Cloud Service-Based Home Care Assessment System Developed Jointly with the Japan Visiting Nursing Foundation and the Ehime Visiting Nursing Council

Help streamline and improve the quality of services through IT-based periodic assessments, home-visit nursing plan creation and evaluation.

The Company has developed, jointly with the Japan Visiting Nursing Foundation (President: Kiyoko Shimizu) and the General Incorporated Association, Ehime Visiting Nursing Council (President: Mamiko Onishi), the Home Care Assessment System, a system that enables the creation of a home-visit nursing plan based on objective assessment.

Expectations are quickly rising among citizens in Japan's aging society for efficient and effective assistance from home medical and nursing care services, as the Japanese government has been recently encouraging the early release of patients from hospital, a step aimed to lower the nation's medical bills. Among such services, the home-visit nursing service plays a central role in aiding patients and their family members in collaboration with the attending doctor, care manager and helper, among other professionals involved of various fields of expertise. Hence, home-visit nursing has become essential for the patient and their family members to live normally in the local community.

In home-visit nursing, the operator is required to formulate a nursing plan from a variety of circumstances and information, as well as providing the service according to the plan. However, no common methodology for formulating such a nursing plan has spread in the country, making the existing service reliant on the attending nurse's knowledge and experience, a situation that has caused the service to often vary greatly in quality. When issuing an invoice for medical service fees, operators using service plans that are not backed on solid evidence tend to have their number of service hours reduced. In this respect, it is an important task to establish and spread a methodology of formulating the service plan and provide IT- and data analysis-based operational assistance for home-visit nursing services.

The Home Care Assessment System developed by the Company uses, as an objective basis for plan formulation, a foundation-type assessment scheme, the rights to which is owned by the Japan Visiting Nursing Foundation. This foundation-type assessment scheme incorporates the various parameters required for home medical service, such as the patient's preferences and their family's status, in addition to a physical patient assessment. Consequently, this scheme allows the operator to achieve a certain level of results without being unduly affected by the nurse's experience.

Moreover, the Home Care Assessment System offers the function to accumulate and analyze a vast amount of nursing data, a feature enabled by systemizing a series of

nursing processes, from assessment to final evaluation. This was based on a new automatic analysis logic as well as the foundation-type scheme. Creating a database of nursing processes allows one to objectively judge: 1) whether the service is provided according to the appropriate nursing plan; and 2) whether a nursing plan revision has caused the patient's condition to improve, thereby achieving higher service quality.

Going forward, through the Japan Visiting Nursing Foundation and the Ehime Visiting Nursing Council's Home Care Assessment System, the Company will raise awareness for the above-mentioned common methodology in formulating a nursing plan. At the same time, we will encourage usage of the methodology by providing it in the form of a cloud computing-based service, which requires less money and effort to implement. By approaching not only home-visit nursing providers, but also release-aid hospital departments and other entities in various domains, we will also assist the patient in smoothly migrating to a home medical service from various angles. Moreover, we will contribute to saving medical expenses through optimizing home-visit nursing and nursing care in terms of service count and description, something that will be attained by improving nursing quality.