



Red Cross Responses to the Kumamoto Earthquakes

Interim Report (April 2017) - one year on



日本赤十字社
Japanese Red Cross Society

The Disaster



Situation of damage

209 people dead, 2,675 injured,
187,771 buildings damaged

(Kumamoto Antidisaster headquarter, "About the damage situation pertaining to Kumamoto earthquake (the 225th report)", as of 21 March 2017)

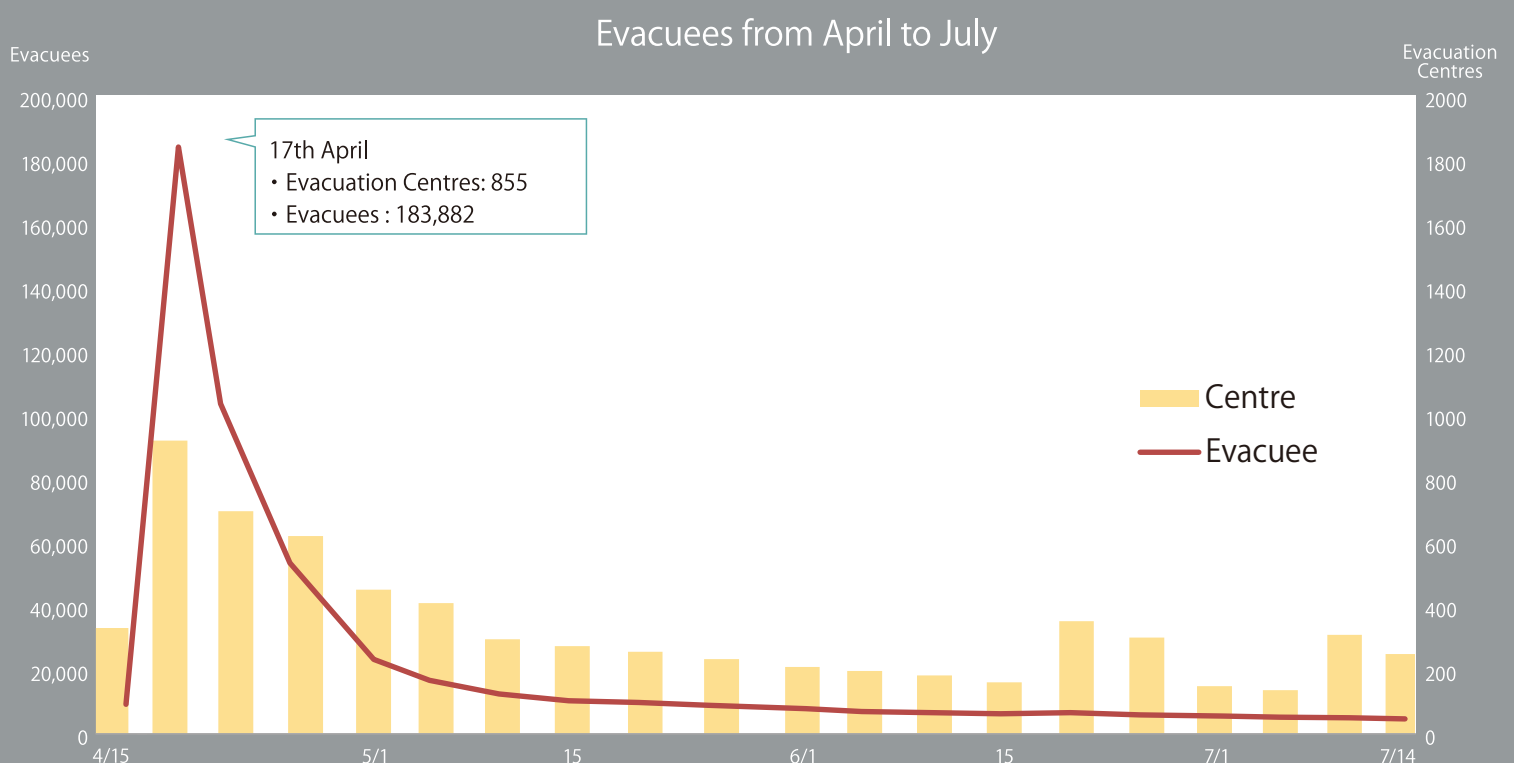
About 180,000 people evacuated (at the time of peak)

Significant aspect of the Kumamoto Earthquakes

The devastating earthquakes of maximum 7 Magnitude occurred on 14th and 16th April 2016, and their aftershocks have been occurring repeatedly.

