Introduction of Interprofessional education at St. Marianna University School of Medicine and Showa Pharmaceutical University

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In recent years, medical care by multidisciplinary team has become increasingly important in order to achieve higher quality medical care. Educational institutions those train for medical professionals are also introducing interprofessional education (IPE) to help students understand the need for team practice. In 2018, we started IPE in collaboration with St. Marianna University School of Medicine and Showa Pharmaceutical University, and we conducted a questionnaire survey on students and faculty members to clarify student responses and future challenges. For the 4th year students from both universities, the IPE program held a small group discussion using simulated cases, followed by a presentation. At the end of the IPE, questionnaire surveys were conducted on students and faculty members in charge of IPE on the day, and responses were compiled.

This survey gave a positive response regarding the implementation and content of IPE and the addition of undergraduate students other than medicine and pharmacy. On the other hand, 33% answered "difficult" regarding the difficulty level of the task. It is not easy to conduct IPE, but 89% of respondents answered that they understood the importance of collaborate in multidisciplinary team. It is necessary to continue IPE and improve the program, though creating an educational program is challenging.