

What You Need to Know About

Medical Care for Children

How to Choose the Right Medical Institution



Medical Insurance Policy Division
Kyoto Prefectural Department of Health and Welfare

Introduction

Have you ever felt confused or anxious about which medical institution to visit when your child is sick or injured?

Medical institutions play various roles.

Generally, clinics treat common illnesses and injuries for patients, while hospitals are in charge of hospitalizations, surgeries, and the treatment of patients who have severe conditions and require emergency care. These, these institutions cooperate with each other to support the healthcare system.

Furthermore, our medical expenses are covered by the national health insurance system. In the case of child, as a rule, you are responsible for 20% of medical costs during infancy and early childhood. From elementary school age, the co-payment becomes 30%. However, in Kyoto Prefecture, residents can receive medical care at a lower out-of-pocket cost thanks to the Kyoto Medical Subsidy Program for Child-Raising Support*, which was established in cooperation with local municipalities.

In this way, children's medical care is supported by various systems and funding. Thus, it is vital to visit a proper medical institution. We would be delighted if this comic helps you better understand how to receive medical treatment.

Together, we can protect the health of
the children who are the future of Kyoto.



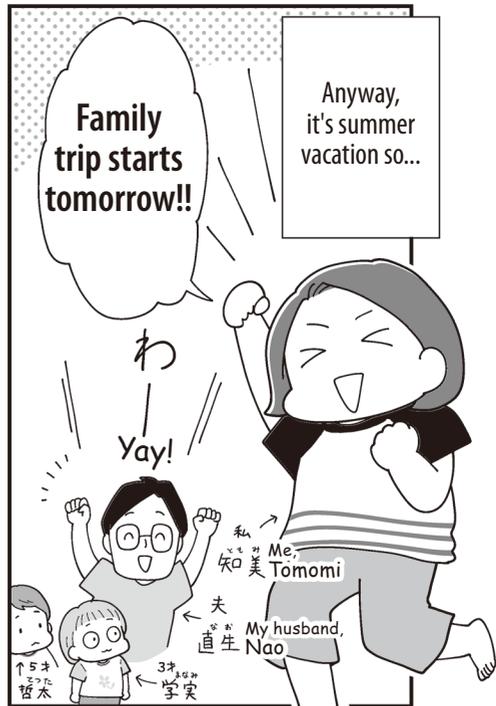
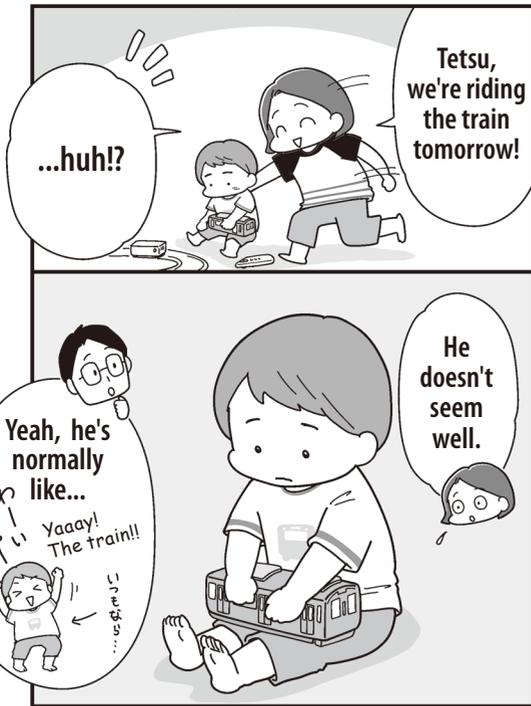
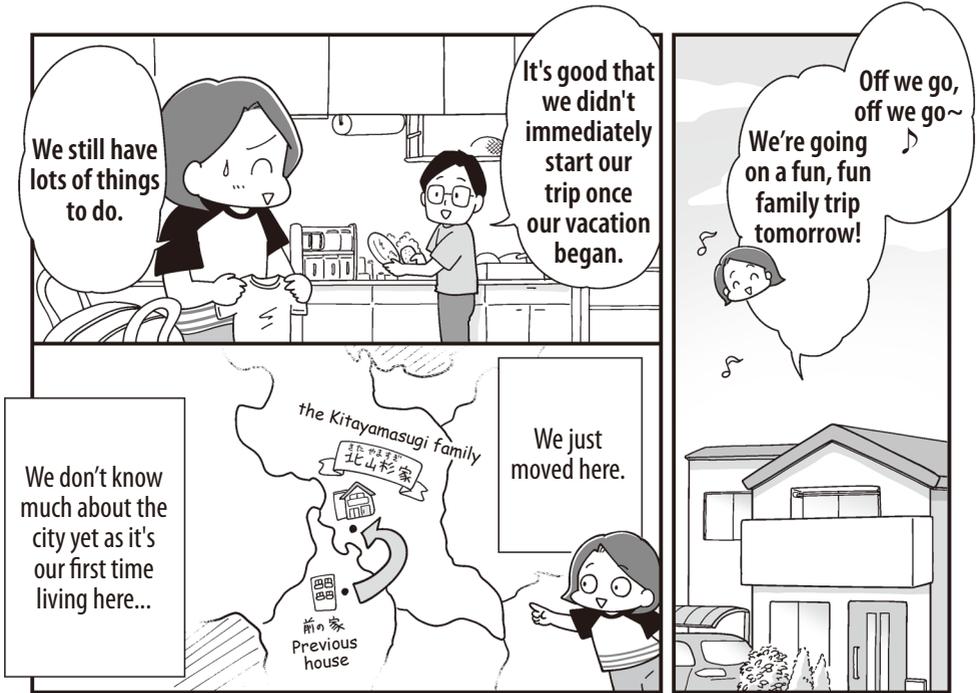
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Medical
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Key words