Therefore, many people had to stay at evacuation centres and sleep in their cars due to the fear of possible collapse of their houses with sudden quakes.

Due to the prolonged evacuation life, many people were suffered from deep vein thrombosis (DVT) symptom, so-called "economy-class syndrome", and needed psychosocial care for anxiety for their future.



Red Cross Responses - Facts and Figures



207 teams 1,600 staff

Dispatch of medical relief teams



654

Emergency family kits distributed



5,000

Patients treated



22,480

Blankets distributed



300

Additional Medical personels to Kumamoto Red Cross Hospital



11,230

Tarpolines distributed



149

Psychosocial support staff deployed



7,551

Sleeping sets distributed

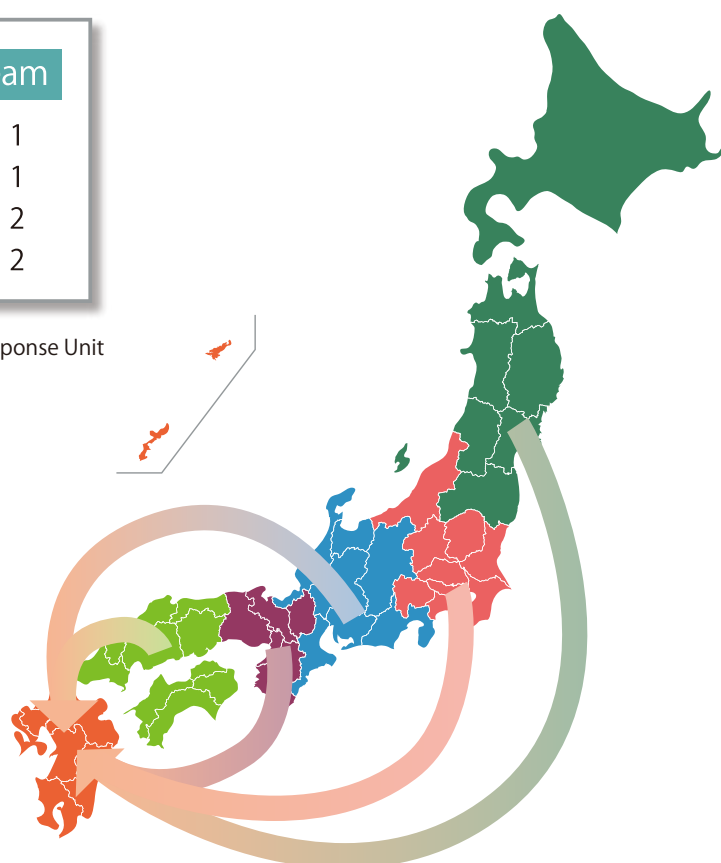
Mobilised Red Cross Medical Relief Teams

Component of a team

Doctor	1
Head nurse	1
Nurse	2
Admin staff	2

*dERU = domestic Emergency Response Unit

Region 4	
dERU*	2
Teams	39
Region 5	
Teams	44
Region 6	
Teams	70



Region 1	
Teams	15
Region 2 (incl HQs)	
dERU*	1
Teams	23
Region 3	
Teams	16



Emergency medical assistance and psychosocial supports (PSS)

JRCS has about 500 emergency medical teams on roster at its branches nationwide. 207 teams were dispatched to Kumamoto and provided medical assistance at the Domestic Emergency Response Units (dERU) and mobile clinics which are placed at the evacuation centres. The number of injured patients reached about 5,000. Thereafter, its medical assistance was completed on 2 June due to decreasing of evacuees, after the local medical service infrastructures in Kumamoto resumed. Psychosocial support teams which provided PSS service and relaxation to affected people in evacuation centres, completed and handed over its service to local public health nurses and medical service infrastructures on 13 June.

Support by JRCS volunteers

Red Cross Youth took a leading part in launching the Kumamoto Chapter Disaster Volunteer Centre on April 17, 2016. The total number of 261 volunteers supported activities for navigating of the medical teams, loading and transporting of relief supplies, assisting of medical teams' recording and conducting needs assessment in evacuation centres. Also, 1,328 Red Cross Youth supported volunteer activities such as fundraising all over the country.





