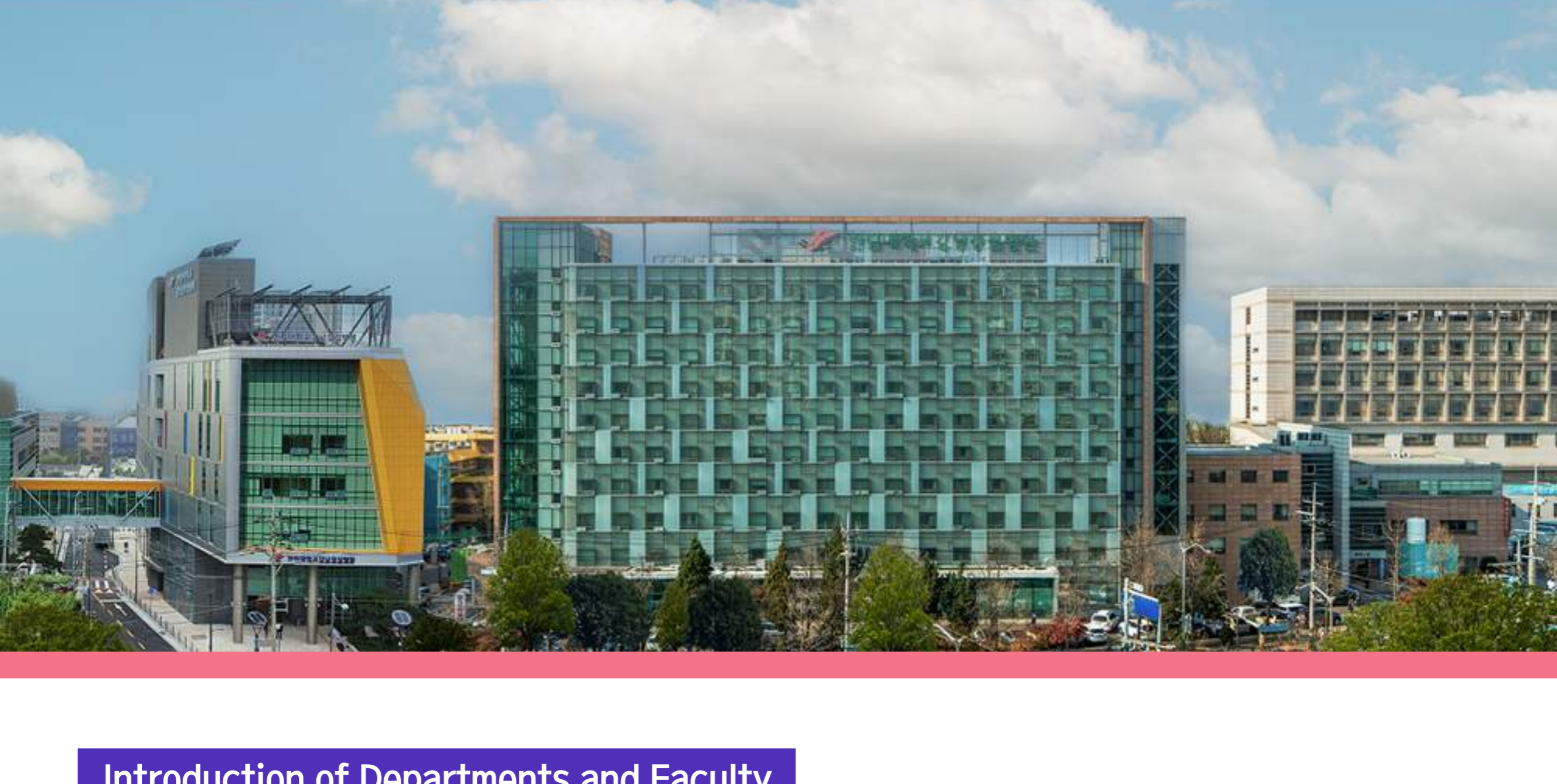


"Begin your healthy and joyful life with us"



Introduction of Departments and Faculty



Ophthalmology

Childhood Strabismus

Strabismus is a condition in which the eyes are misaligned, also called "crossed eyes." In this disorder, both eyes do not line up in the same direction. While one eye is looking straight ahead, the other is deviated inward (esotropia), outward (exotropia), upward (hypertropia), or downward (hypotropia).