- ① About the **Kyoto Medical Subsidy Program for Child-Raising Support!** P6
- ② About the **# 8 0 0 0 0** service! P9
- ③ Finding a **primary care doctor!** P12





*This story is fiction.

Maybe it would have been better if Manami had stayed home...
She also has an event at daycare next week...

But we don't have a choice.
There are so many people...

— so crowded!
混雑～
うわ？
Wow...?
Arriving at the hospital

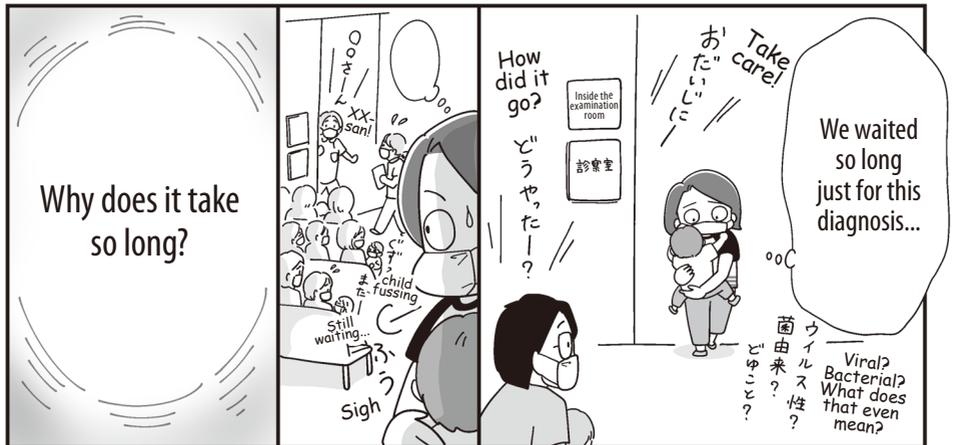
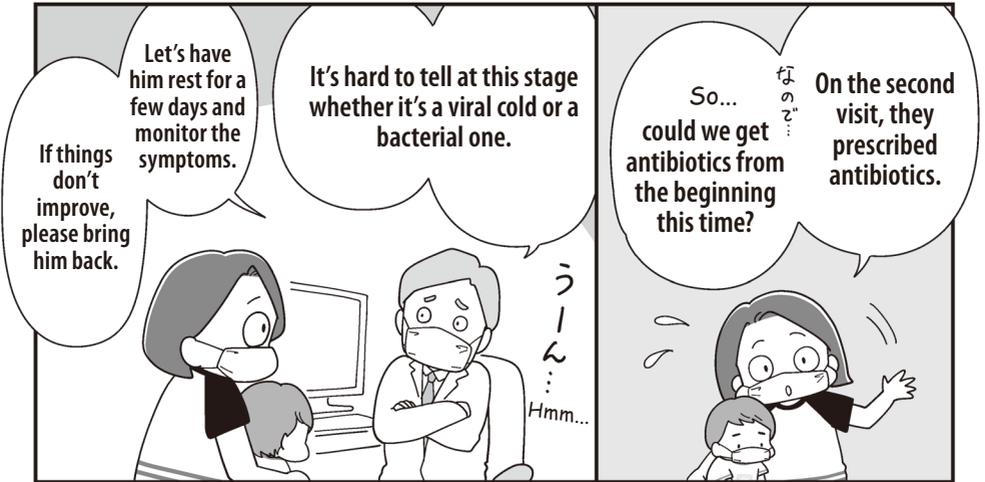
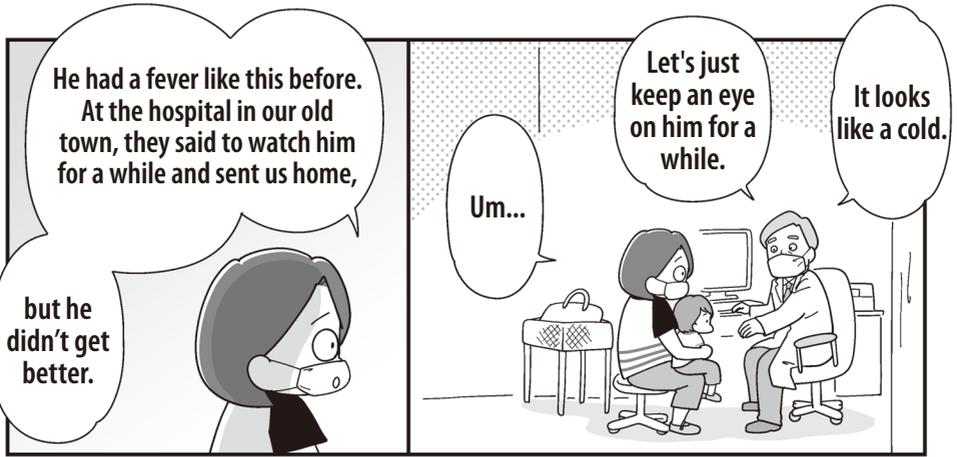
But if you pay out-of-pocket, the doctor can see them...
The insurance doesn't cover examinations of asymptomatic patients.

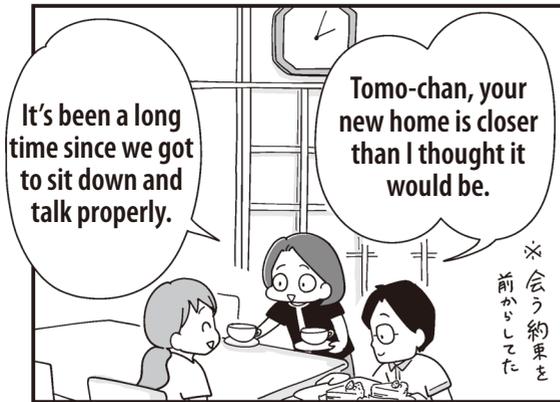
Um, I just want to make sure...
あの～
that I can have my three-year-old examined here.