Healthcare services for the affected people

In the evacuation centres, elderlies, handicapped, and mothers with infants are the priority to be supported especially who have to stay there for a long time. JRCS had implemented the healthcare services by deploying its staff nurses to the centres to take care of those priority beneficiaries until the end of July 2016. They took care of elderlies, and handicapped whose physical conditions tend to deteriorate, restarted the infants health examination, and provided psychosocial supports for mothers with infants. Also, Red Cross Volunteers in the field of nursing, and osteopath, supported the affected people.

Improving the environment in the evacuation centres

To protect the beneficiaries staying in evacuation centres from heat related symptoms during summer, large-sized water mist cooling fans, cold eye masks, candies for heat stroke prevention, insect repellent spray were distributed.

Due to the prolonged evacuation life, supportive activities such as to protect mental and physical health of beneficiaries, and to support to make their hard evacuation life more comfortable, had been implemented thanks to the donations from goodwill of people all over the world.



Capacity building of the JRCS to respond future disasters

The JRCS also has been working on improving and developing capacities of its local Chapters in order to respond to future disasters in the region.

The preposition of equipment and materials for its emergency disaster response, such as relief supplies, storage batteries, special tents and a water supply truck, has been implemented and is planned to be completed in mid-2017.

Voices from the affected areas



Kenji (64) and Hiromi Sakai (67)
at Mashiki-machi, May 2016

It was very helpful that JRCS provided us with medical support and blankets at the evacuation center. (Hiromi)
I catch a cold easily. If I start to cough, it makes trouble to people around. So, I was relieved that I was able to receive medicine from the JRCS medical team. (Kenji)



Tomomi and Yumeka Sakamoto (1)
at infant check-up in Nishihara-mura, June 2016

Since the first earthquake had happened, my daughter would not take milk anymore and often cried at night although she used to sleep well up to the morning. Therefore, I was struggling to take care of her as I needed to care about people around us at the evacuation center. It was very helpful that I could consult JRCS staff on the matter at that time.



Masaaki Satoyama (71) (left) and Masako Koseki (68) (right)
at an evacuation center in Ofune-machi, April 2016

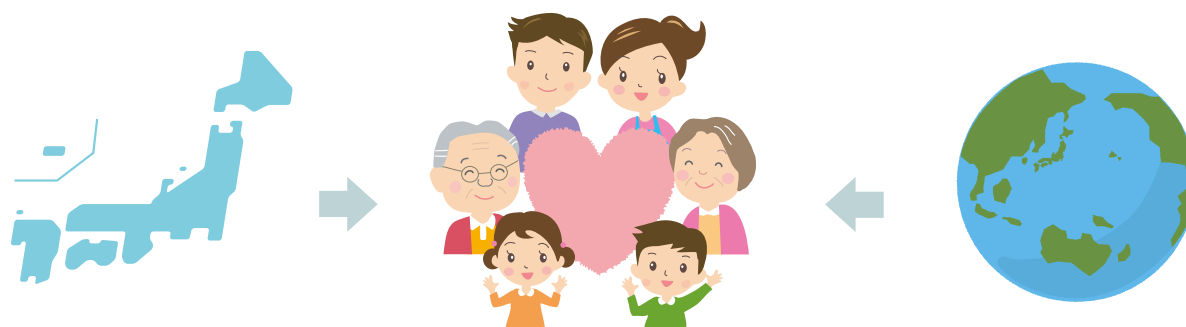
I was worried that my hospital was affected by the earthquake and I could not get medicine which I usually take. So, I felt safe to see the Red Cross emblem and relief staff (Ms. Koseki). I appreciate for the support from the Red Cross staff coming from different prefectures nationwide. (Mr. Satoyama)



Setsuko Komori (68)
at an evacuation center in Ofune-machi, May 2016

As I have a dog, I usually stay at the evacuation center during daytime, and sleep in the car during night.
The Red Cross staff set up a room for changing clothes inside the center. We are glad for the arrangement especially for women.

Domestic and International Fundraising (as of 20 March 2017)



Domestic Fundraising (Gienkin)

JPY 27,951,968,173

Donations from overseas

JPY 146,456,962