**BACKGROUND**

We have been trying to make an international pathology consultation using virtual slide (VS) with the eastern Asian countries. This time, we conducted proving experiment with Myanmar.

**PROJECT SUPPORTED BY**

Investigation of overseas operations of Japanese medical services – international remote diagnosis system 8 projects including Russia, China, Vietnam, etc.

**MATERIALS AND METHODS**

1. We used Nanozoomer (Hamamatsu, Japan) as VS scanner.
2. We made VS in Japan from slides previously sent from Myanmar via international parcel delivery service.
3. We brought notebook PC to Myanmar with VS data saved in hard disk.
4. Using this VS data, we made VS conference between Mita Hospital (Tokyo, Japan) and University of Medicine 1 (Yangon, Myanmar) using WebEx teleconference system.

**CONSORTIUM FOR INTERNATIONAL REMOTE DIAGNOSIS SYSTEM**

- Hamamatsu Photonics: Virtual slide (VS) scanner
- Mita Hospital: Diagnosis
- Panasonic System Solutions: Network and TV conference
- Sakura FineTek: Pathology specimen preparation
- Toshiba Medical Systems: CT/MRI image

**MAP**

University of Medicine 1, Myanmar
Mita Hospital, Japan
Mita Hospital, International University of Health and Welfare, Tokyo, Japan

**SLIDE QUALITY**

1. Total 3 out of 10 slides sent from Myanmar by DHL was broken.
2. The quality of pathology slides with the protocol of UM1 is not good enough for Japanese pathologists.
3. Using modern equipment such as Tissue Processor, Embedding Console, Automated Coverslipper etc., may improve the quality.
4. Lab technician may need training.

**RESULTS**

1. The quality of Myanmar histological technique requires improvement.
2. The internet connection of Yangon University was slow, so we updated the line to the fastest connection that was 4 Mbps.
3. While we were preparing the experiment, we encountered electrical power interruption, and have to wait for about 2 hours.
4. We could not build good teleconference system we used with Vietnam and China before possibly due to some kind of network restriction.
5. We used WebEx system as an emergency procedure. The pictures and voices were not clear and fragmented.

**DISCUSSION AND PERSPECTIVE**

The international VS telepathology diagnosis and conference is now technically suitable for practical use. Scientific and social issues like quality of histological staining, electricity support, possible web-restriction, custom procedures remains as the future concern to solve.