

# Asan Medical Center



**Asan Foundation**





# The Founding Spirit of the Asan Medical Center (AMC)

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Founder of ASAN Foundation  
Asan Chung Ju-Yung



“Illness and poverty are major causes of people’s suffering. Illness leads to poverty and poverty means a patient cannot afford proper treatment. The result is a downward spiral of misfortune. I held a long-cherished dream to share the wealth of the Hyundai Group, which has grown through the work of many healthy, talented people, to help the underprivileged of our society.”

(From the inaugural ceremony of the ASAN Foundation, July 1, 1977)

In 1977, when the concept of modern welfare was foreign to South Korean society, Chung Ju-Yung, the founder and chairman of the Hyundai Group, donated part of his personal fortune to establish the ASAN Foundation. As the foundation’s first chairman, he devised, promoted and advanced numerous welfare projects right up to his death in 2001. Among his projects, he placed the highest priority on those related to health care. He believed that a true welfare society must provide certain minimal conditions for all of its members. A prerequisite towards becoming such a society was to provide adequate medical services, which he believed would break the vicious circle of illness and poverty.

Most agricultural and fishing villages in Korea in the late 1970s had little to no medical facilities. The ASAN Foundation established hospitals with modern facilities and trained personnel in seven regions throughout the nation, starting with Jeongeup Hospital in Jeollabuk-do (North Jeolla Province) in 1977. At the opening ceremony for a regional hospital built by the Foundation, Chung announced the development of “a world-class hospital that offers the best level of medical service in Korea.” The Asan Medical Center is the proud result of that promise.

Opened in 1989 with the aim of offering world-class medical services, the Asan Medical Center strives to be “a hospital that performs the healing art of medicine with full compassion and benevolence” embodying the very spirit of the late founder’s philosophy.

This philosophy was evident throughout Chung’s life. Born to a poor farming family, he eventually gained recognition as “a prominent businessman symbolizing Korean entrepreneurship.”\* As the eldest of eight children, Chung bore the responsibility of supporting his family from a very young age. He devoted his life to making his family, his company, and his nation prosperous, rooted in a belief of personal duty to care for the underprivileged.

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\* The 60-Year History of the Korean Economy, published by the Korean government, 2010.



He left a distinguished legacy at every critical juncture in the country's path toward modernization by taking the lead in domestic and foreign projects with the Hyundai Motor, the Hyundai Heavy Industries, and the Hyundai Engineering & Construction. He was an indispensable factor in Korea's rise from the ashes of the Korean War and was instrumental in paving the way towards the 1988 Seoul Summer Olympics and better relations between the two Koreas.

In 2006, The Times described Asan as a hero who infused a "can-do" spirit into the Korean people, who had been struggling in the aftermath of the devastation of the Korean War and abject poverty. As a man who succeeded in business but also as a man who sought to better Korean society, Chung personified a creative spirit and indomitable, traits that inspired generations of Koreans.



The ASAN Foundation has expanded its programs from medical services to social and medical welfare, scholarships, and academic research. These programs focus on promoting self-reliance rather than simply dispensing temporary relief through charity or financial assistance. Helping those in need out of courtesy and respect for their human dignity, rather than simply because of relative affluence, Chung's personal and philosophical approach was a novel concept for welfare in the Korea of the 1970s and marked the beginning of a new era in the history of Korean social welfare.

Chung said, "One of my few wishes is that the ASAN Foundation will continue to grow and become Korea's largest and most influential social welfare organization, providing help and hope to those in need for hundreds of years to come." In the spirit of this wish, the Asan Foundation has taken Korean welfare a step further by offering a vision for global welfare as well. The Asan Medical Center, envisioned as a hospital equipped with world-class medical technology and pursuing the benevolent art of healing, is now Korea's most respected hospital and a world beacon of hope for patients whose cases even the most renowned hospitals have given up on.



# ASAN's Spirit of Unwavering Commitment

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ASAN Foundation Chairman  
Chung Mong-Joon



My late father relished life. As a boy, I saw a man who rose early with a smile on his rugged face, joy in his heart and a bounce in his step. His overflowing enthusiasm for his work affected me and all those around him. Possessed with an unrelenting determination to develop Korea into a prosperous and formidable country, my father devoted his life to fulfill this vision. He sought to build a well-rounded society that would sustain economic modernization as well as social generosity. This founding principle lives on today, in the form of the ASAN Foundation.

Christopher Wren said, “Si Monumentum Requires, Circumspice - If you seek his monument, look around.” Ladies and gentlemen, look around. Since its establishment, the ASAN Foundation has built modern hospitals and provided high-quality medical services at affordable prices in areas where people had been unable to receive proper medical attention due to the dearth of facilities and the tyranny of geography. The foundation built the Asan Medical Center in Seoul to serve as the preeminent hospital that is at the forefront in the development of advanced health care in Korea. The Asan Foundation supports social welfare projects focusing on self-reliance, scholarships for nurturing human resources, and academic research that spans the globe in its scope, quality and excellence.