Its symptom is that the two eyes are looking in different directions, being deviated. Misalignment can occur in newborns and to adults as well. It may occur throughout the day, but in the beginning, it may only appear occasionally when you are tired, sleepy, or absent-minded without focusing on an object. It also can happen when you squint one eye in a bright place or keep your head always tilted in one direction.

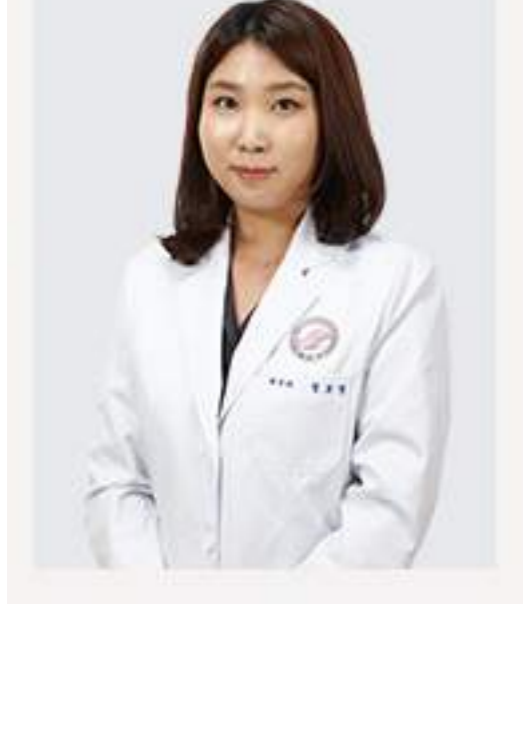
General causes of strabismus include hyperopia, abnormalities in the extraocular muscles and nerves, trauma, brain disease, and visual loss in one eye and etc. However, there are many cases where the exact cause is unknown despite thorough exams.

The goal of strabismus treatment is to restore the visual acuity and binocular vision as well as to improve the appearance. If you suspect that your child has strabismus, you should visit an ophthalmologist immediately to undergo appropriate tests. The first step is to undergo a refraction test to determine if there is myopia, hyperopia, or astigmatism and to prescribe glasses, and if so, glasses should be worn.

Accommodative esotropia can be corrected simply by wearing glasses. If there is amblyopia (lazy eye) that cannot be corrected with glasses alone, amblyopia treatment should come in together. The earlier the amblyopia treatment begins, the higher the successful outcome rate. A mainstay treatment method for amblyopia is a patching the good eye (better eye) to encourage the use of the weaker eye (amblyopic eye).

Various non-surgical treatments are attempted for strabismus, but their effectiveness is highly limited. Considering various conditions, a strabismus specialist can help to determine the timing and method of surgery for strabismus. In severe cases, complete correction may be challenging with just single operation. Even after corrected, strabismus or amblyopia may recur months or years later. Therefore, regular follow-up and management are required after surgery.

Children often cannot express eye problems such as strabismus themselves, so parental attention is crucial. If you suspect that your child has strabismus or decreased vision, you should see an ophthalmologist and ensure appropriate treatment as soon as possible in order to safeguard the child's eye health.



Dermatology

Psoriasis

Psoriasis is a chronic immune-mediated inflammatory disease. Apart from causing persistent skin lesions, it can also impact various areas, including joints. Owing to the overlap between the skin lesions of psoriasis, psoriatic arthritis, and other comorbidities such as metabolic syndrome and cardiovascular disease, psoriasis is recognized as a systemic condition rather than merely a skin disorder. Hence, it's crucial to consider not only treating skin lesions but also addressing potential concurrent or future accompanying diseases.

