

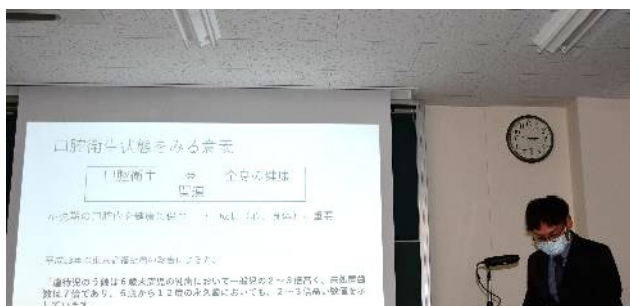
The 2023 "Dental Forensic Medicine Study Group on Response to Child Abuse" was held on

The 2023 "Dental Forensic Medicine Study Group on Response to Child Abuse" was held on Sunday, December 17, 2023. This is the second study group to look at child abuse from the perspective of dental forensic medicine, following last year. This time, the event was held as a hybrid, and in addition to the students of the Medical and Dental Engineering Pro course, mainly dentists, people involved in dental care, and people in child protection professions were invited to participate. Through keynote speeches and research presentations, participants considered what approaches are possible against child abuse.

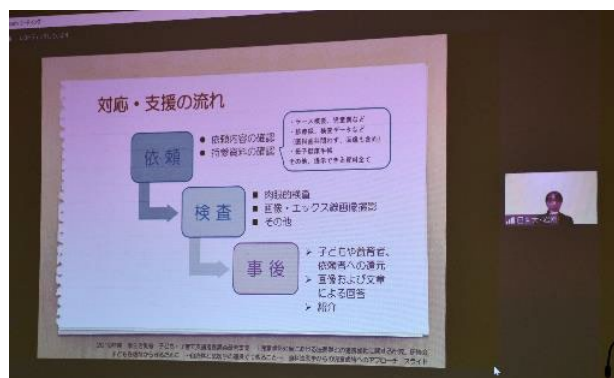
The keynote speech was given by Hiromi Funayama, a lecturer in the Department of Pediatric Dentistry at Tsurumi University School of Dentistry, who introduced a wealth of examples of cases of suspected child abuse in pediatric dental outpatient clinics, including the creation of a system to prevent abuse from being overlooked based on a unique assessment sheet that includes the situation at the time of arrival and at the reception, and the subsequent progress. Each case was valuable, and all the participants listened attentively.



Next, Assistant Professor Hiroko Masuta from the Department of Legal Medicine at Kanazawa University reported on the collaboration between the Department of Legal Medicine and child consultation centers, and second-year graduate student Yudai Suzuki (dentist) gave a presentation on the oral hygiene status of children temporarily taken into custody at child consultation centers.



Just as she did last year, Professor Kaori Iwahara from the Department of Legal Medicine at the School of Life Dentistry at Nihon University School of Dentistry provided a commentary on the presentations and explained the significance of collaboration between dentists and related institutions against child abuse based on examples of efforts in Kanagawa Prefecture.



In addition, the talk on various research results on oral environment and how information from oral observations can be used for the healthy development of children was very interesting. It is expected that participants will be able to better address the support necessary for protection from abuse and the healthy development of children by sharing information, such as cases where dentistry led to early detection and early response to child abuse.
