**Appendix 1.** Major facts comparison among regional emergency medical centers

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| **Category** | **Regional emergency medical centers** | **Local emergency medical centers** | **Local emergency institutions** |
| **number** | 21 spots | 199 spots | 293 spots |
| **appointment** | the Minister of Health and Welfare | provincial governors | mayors |
| **Object** | A general hospital | A general hospital | A general hospital, hospital, clinic |
| **Facilities Standard** | ․Emergency patients treatment area at least over 30 hospital beds  ․2 patient resuscitation room,  2 surgery operating room  ․20 critical care beds  ․30 inpatient beds | ․Emergency patients treatment area at least over 20 hospital beds  ․1 treatment table | ․Emergency patients treatment area at least over 10 hospital beds |
| **Equipment Standard** | CT scanning machine,  esophagogastroscope, various  blood test equipment, etc. | CT scanning machine, etc. | General X-ray, etc. |
| **Personnel Standard** | ․Over 30,000 yearly number of  patients: Over 6 specialists  including more than 4  emergency medicine specialists  ․20,000 ~ 30,000: Over 5  specialists including more than  3 emergency medicine  specialists  ․10,000 ~ 20,000: Over 4  specialists including more than 2 emergency medicine specialists | Over 4 physicians including  2 specialists | Over 2 physicians |
| Over 15 emergency room nurses | Over 10 emergency room nurses | Over 5 emergency room nurses |
| **Major role** | ․Treat emergency patient  ․Emergency medical assist when  disasters happen  ․Operate regional 1339  Emergency Medical  Information Center  ․Educate and train regional  emergency medical care | Treat emergency patient | Offer emergency medical care |