To say my father was a living legend is not an overstatement. Many of his contemporaries who survived him recall with fondness a familiar story that bears repeating. Whenever he was informed by his colleagues or subordinates that a project could not be accomplished or an idea was too unrealistic, he would rub his chin with his thick fingers, and as a wry smile came across his face, asked his interlocutors – “Did you try?” Their silence confirmed his wisdom. That disposition, that fortitude, that vision epitomizes the character of the man that I knew as my father.

Now as a man, I oversee the horizon of his accomplishments. Endowed with an uncanny prescience and unmatched willpower, my father envisioned and pursued excellence in our society and service to our nation. It is a responsibility that I shoulder with pride and optimism.

This is his penultimate contribution to our nation. This is the enduring legacy of my father. This is the ASAN Foundation.

# Medical and Welfare Services of the Highest Quality

## Medical Services

Sharing the benefits of modern medicine

The ASAN Foundation has passionately pursued medical services since its establishment in 1977. The foundation began building hospitals in regions seriously in need of medical infrastructure, and equipped them with modern facilities and staffed with skilled medical professionals. Though such an endeavor carried the risk enormous financial risk, founder Chung Ju-Yung confidently declared: “Building hospitals in medically vulnerable areas means treating rural people, using modern medical skills. But it also goes beyond that. Patients who are healed increase the viability of the local workforce and raise Korea’s overall labor productivity.”

The Asan Foundation built its first hospital in Jeongeup in 1978, following up with hospitals in Boseong (1978), Boryeong (1979), and Yeongdeok (1979). These were regions deemed to need immediate attention. The Foundation later built hospitals in Seoul (1989), Hongcheon (1989), Geumgang (1989), and Gangneung (1996).

The Asan Medical Center (AMC) in Seoul was designed to serve as the flagship institution for the Foundation’s regional network of hospitals. Thus, AMC was expected to be at the forefront of modern medicine in Korea. In particular, AMC was slated to be one of the world’s most advanced hospitals so as to tend to patients suffering from ailments not easily treatable by regional hospitals. Perhaps most importantly, AMC was the first hospital in Korea that sought to center its operations, mission and philosophy around the patient than the focus on doctors or the hospital itself as had been the case. In short, AMC’s primary objective is the provision of the highest quality medical services rather than the attainment of profits. Today, AMC is Korea’s largest hospital, with 2,700 beds, while standing on an equal footing with leading hospitals worldwide. The ASAN Foundation has expanded the scope of its medical welfare services by providing generous support for those who cannot afford medical treatment, offering volunteer medical services to people in regions with no access to hospitals, and teaching medical skills and providing equipment throughout Asia to foster medical autonomy. The AMC has also actively supported medical services abroad, by dispatching medical professionals to developing countries in Asia and to disaster outbreak areas.



## Social Welfare

Towards a self-reliant community

Founder Chung Ju-Yung was passionate about expending all efforts to ensure the needy never experience deprivation, isolation, or discrimination. Over the years, the ASAN Foundation has actively sought out the less fortunate, with little to no opportunity to cultivate a sense of independence and self-reliance, a philosophy that stands in contrast to other organizations which provide financial assistance only.

Initially, the Foundation’s focus was welfare for the disabled but from the 1980s to the late 1990s its focus expanded to the elderly, women, children, and juveniles. From 2000, the Foundation expanded its outreach to include support for the disabled living at home, children at youth centers, migrant workers, North Korean defectors, and multicultural families. Simultaneously, the Foundation increased support for shelters for female victims of domestic violence, the homeless, slum dwellers, and senior citizens living alone.

Since 2015, the ASAN Foundation’s efforts have expanded greatly. First, it sought to elevate the social independence of people with developmental disabilities. Second, it has established an emergency support system to provide swift and effective assistance to organizations facing such difficulties as fire damage or natural disasters. Third, in cooperation with affiliated hospitals and social-welfare organizations, the Foundation has been operating “the Elderly Care by the Elderly” project, whereby healthy and able senior citizens provide care for their elderly peers who live alone, by taking calls on their behalf or keeping them company. Lastly, the Foundation has provided occupational training, manufacturing materials and equipment, training in welfare management, psychotherapy, counseling techniques, and networking for social workers.





## Scholarship / Academic Research

The pursuit of excellence



Since 1977, the ASAN Foundation has been providing support to selected students who were forced to drop out of university due to financial difficulties. The Foundation has also expanded its scholarship programs by seeking out new candidates who may have been overlooked by the government, universities, or other scholarship foundations. JeongDamHoe, an independent club of enrolled students, shares a sense of community through academic and social-minded activities. Graduates in fields such as politics, economics, and legal affairs support current students and take part in social activities through alumni associations.