Some severe cases of psoriasis can be unresponsive to conventional treatments such as topical inhibitors, systemic oral treatments, or light therapy. In such instances, the use of biological treatments can yield rapid and effective results. We aim to deliver prompt, professional, and tailored treatment by conducting a thorough evaluation of each individual psoriasis patient.

Vitiligo and pigment disease

Vitiligo is the most prevalent acquired hypopigmentation disease, necessitating precise diagnosis to distinguish it from other conditions with similar symptoms. A comprehensive evaluation, considering factors such as skin phototype, family history, other medical history, disease duration, extent of involvement, and the level of disease activity, is crucial for anticipating more effective treatment outcomes. Furthermore, we offer specialized treatment for persistent hyperpigmentation diseases that show limited response to conventional therapies.



Gastroenterology & Hepatology / Center for Digestive Endoscopy

Tumor at early stage in esophagus, stomach , duodenum, and colon and large colon polyps

For various early cancers and polyp adenomas that occur in the digestive tract, we are actively performing endoscopic submucosal dissection. About 200 patients took the procedure last year. To date, complications such as perforation have not been identified and the endoscopic treatment is greatly contributing to improving the quality of life of patients better than surgical operations.

Submucosal tumor

As the number of gastric colonoscopies increases, submucosal tumors have been increasingly found in many patients. We diagnose submucosal tumors using ultrasound endoscopy. Depending on the size of the submucosal tumor, ultrasound endoscopic-guided biopsy is performed when necessary. This way, we can do a histological diagnosis of gastrointestinal stromal tumor in order to operate accurate surgery. For various submucosal tumors in the submucosal layer, endoscopic removal is performed through endoscopic submucosal dissection when necessary.

Inflammatory bowel disease

As known as inflammatory bowel diseases, Crohn's disease and ulcerative colitis are increasing among adolescents, young adults, and older adults. Based on our extensive clinical experience with Crohn's disease and ulcerative colitis, we are actively providing relevant treatment to patients. For accurate exams, we have introduced capsule endoscopy, which allows direct imaging of the small intestine. We are also working on implementing biopsy of lesions through single balloon enteroscopy this year.

Hospital News

Director Young-Goo Lee of Hallym University Kangnam Sacred Heart Hospital appointed as the 8th Honorary District Mayor of Yeongdeungpo-gu.

Director Young-Goo Lee was appointed as an Honorary District Mayor in the welfare sector at the '28th Yeongdeungpo Residents' Day' event. Yeongdeungpo-gu has appointed eight subject-matter-experts as Honorary District Mayor in eight different fields, including local autonomy, service, economy, education, culture and arts, welfare, health, and transportation. Over the next year, they will participate in important meetings and events, collect opinions from residents, and suggest policies in their specialty. Director Young-Goo Lee mentioned, "We will strive to ensure that the voices of residents are reflected in developing policies. Hallym University Kangnam Sacred Heart Hospital will continue to practice social responsibility consistently through social contribution activities and do our best to work together as a local community." As the head of Hallym University Kangnam Sacred Heart Hospital located in Yeongdeungpo-gu, Director Young-Goo Lee places the health and happiness of patients as the top priority and is also carrying out various social contribution activities for residents neighboring the hospital.



Ministry of Health and Welfare conducts interim survey for the 3rd Healthcare Accreditation

Hallym University Kangnam Sacred Heart Hospital has completed the interim on-site survey for the 3rd Healthcare Accreditation conducted by the Korea Institute for Healthcare Accreditation (KOIHA) under the Ministry of Health and Welfare. This assessment was conducted to check whether accredited hospitals have improved and well-maintained medical quality since they obtained the 3rd Healthcare Accreditation. This assessment has comprehensively considered all accreditation essential standards for general hospitals, top priority management standards, guidelines pertaining to medical records of discharged patients, as well as key indicators such as patient safety and improvement requests identified during the 3rd accreditation process. After the 3rd Healthcare Accreditation, we have conducted periodic inspections internally and brought medical services and patient safety to the next level through revisions and improvements to regulations.

As a result, we have established a healthcare environment that aligns with the accreditation criteria recommended by KOIHA. All faculty and staff have received comprehensive reviews, confirming the hospital's dedication to enhancing healthcare quality and patient safety.