診察室
Examination room

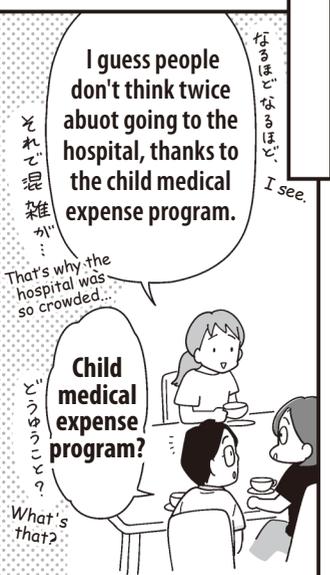
Kitayama-sugi-san, you're next!

Well, for now, let's just keep an eye on Manami...
Yeah...
Sigh... しゅん...





*They've been planning to get together for a while.



Out-of-pocket expenses at medical institutions

Kyoto Medical Subsidy Program for Child-Raising Support
(Expanded from September 2023)

Age group	Infant to elementary school student	Junior high school student
Outpatient	200 yen/month per medical institution	1,500 yen/month
Inpatient	200 yen/month per medical institution	

(As of March 2025)

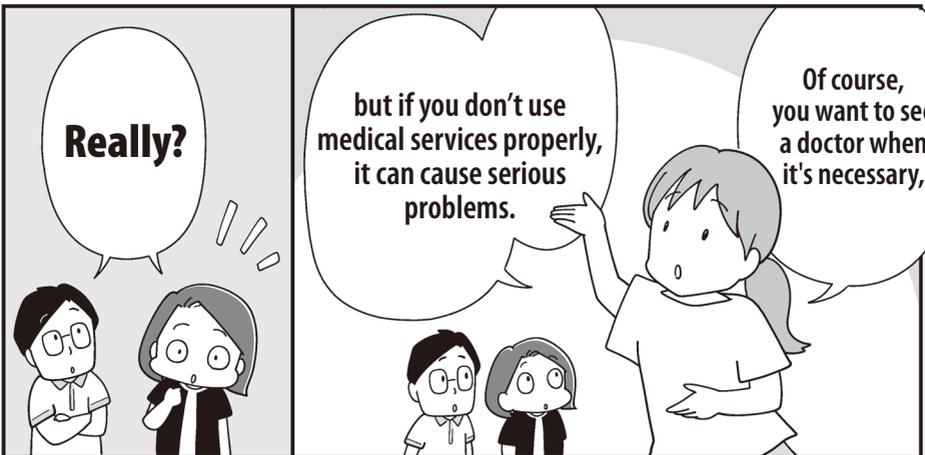
*This system is implemented jointly by Kyoto Prefecture and municipal governments.

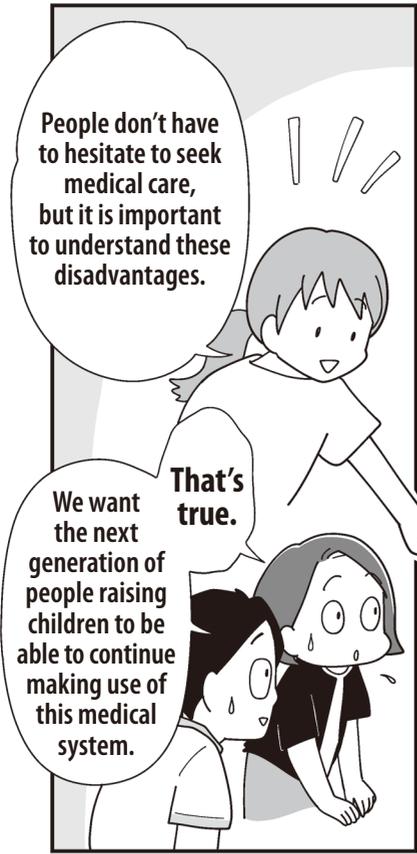
*Some municipalities independently expand the eligibility range.
Please contact your local municipality for details.

