‘New policy of National Health Insurance in Korea’
Introduction of Korean National Health Insurance (NHI)

- NHI is introduced in 1977 and applied to whole people since 1989
- NHI growth from US$ 4.3 billion to US$ 11.2 billion for recent 10 years
- NHI coverage rate has stagnated in the early 60% for the last 10 years
NHI coverage rate has stagnated for the last 10 years (2006 ~ 2015)

NHI covered fees 215%, NHI uncovered fees increased of 272% → NHI covered rate increased of 1.6%
The key point of the government’s new policy (I)

- Korean government announced the new policy on August 9, 2017
- The NHI coverage enhancement policy which includes measures to turn all uncovered medical treatments* into the ones entitled to insurance coverage, except for plastic surgery and beauty treatments

* Such as selective medical treatments fee, room charges of superior general hospital, nursing fee, etc
The key point of the government’s new policy (Ⅱ)

- Restricting the number of uncovered treatments by expanding the new Diagnosis Related Group (DRG) payment system on hospitals
- To this end, the government plans to increase the health insurance coverage rate from the current 63% to 70% by 2022
- Spend 30.6 trillion Korean won (about US$ 270 billion) from 2018 to 2022
Agrees with its objective,
- improve the NHI system to satisfy both the public and the medical community including doctors
- reduce the financial burden of the public.
Korean Medical Association(KMA)’s proposals

① Determination of appropriate medical costs and development of reasonable criteria for compensation
② Phased conversion centering on critical medical services or treatments that may cause catastrophic medical costs
③ Establishment of new medical delivery system
④ Measures not to hamper efforts to introduce new medical technologies
⑤ Establishment of ways to secure sufficient financing for the NHI system considering the current system’s finance situation and its sustainability
Cancer patients and their family against the new policy ‘no permission off-label using’
The 4\textsuperscript{th} industrial revolution changing medicine in Korea
New issues in Korea

• We had a big match between Se-dol LEE, Korean Go master, and AlphaGo, AI (Artificial Intelligence) developed by Google DeepMind in March 2016.
• This match was spotlighted around the world.
• The 4th industrial revolution is expected to bring about a fundamental change to the medical industry.
• IBM's Watson for Oncology is first introduced by Gachon University Gil Medical Center in Korea.
• Another 5 hospitals
  - Pusan National University Hospital
  - Konyang University Hospital, Keimung University
  - Dongsan Medical Center
  - Daegu Catholic Medical Center
  - Chosun University Hospital
3D Printing using in medicine
Korean Society of 3D Printing in Medicine was founded in March 2017.
Re-rising on actions of using diagnostic radiologic devices by Korean traditional medical doctors
Use of modern medical devices by Korean traditional medical doctors?

- In Korea, we have modern medicine and traditional medicine, two different licences.
- Traditional medicine is medicine passed down from ancestors’s oriental medicine.
- Today, traditional doctors have to practice only traditional medicine under the Korean current Act.
KMA’s firm Oppositions and Campaigns recent 3 yrs
Proposed new bills

- Two similar bills are proposed by two different groups, each 10 members of National assembly last week
- Main contents: Korean traditional medical doctors can use the diagnostic radiologic devices such as simple x-ray, and a new system can analyze the new techniques of traditional medicine
KMA’s opinion and prospection

• Korean Medical Association is strongly against the idea of letting Oriental doctors use modern medical devices including diagnostic radiologic devices
• KMA is ready to struggle against a new proposed bills
• KMA expect it will be hard time to dispose of the new bills
Thank you