The ASAN Foundation has continuously supported academic activities by providing research grants to qualified academic researchers. In its first decade, the Foundation focused on the natural sciences, but by 1980, increased funding for liberal arts and social sciences in order to maintain a social and cultural balance.

From 2009, the Foundation extended its support to the research activities of new and leading scholars, creative interdisciplinary research, and previously unexplored academic fields. In 2015, the Foundation embarked on specific projects aimed at improving its social influence, presenting realistic and practical alternatives, and producing beneficial ripple effects. The scholars' research results are published in the ASAN Foundation Research Series. The reports are distributed to universities, public libraries, and research institutes. As of 2016, 546 volumes have been published, of which 129 volumes have been named outstanding academic titles by the National Academy of Sciences and the Ministry of Culture, Sports and Tourism.



## The ASAN Award / The ASAN Award in Medicine

Finding leaders committed to benefiting society and supporting efforts to advance medicine



The ASAN Award was established to find, recognize, and support individuals who serve as exemplary role models in giving to others. From the first award in 1989 and to the 28th Award in 2016, the ASAN award has honored 779 individuals. The number of categories and the amount of the prize money have continuously increased. Currently, the award is distributed among seven categories: ASAN Award (Grand Prize), Medical Service Award, Social Service Award, Welfare Practice Award, Volunteer Award, Filial Piety & Family Award, and Special Award. The ASAN Award has a cash prize of 300 million won; the Medical Service Award, Social Service Award, and Special Award are worth 100 million won each; and 30 million won is the prize money for awards in the remaining categories. The ASAN Foundation screens winners through rigorous examination of documents and research to maintain the integrity and fairness of the award.

The ASAN Award in Medicine was created in 2008 to find and recognize scientists with extraordinary accomplishments in the field of medicine. If the ASAN Foundation's role in the 20th century was to break the cycle of poverty and illness by establishing medical facilities, then its mission in the 21st century is to contribute to the promotion of public health through medical research.

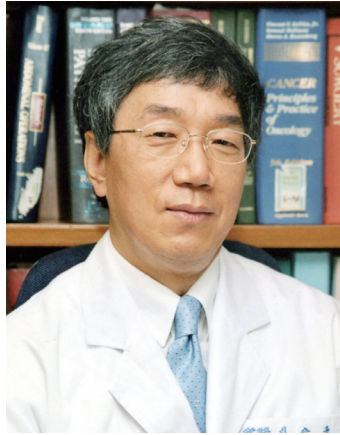
To commemorate the 10th anniversary of the founder's death in 2011, the foundation has created a 40 billion won fund(Asan Medical Development Fund) for the permanency and independence of ASAN Award in Medicine. With the establishment of this fund, Basic Medicine and Clinical Medicine were added to the award categories in 2013, and the top prize money rose to 300 million won. The newly added Young Scientist Award honors two of the nation's outstanding medical scientists under the age of 40 with cash prizes of 50 million won each.



**Asan Medical Center**







Lee Sung-Gyu  
President & CEO,  
Asan Healthcare System



Lee Sang-Do  
President,  
Asan Medical Center





# The Most Sought After Hospital in Korea

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The Asan Medical Center (AMC) attracts a daily average of over 60,000 visitors, including 11,000 patients, and performs more than 60,000 surgeries annually.

The AMC is ranked No. 1 in Korea for the number of surgeries related to cancer and organ transplantation. Examples include surgeries performed on 7,500 patients with stomach cancer, 28,000 with breast cancer, and 28,000 with colorectal cancer, as well as 4,600 kidney transplants and 4,400 cases of living-donor liver transplants. The number of patients visiting AMC from overseas is increasing every single year. In 2016, More than 15,000 foreign patients received treatment and returned to their homeland. More than 500 medical professionals from 40 countries receive annual training.

AMC opened its doors on June 23, 1989. With the launch of the East Building in 1994 and the New Building in 2008, AMC became the largest hospital in Korea. Despite its relatively short history, AMC has made major contributions to Korean medicine over the past 28 years. Its accomplishments in organ transplants, cancer research, and cardiology are particularly noteworthy.

AMC has also taken the lead in medical research and education. Founded in 1990, the Asan Institute for Life Sciences was expanded and remodeled in



2011. The University of Ulsan College of Medicine, where AMC trains medical experts, has graduated 834 medical professionals since its opening in 1998. AMC's system of medical treatment, research, education, and administration is top-notch.

AMC's philosophy of compassion and sharing – “To Help the Underprivileged of Our Society” – is put into practice through the provision of free medical care and cost-support programs for patients in need. More low-income patients and medical professionals from developing countries in Asia are also invited to take part in medical care and technology-transfer programs. Due to its outstanding record of successful surgeries, contributions to society, and the high quality of its medical services, AMC has been selected as Korea's Most Respected Hospital for eleven consecutive years from 2007 through 2017.