If this system did not exist:

For example, for outpatient visits, the average co-payment per medical institution would be approximately 3,000 yen/month for preschool children and about 5,000 yen/month for elementary school children.

(According to Kyoto Prefectural Medical Insurance Policy Division)



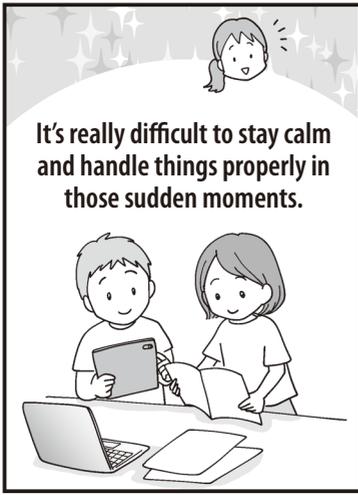


Furthermore...

- If an excessive number of patients visit a big hospital or emergency department during nights or holidays, **there might not be enough time to provide adequate treatment, or doctors and staff may be overstretched.**

- If people visit emergency departments during nights or holidays, **medical expenses may become more expensive.**
(This is also covered by medical subsidies.)

But you know...
でもなあ...
...



It's really difficult to stay calm and handle things properly in those sudden moments.

とりあえず
病院!!
って
なるのよ
I end up thinking,
"Just go to the
hospital!!"

my mind races with all kinds of thoughts and it's hard to stay calm.

When my child suddenly gets a fever or starts feeling unwell,



わかる!!
It's true!

That's why it's so important to gather reliable info and be prepared before something happens.

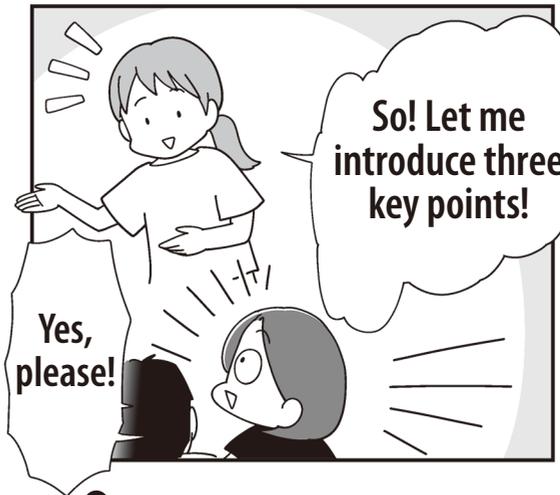


but sometimes the information isn't accurate, and it's hard to judge in a hurry.

ネットは
正確ではない情報も
まぎっていることがあるし
急なときは
判断しづらいよね

Looking things up online in the middle of an emergency can be helpful,

- ### Three points
- ① #8000
 - ② Prescription of antibiotics
 - ③ Primary Care Doctor



Yes, please!

So! Let me introduce three key points!

Do you need to take your child to the hospital, or is it safe to monitor the child's condition at home?

You can receive advice over the phone from a nurse or pediatrician.

If you're worried about medical issues such as an illness or injury of your child, you can consult a medical professional for advice.

1

#8000

Telephone Consultation Service for Child Medical Care

You can dial #8000, a nationwide hotline available across Japan.



How to use it

Just dial

8 0 0 0

from a landline or mobile phone.

I already knew that.

これは知ってた

My child suddenly vomited...

Are they conscious?

It's the sharp sign! The one on your phone

Hashtag?

It's great we can call when hospitals and clinics are closed!

In the case of Kyoto Prefecture

Consultation Hours

Open every day

7:00 PM to 8:00 AM the next morning

Saturdays (except public holidays and year-end/New Year holidays) / 3:00 PM to 8:00 AM the next morning

If you call from dial-up lines or IP phones, or if you call from anywhere in Kasagi Town or Minamiyamashiro Village, or certain areas of Nishikyo Ward and Fushimi Ward please call 075-661-5596 directly.

