The approach of a medical social-worker to dealing with a family with multiple life problems

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Introduction

The Tokushima National Hospital has the function of a medical treatment nursing facility according to the handicapped person independence support law. There was a case that a family continued performing fraud of the pension income of the patients. Therefore, the amount in arrears of the allowance for family medical expenses of the person himself became vast. The actions of a medical social-worker to deal with this problem are described.

Background

The patients concerned were hospitalized while receiving respirator management. The mother and father were both in their 50s. The father permanently used a wheelchair following a cerebral infarction. The parents did not work together. The mother was responsible for the money management of the patients. Expenditure such as the cost of living of the parents increased, and the mother refused to communicate with the institution providing medical treatment for the son subsequently. Furthermore, the mother was in debt to the family of an inpatient of our hospital, and the staff, and an acquaintance.

Measures

The mother incurred another debt from an

acquaintance, and was unable to repay it. She refused support. For the grandmother, the use of the adult guardianship system was started. We filed for the use of everyday life independence support for the patients. The father was able to receive support through the nursing care insurance service. A plan to repay the debt of the mother from the father's pension was made.