# The World-renowned Asan Medical Center

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The number of overseas patients visiting the Asan Medical Center (AMC) increased significantly from 5,300 in 2010 to 12,000 in 2013 and then to 15,000 in 2016. Most patients from overseas require high-risk surgeries such as live-donor liver transplants, blood-incompatible pancreas transplants, simultaneous pancreas-kidney transplants, and cancer surgery.

More than 500 medical professionals from 40 countries visit AMC every year to acquire new skills and know-how in a variety of fields. In the past, such training was confined mostly to organ transplantation but has now expanded to include interventional cardiology, personalized cancer treatment, cerebrovascular disease treatment, and spinal surgery.

AMC hosts a dozen large and small international conferences every year where medical professionals from all over the world share their experiences and know-how with one another through lectures and surgical demonstrations. Among these events, the Cardiovascular Summit-TCTAP, Asia Pacific VALVES, and Airway Vista have emerged as Asia's leading medical conferences.





# A History of Challenge

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The Asan Medical Center (AMC) is Korea's leading hospital for surgery. Performing over 60,000 surgeries per year and ranked first in the number and success of liver, kidney, pancreas, and heart transplants (Korean Network for Organ Sharing, 2014), AMC is rated the world's best for organ transplants. AMC organ transplantation team has performed 600 heart transplantation, 4,600 kidney transplantation, 350 pancreas transplantation and 5,200 liver transplant.

AMC has pioneered new techniques for treatment of high-risk patients. In 1991, the AMC Heart Institute performed Korea's first transluminal coronary angioplasty using stents, a technique developed to overcome the disadvantages of existing balloon angioplasty. The Department of Radiology (led by Prof. Song Ho-Young) developed the world's first interventional procedure for nasolacrimal duct stenosis in 1996. The Division of Cardiology (led by Prof. Park Seung-Jung), which performed Korea's first stent surgery, also succeeded in carrying out the world's first stent surgery on a patient with left main coronary artery disease in 1998 and the world's first surgical procedure using a drug-coated stent to lower in-stent restenosis in 2001.