Antibacterial drugs and Antibiotics

(Antibacterial agents)

■ Antibacterial drugs are a general term for medicines that destroy bacteria, prevent them from multiplying, or suppress their growth.

■ Antibiotics (Antibacterial agents)

Antibiotics are a type of antibacterial drug, they are a chemical substance derived from microorganisms, such as bacteria or molds.

*In general, "antibiotics" and "antibacterial drugs" are often treated as synonyms.

From now on, I'll just call them

"anti-bacterial drugs."

Antibiotics are a type of antibacterial drug — medicine which only works against bacteria

Antibacterial drugs are effective against bacterial colds.

Types of colds

Bacterial cold

Viral cold

That's right. When we were kids...

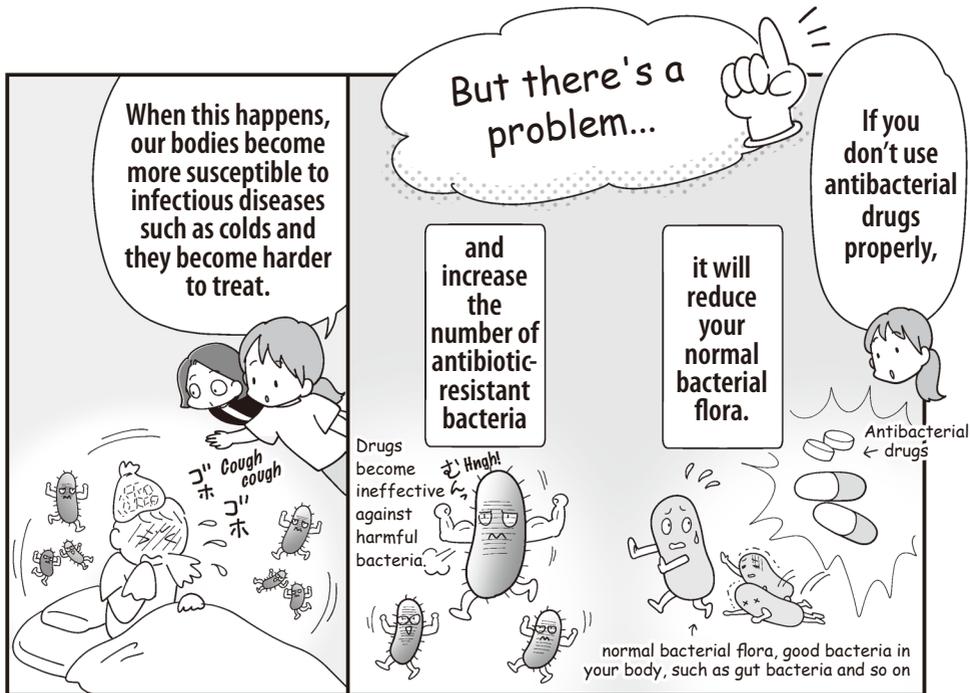
In the past, doctors frequently prescribed antibacterial drugs.

However, in most cases people have viral colds.

In which case, antibacterial drugs aren't effective most of time?!

抗風邪には
GOT A COLD!?
GET AN ANTI-BIOTIC!!

seems to have been the motto.



When this happens, our bodies become more susceptible to infectious diseases such as colds and they become harder to treat.

But there's a problem...

If you don't use antibacterial drugs properly,

and increase the number of antibiotic-resistant bacteria

it will reduce your normal bacterial flora.

Drugs become ineffective against harmful bacteria.

normal bacterial flora, good bacteria in your body, such as gut bacteria and so on

That makes sense.

It's hard to tell at this stage whether it's a viral cold or a bacterial one.

In short, we should only take antibacterial drugs when the doctor thinks it's necessary.

I feel like I've heard that somewhere before but I didn't really understand it.

and make sure to use antibacterial drugs properly.

