



## The experiences of anesthesia for cleft palate operations and technical transfer in the Socialist Republic of Viet Nam

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We performed the cleft lip and palate operations under general anesthesia in the Socialist Republic of Viet Nam during December 1997, as a charity mission of Japanese Cleft Palate Foundation. Herein, We report the details of the mission. The Nguyen Dinh Chieu Hospital, where we performed the mission, was located in the Ben-tre Province on Mekon Delta. The medical team consisted of 25 doctors including 6 anesthetists, 6 nurses and 5 interpreters. We performed 52 operations including 11 cheiloschisis, 38 cleft palates and 3 others. The range of age was from one to 40 years old.

However no complication has occurred during and after the operations and the patients have recovered satisfactorily, there were some problems to be solved, 1. Only a few medical tests have been given before the operations. 2. We were afraid if the patients misunderstood our explanation of the operation, because they don't have enough public health education. 3. We could not get N2O gas for operations in Ben-tre Province.