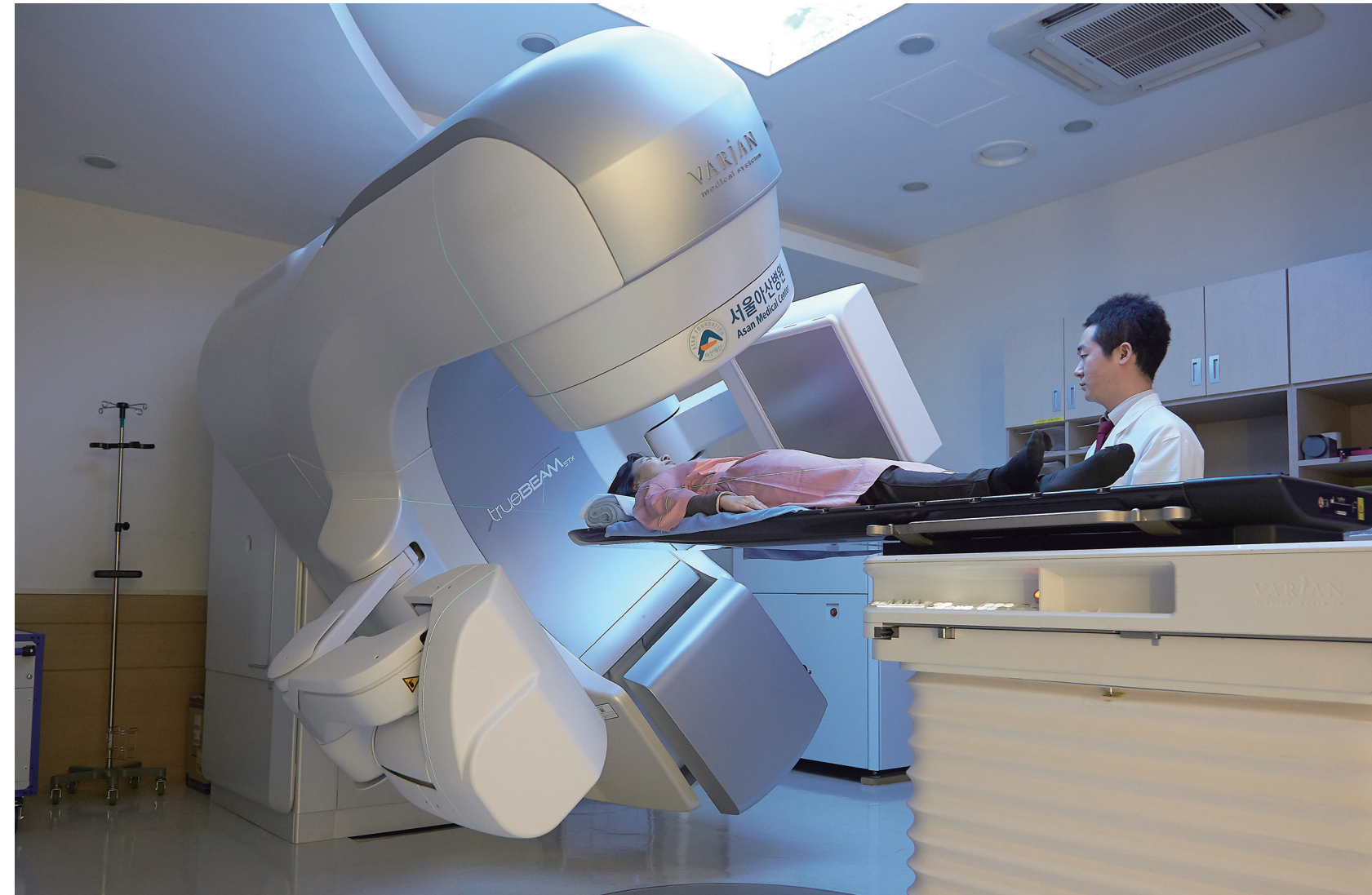




The Division of General Surgery (led by Prof. Han Duck-Jong) succeeded not only in simultaneous kidney-pancreas transplantation in 1992 but also in live-donor simultaneous kidney-pancreas transplantation in 2005. Both surgeries were the first for Korea.

The Division of Liver Transplantation and Hepatobiliary Surgery (led by Prof. Lee Sung-Gyu) successfully performed the first live-donor pediatric liver transplantation in Korea (1994), followed by modified right-lobe liver transplantation (1999), dual living-donor liver transplantation (2000), and exchange liver transplantation (2003). The last surgery was the first of its kind in history. In 2005, the Division of Hematology (led by Prof. Lee Kyoo-Hyung) developed a treatment that increased the cure rate for acute lymphoblastic leukemia (ALL) from 10 percent to 50 percent. In 2008, the Department of Nuclear Medicine (led by Prof. Moon Dae-Hyuk) developed and commercialized the world's first molecular imaging diagnosis technology for evaluating levels of cancer-cell proliferation and performing early diagnosis of Parkinson's disease.

AMC has also been able to cure more patients thanks to research on cases that were especially difficult. Examples include the identification of the causes of incurable pulmonary hypertension and the development of treatment in 1998 (Prof. Lee Sang-Do from the Division of Pulmonology and Critical Care Medicine), studies into the causes of Alzheimer's in 2002 (Prof. Koh Jae-Young from the Department of Neurology), and the identification of anti-obesity mechanism in 2004 (Prof. Lee Ki-Up and Kim Min-Seon from the Division of Endocrinology and Metabolism).





## An Icon of Innovation

By introducing innovative systems of medical treatment and administration, the Asan Medical Center (AMC) has ushered in a new era in Korean medicine. AMC was Korea's first hospital to subdivide all departments and divisions so that a doctor could take full charge of specific fields in order to improve the quality of medical care and the survival rate of patients. AMC also operates an Ambulatory Surgery Center, an Ambulatory Endoscopy Examination Clinic, and disease-specific clinics. It has improved the accuracy of diagnosis and the effectiveness of treatment by implementing Korea's first referral system in internal medicine and surgery. In 1993, by developing the first medical image-processing system to computerize X-rays and CT and MRI scans in Korea, AMC raised the level of hospital digitalization and established infrastructure to reduce waiting time for patients and make service procedures more quick and accurate. AMC is operating AMIS 3.0, a patient and research centered user-friendly next generation system built to standardize all resource, treatment, education, research and administrative procedures. This innovative system, derived from a new concept of improvement in patient safety and medical services, has greatly contributed to changing Korean medical culture.





# Solid Basics

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The Asan Medical Center (AMC) strives to provide world-class patient safety and quality of medical services.

At its founding in 1989, AMC formed the Committee for Infection Management to control infections within the hospital in a systematic manner, streamlining activities for improving patient safety and the quality of medical care. This team also developed medical examination and treatment indicators by department. AMC formed Korea's first Task Force for Quality Improvement of Medical Care, which led to the creation of the hospital's system of reporting incidents involving patient safety. Such measures have resulted in the qualitative improvement of the medical treatment process.

These diligent efforts have contributed to raising awareness of patient safety and of infection management in Korea. In 2012, the Asan Global Standard (AGS) was established in-house and AMC conducts on-site assessments annually to improve standards of patient safety.





## Intensive Care Units & Emergency Room

The Intensive Care Units (ICU) and the Emergency Room (ER), where patients in serious or critical condition stay, uphold the strictest infection management and safety standards. Among Korean hospitals, AMC houses the most ICU beds. The eight ICUs (Medical, Surgical, NS, Neurology, CS, CCU, Pediatric, and Neonatal ICUs) contain 195 beds, and care is provided by more than 450 medical professionals. Since 2008, each ICU at AMC has a Medical Alert Teams (MAT) in operation to monitor the blood pressure, respiration rate, and pulse of patients in all wards around the clock for rapid response to medical emergencies. The Emergency Room's Acute Care Unit occupies a separate space for patients in critical condition. The Acute Care Unit features CT and MRI machines, and its facilities include an operating room and echocardiography equipment for fast diagnosis and medical treatment.