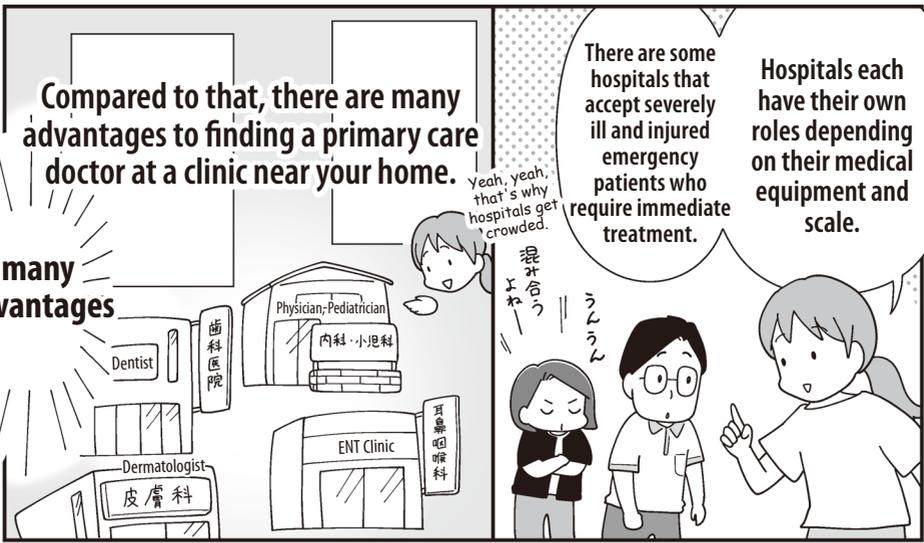
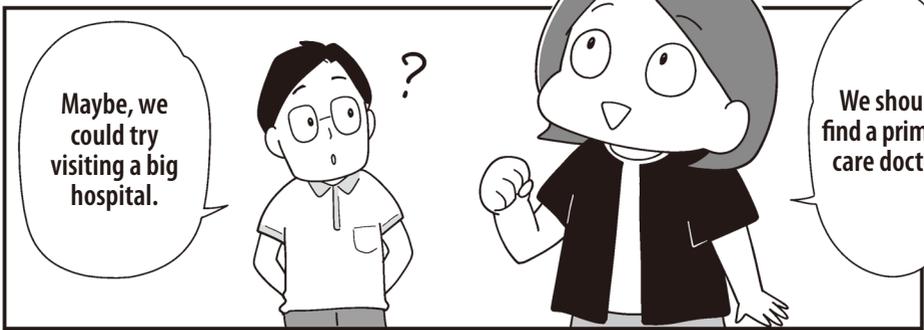
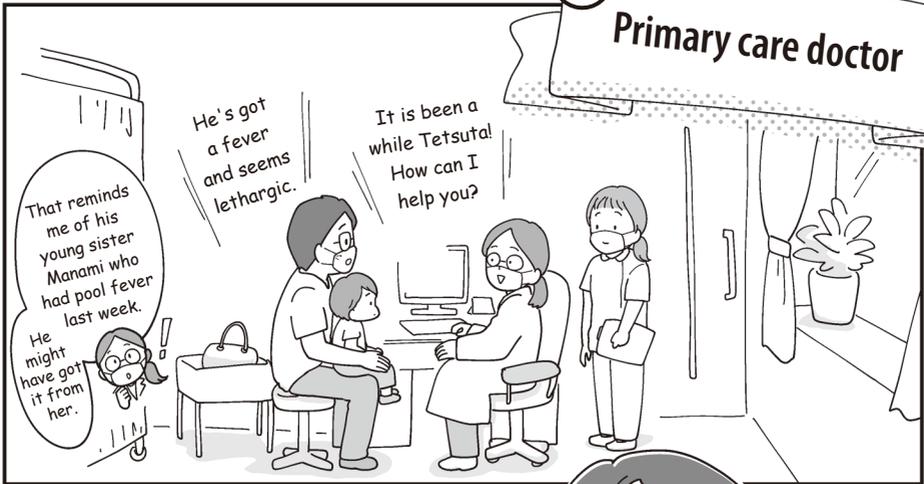
So we need to listen to the doctors and pharmacists' explanation

