collaborating Centre for Diabetes Treatment and Education at Kyoto Medical Center to raise awareness of diabetic foot problems in WPR. Within our website, we share our educational materials for Health Care Professionals as well as the educational materials for patients. They are free to use for anyone who would like to improve their diabetic foot care. The updates on our activities such as KYOTO FOOT MEETING and ASIPAC study to be uploaded within this website.

http://www.kyotofootcare.jp