# Specialization of Treatment and Care

The Asan Medical Center (AMC) was the first in Korea to introduce the concept of multidisciplinary treatment, where medical specialists in various fields convene to share their knowledge of medical treatment. In 1995, as the extension of the East Building was completed, departments were rearranged by area of specialization, beginning a new era of disease-specific treatment.

A multidisciplinary medical treatment system was later set up to enable medical specialists in various departments to provide optimized, patient-centered medical treatment for optimal results.

Within this specialized system, patients are provided a one-stop solution that covers everything from disease prevention to surgical or other medical procedures to rehabilitation.

AMC operates three specialized facilities within the hospital: the Cancer Institute, the Heart Institute, and Children's Hospital. Forty-five other specialized centers provide optimized treatment of specific diseases.





## AMC Cancer Institute

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In 2006, the AMC Cancer Institute invented Korea's first multidisciplinary medical treatment system for cancer patients. The Institute is leading personalized cancer research with the ASAN Center for Cancer Genome Discovery (ASAN-CCGD) in 2011 and the Center for Personalized Cancer Medicine (CPCM), the first of its kind in Korea, in 2012. In 2014, the Cancer Institute joined the Worldwide Innovative Network (WIN), the members of which include such world-class cancer centers as MD Anderson Cancer Center (U.S.) and the Institut Gustave-Roussy (France).

## AMC Heart Institute

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The AMC Heart Institute consists of three divisions (Cardiology, Thoracic & Cardiovascular Surgery, and Vascular Surgery) and eight disease-specific centers, offering professional, collaborative treatment for patients with cardiovascular diseases. The sophisticated hybrid procedures, which incorporate interventional procedures and surgical operations, have led to the high success rates of the institute's da Vinci robot-assisted cardiac surgery and heart transplants. The AMC Heart Institute brings world-class programs to bear at every stage of treatment from prevention to rehabilitation, and provides a variety of education and training programs for medical scientists around the world.

## AMC Children's Hospital

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Opened in March 2009, AMC Children's Hospital launched Korea's first specialized centers for pediatric patients: the Pediatric Cancer Center and the Pediatric Emergency Room. Since 2013, AMC houses Korea's largest neonatal ICU with 58 beds. The Pediatric ICU is divided into the Medical ICU (14 beds) and the Surgical ICU (11 beds). The hospital operates 21 departments, six specialized centers, and special labs (which has 259 beds).





# Research to Create Value

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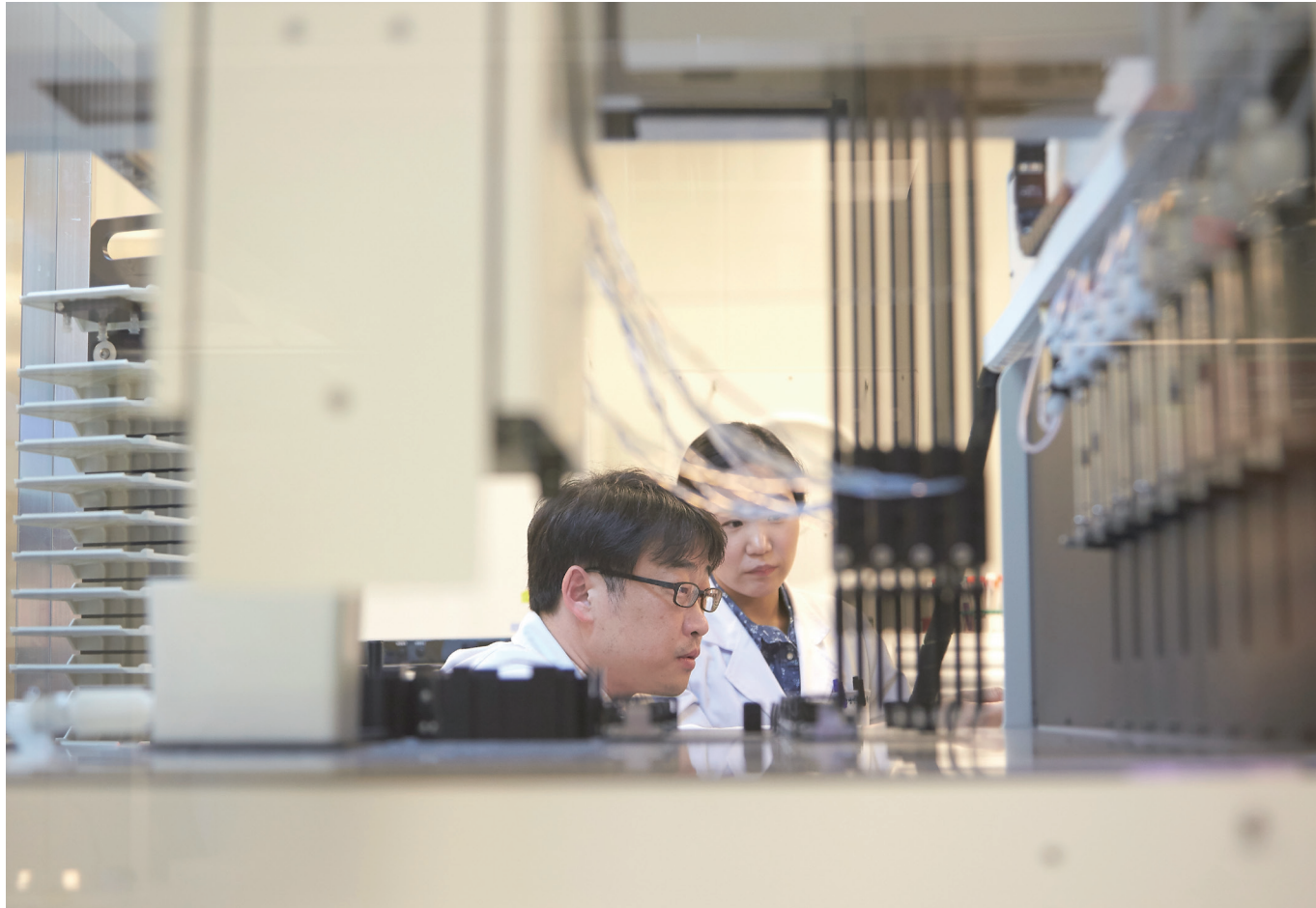
Bio-industry is a key component of future medical development in Korea. The Asan Medical Center (AMC) has established a bio-cluster that encompasses basic/translational/clinical research areas in order to strengthen its competitiveness in the field of bio-industry and to enhance the efficiency of its R&D projects.

