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Fire Safety Level of Medical Welfare Facilities for the Elderly and its Improvement

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SUMMARY

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The purpose of this study is to propose a plan to improve the fire safety system of medical welfare facilities for the elderly by reviewing the fire safety facility plan (physical environment) and the maintenance management system (software) of the medical welfare facilities for the elderly.

In Chapter 2, we analyzed the fire risk and the causes of the fire damage in the elderly medical welfare facilities through analysis of large – scale fire damage cases. And the fire safety legislation system at home and abroad. The problems of domestic legal system and the necessity of system improvement were derived.

In Chapter 3, the appropriateness of the fire safety standards of elderly nursing homes in Korea was ascertained. And the analysis of the plan factor and maintenance management system of the fire safety facility of the elderly nursing home facility was analyzed. This study analyzed the actual condition of fire safety in medical welfare facilities for the elderly. In addition, we sought to improve the system by deriving types of fire fragility.

Survey subjects were limited to medical welfare facilities for the elderly where elderly

people with poor physical and cognitive abilities enter a long – term residential life. The actual survey was limited to all facilities in the country, and the survey area and the target were selected in accordance with the results of the interview with the experts. Expert interviews were conducted with one firefighter expert (professor) and two safety officers. As a result of the interviews with experts, we set up the elderly nursing homes in urban areas that were found to be vulnerable in terms of the possibility of fire.

As a result of the survey, facilities standards and maintenance management systems that need improvement are needed to secure fire safety for medical welfare facilities. Most of the fire extinguishing facilities are installed in the medical welfare facilities, but the evacuation safety plan is insufficient. There are many elderly care facilities with poor safety management. The types of fire vulnerability of the medical welfare facilities were three or more floors or multiple buildings, commercial areas, or areas with no fire protection zones.

Based on the results of the surveys, it can be divided into three categories.

(CASE 1) Reinforcement of existing facility fire safety performance

(CASE 2) Strengthen fire safety management

(CASE 3) Improving standards for fire safety facilities

In Chapter 4, we propose a plan to improve the fire safety system for medical welfare facilities for the elderly considering the improvement direction derived from Chapter 3.

The purpose of this study was to investigate whether the fire safety standards of domestic medical welfare facilities are appropriate for securing the safety of elderly people through the investigation of fire safety situation. Also, the present situation of the facilities vulnerable to fire among the medical welfare facilities installed and managed in accordance with the current standards is identified, and the improvement plan of the fire safety system of the medical welfare institution for the elderly is suggested. If such a system improvement plan is realized, it is expected that improvement and securement of fire safety will be possible in existing buildings and new buildings in the elderly medical welfare facilities.

Keywords:

medical welfare facilities for the elderly, improvement of fire safety level