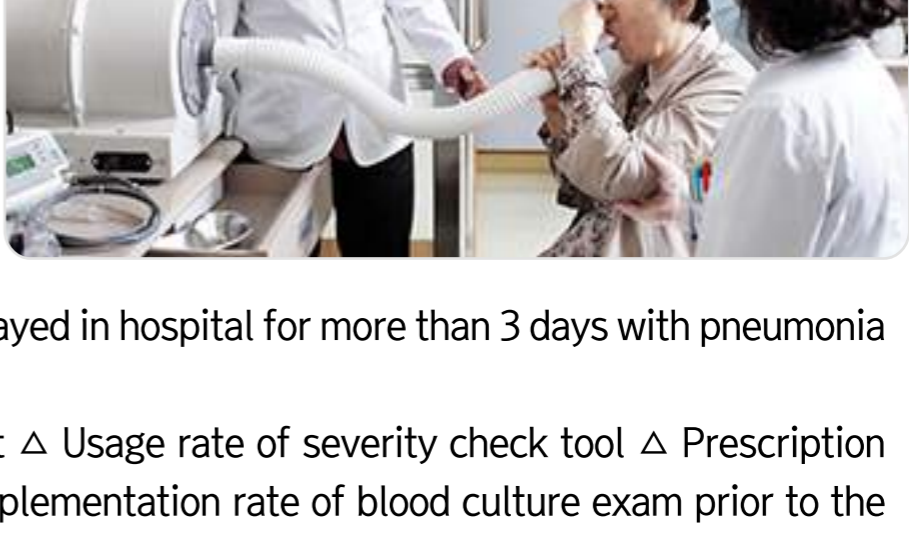
Received 1st grade in pneumonia treatment appropriateness evaluation by Health Insurance Review and Assessment Service

Hallym University Kangnam Sacred Heart Hospital has achieved the highest grade, Grade 1, in the '5th Pneumonia Treatment Appropriateness Evaluation' conducted by the Health Insurance Review and Assessment Service. Since the inception of the pneumonia treatment appropriateness evaluation in 2014, we have consistently maintained the highest rating, never falling below Grade 1.

This evaluation was conducted on 420 hospitals or higher levels of healthcare organizations that administered antibiotics to patients aged 18 or older, who stayed in hospital for more than 3 days with pneumonia from October 2021 to March 2022.

The evaluation items include △ Implementation rate of oxygen saturation test △ Usage rate of severity check tool △ Prescription rate of sputum smear exam △ Prescription rate of sputum culture exam △ Implementation rate of blood culture exam prior to the first antibiotic administration △ Antibiotic administration rate within 8 hours after arriving at the hospital.

We have received 98.3 points, which is close to perfect and superior to the average for each type. In particular, we reached perfect scores in three items, proving that the quality of diagnosis and treatment of pneumonia is at the highest level.



The 1st Hallym Robotic Artificial Joint Symposium held

To celebrate the 2nd anniversary of the opening of the Hallym Robot Arthroplasty Training Center, Hallym University Kangnam Sacred Heart Hospital has held the 1st Robotic Artificial Joint Symposium. The center was established in 2021, marking the first in Korea. The main topic of this symposium was 'Present and Future of Robotic Artificial Joint Surgery'. Thanks to the participation of leading specialists in knee and hip robotic artificial joints, this symposium successfully introduced various advancements in knee artificial joint alignments and showcased actual robotic surgery methods through video sessions. The symposium featured a total of 14 presentations across four fields, including the rapidly growing field of hip robotic artificial joint surgery.

Professor Joong Il Kim of Orthopedic Surgery expressed his satisfaction, stating, "I am pleased to have contributed to the exchange of expertise among specialists in robotic surgery and to have provided practical assistance to participants through this symposium."



Cardiovascular Center expansion and relocation  
• Coronary Care Unit (CCU) opening

Hallym University Kangnam Sacred Heart Hospital has expanded and relocated its Cardiovascular Center. With this expansion, the number of Cardiac Catheterization Laboratories has increased from 2 to 3, and 3 Philips Azurion have been introduced for high performance image-guided therapy solutions. This enhancement allows for the accommodation of more patients simultaneously and with a lower radiation dose than before. Additionally, high-resolution X-ray images can now be obtained.