In 1990, AMC established the Asan Institute for Life Sciences (AILES), a platform for basic and clinical research with the goal of enhancing academic development in medicine and improving the quality of clinical practice. Since then, AILES has supported both basic and clinical studies with its abundant clinical resources, infrastructure, and world-class researchers.

In October 2011, AILES opened a new building and reorganized its administrative structure. AILES occupies two buildings with a total of twenty floors, including four underground levels, having a total floor area of 73,151 square meters. Research professionals from prestigious research institutions (e.g. the Dana-Farber Cancer Institute of Harvard Medical School, the University of Minnesota, and the Korea Institute of Science and Technology), work in AILES laboratories with AMC's researchers in the fields of precision medicine, stem-cell research, and development of new diagnostic and treatment strategies.







AILS concentrates on three key research areas-new drugs, cell therapy, and medical devices. Currently, it is engaged in projects with various governmental and industrial research facilities, including the Institute for Innovative Cancer Research, the Center for Image-Guided Interventional Robotics, the Global Center of Excellence in Clinical Trials, the Center for Bio-imaging of New Drug Development, and the Center for Advancing Cancer Therapeutics. Research organizations affiliated with AILS include the Biomedical Research Center, the Clinical Research Center, the Biomedical Engineering Research Center, the Stem Cell Center, the Bio-Resource Center, and the Human Research Protection Center.



## Biomedical Research Center

The Biomedical Research Center operates core laboratories equipped with cutting-edge facilities, including its HTS (High-Throughput Screening) Core and Genomics Core labs in support of ongoing R&D projects. The Disease Animal Resource Center provides technical support for experiments on animals and preclinical trials, aided by the Bio-imaging Center's state-of-the-art imaging equipment, including MR, CT, and PET machines. The Collaborative Translational Research Center has made achievements in translational research through cooperation between basic and clinical researchers.



## Clinical Research Center

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The Clinical Research Center supports clinical research through in-house IT infrastructure such as CRDW (Clinical Research Data Warehouse) and CTMS (Clinical Trial Management System). CRDW deals with data contained in the electronic medical records and enables expeditious extraction and analysis of data needed for clinical research. CTMS extensively integrates management of clinical trials. The Academic CRO (Contract Research Organization) supports the overall process of clinical trials by offering customized services for researchers.

## Biomedical Engineering Research Center

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The Biomedical Engineering Research Center was launched in 2012 to develop innovative medical devices that can be applied in clinical practice and promote proactive biomedical engineering research. The center implements R&D programs across the entire process of developing medical devices, from brainstorming to clinical trials of a final product, by linking AMC's clinical, preclinical, and clinical trial centers with the biomedical engineering platform. Moreover, the center has made outstanding accomplishments in integrating cutting-edge technologies, including medical robots and 3D printers.

## Stem Cell Center

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The Stem Cell Center was established in 2015 to develop stem-cell therapy products for refractory diseases. It is leading various research programs for atopic diseases, chronic pulmonary diseases, and diseases that may require organ transplantation.





# Educating Medical Professionals

## University of Ulsan College of Medicine, foster medical experts to lead Korean medicine

The University of Ulsan College of Medicine fosters medical experts to lead the future of Korean medicine. The University of Ulsan College of Medicine (UUCM) was founded in 1988 to train future medical professionals. For the first time in Korea, UUCM introduced an integrated curriculum of theory and practice as well as basic and clinical medicine. The knowledge they acquire in these courses prepares students to be able to solve real-life problems in the clinical field.



The new curriculum has proved its value as the entire first class of UUCM passed the National Examination for Medical Practitioners with the highest average score. The Medical Research & Practice Course was added to UUCM's curriculum in 2007 to supervise students and give them support in publishing their research papers as lead authors.

For students on the dean's list, UUCM provides financial assistance, including free dormitory housing and exemption from all tuition fees. Moreover, UUCM has built networks with such world-class colleges of medicine as the Harvard Medical School and Imperial College London, encouraging students to take full advantage of the abundant resources and information these institutions can provide.





**Open Education System**



Every year, a significant number of graduates from over 40 medical schools in Korea apply for the AMC internship program. They prefer AMC because of the high quality of its training environment and its performance-oriented open atmosphere

AMC provides opportunities for other universities and hospitals to learn about its advanced facilities and medical know-how. Its highly competitive sub-internships and nurse internships enable interns and nurses in training to experience AMC's high-level expertise and medical services.





## Educational Programs for All Employees

The ‘Min Pyung-Chul Training Fund’ provides opportunities for AMC’s nursing, health-care, research, and administrative employees to acquire new medical skills and expand their knowledge and experience at leading medical institutions abroad. Min Pyung-Chul, the former chairman of AMC, donated 2 billion won of his personal fortune to create the fund in 2011. Later the ASAN Foundation added 18 billion won, increasing the total to 20 billion won.

An organization’s competitiveness is directly related to the competence of its members, Asan Medcial Center opened the AMC Academy in 2002. The AMC Academy currently has five simulation centers and eight training rooms, providing 18 courses on core values, 25 on leadership, and 77 on-the-job training. In addition, a patient-role-playing program and volunteer lectures for employees are offered to help them develop character, leadership, and a global mind-set.





# Inheriting Asan's Spirit of Sharing

## Free medical services for underprivileged patients in Korea and abroad and transfers of medical skills to developing countries

● The Asan Medical Center (AMC), under its founding principle “To Help the Underprivileged of Our Society,” strives to help those in need through free medical services and a program of assistance with medical expenses for patients who cannot afford treatment. Recipients include the underprivileged, foreign migrant workers, North Korean defectors, and “comfort women.”

The number of patients receiving treatment, the amount of financial support provided, and the scope of activities have increased every year. From 1995 to 2016, AMC provided 31.8 billion won for the medical expenses of more than 34,750 patients in financial hardship.

The ‘Asan in Asia’ project is an overseas volunteer program AMC started in 2009 to improve the medical environment of developing countries in Asia. The objective is to assist local medical professionals become





self-reliant by offering programs that teach medical skills and provide medical services for low-income patients. Through this project, medical scholars from 32 countries receive free training, board, and lodging.

Building medical infrastructure and transferring medical skills through these programs show the goodwill of AMC and its desire to share advanced medical techniques with neighbors around the world. The programs are now offered worldwide to help those in need regardless of their nationality. A good example of what these programs can accomplish is the ChoRay-Asan E-library, which opened in October 2010 at ChoRay Hospital in Vietnam. The library houses copies of the world's best medical journals and other current materials.

In 2011, the Liver Transplantation Center was established at First Central Hospital of Mongolia to provide equipment and train medical professionals. Since April 2011, the AMC Liver Transplantation Team has been performing surgeries for patients in Vietnam and Mongolia and providing technical consultation on liver transplantation to improve the capabilities of local medical professionals. To treat an increasing number of children with cardiac disease in Cambodia, AMC has been providing medical devices and on-site training since July 2001. AMC is also performing free surgeries on infants with congenital cardiac disease throughout China and Southeast Asia.

Through the Disaster Medical Assistance Team (DMAT) system, established to dispatch medical teams to disaster areas in greatest need of attention within 48 hours, AMC has carried out disaster-relief efforts across the world. Examples include the Philippines after a typhoon in 2013 and Nepal after its severe earthquake of 2014.



- **Financial support for medical treatment**  
1995 – 2016 : 34,750 patients / Total: 31.8 billion won
- **Medical volunteering**  
1995 – 2016 : 204,441 patients / Total: 6.5 billion won
- **Overseas volunteering**  
2009 – 2016 : 35 times / 628 medical specialists / 40,683 patients
- **Medical-skill transfer to developing countries**  
2011 – 2016 : 26 times / 304 medical specialists / 42 cases
- **Cooperation with local groups**  
2011 – 2016 : 317 groups / Total 443.6 million won