To minimize patient movement, the Cardiac Catheterization Laboratory and Coronary Care Unit (CCU) have been integrated into a single space. Given the critical importance of Golden Time, it is designed to ensure prompt treatment in emergency situations, taking into account the specific characteristics of significant cardiovascular diseases.

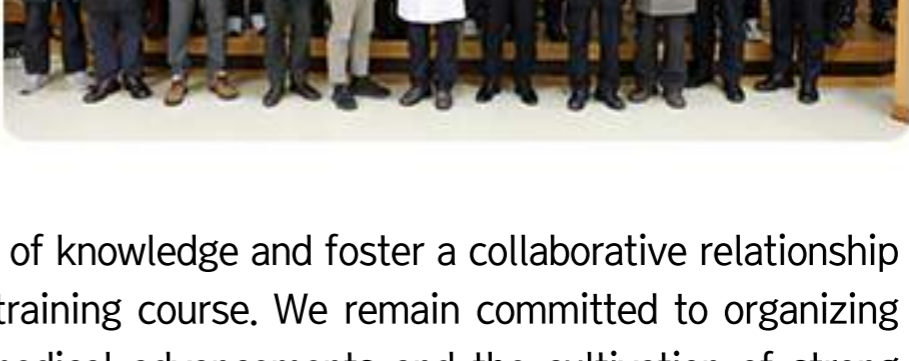
Professor Seong Hoon Choi of Cardiology remarked, "With this expansion, we will be able to promptly treat patients with cardiovascular diseases in emergency situations where time is of the essence. We are committed to striving for excellence in our efforts to safeguard the lives of our patients through swift and precise procedures."



Held 2023 workshops for self-employed physicians

Hallym University Kangnam Sacred Heart Hospital organized the '2023 Training Courses for self-employed physicians.' This comprehensive program covered various topics. Professor Jae Keun Park, the Department of Gastroenterology & Hepatology, presented various approaches to abnormal findings in the pancreas, discovered incidentally during exams. Professor Hwe Hoon Jeong, the Department of Gastroenterology & Hepatology, led the discussion on gallbladder polyps and gallbladder wall thickening. Professor Hanbaro Kim from the Department of General Surgery delivered the lecture on the surgical treatment of cholelithiasis.

Director Young-Goo Lee expressed, "I am delighted to facilitate the exchange of knowledge and foster a collaborative relationship between private physicians and university professors through this training course. We remain committed to organizing regular training sessions for self-employed physicians, sharing the latest medical advancements and the cultivation of strong partnerships between private physicians and university hospitals. Our aim is to consistently deliver the highest quality medical services to our patients in the local community."



Business agreement between Hallym University Kangnam Sacred Heart Hospital and N- BIOTEK to advance research in regenerative medicine

Hallym University Gangnam Sacred Heart Hospital has signed a business agreement with N- BIOTEK, a company specializing in comprehensive stem cell solutions. Through this Memorandum of Understanding (MOU), we envision to invigorate research in advanced regenerative medicine, a medical technology focused on healing or regenerating damaged tissues and organs through the cultivation of human cells.

In 2021, our center was designated as an advanced regenerative medicine implementation institution by the Ministry of Health and Welfare. With state-of-the-art facilities, equipment, and skilled personnel, we are dedicated to conducting clinical research on advanced regenerative medicine. Following the validation of research effectiveness through cell studies and preclinical experiments, we have entered into a business agreement with N-BIOTEK to commence full-scale clinical research.

Through this agreement, the two organizations have mutually agreed to leverage each other's facilities and technologies to collaboratively conduct clinical research on advanced regenerative medicine, collaborating in the development and commercialization of advanced biopharmaceuticals. Specifically, the plan entails cultivating stem cells to treat patients with rare and incurable diseases, focusing on areas including ophthalmology and orthopedics.