そっか / I see

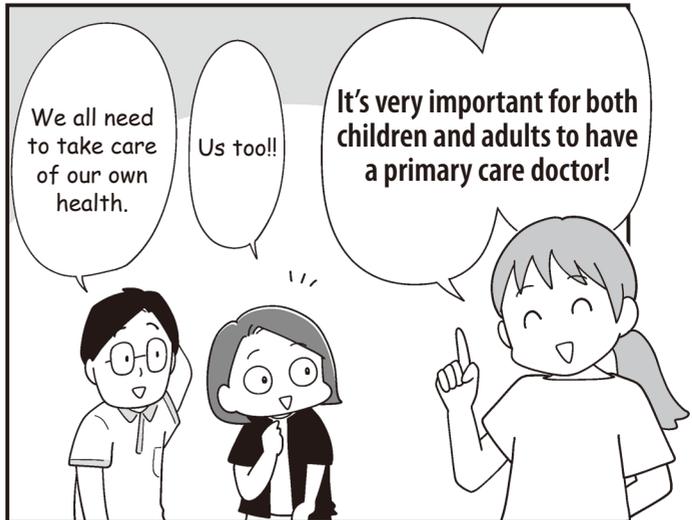
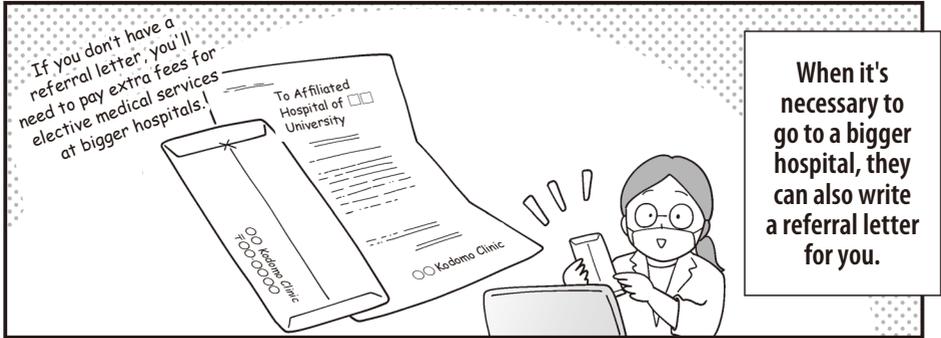
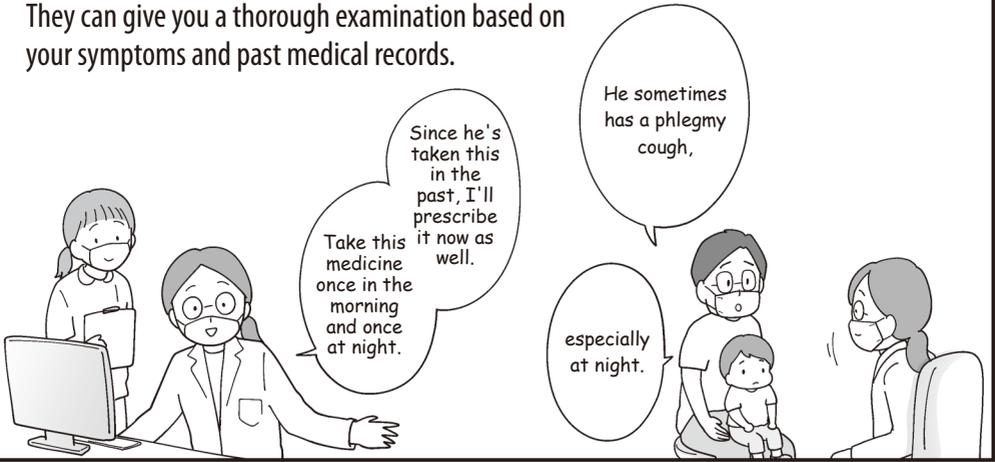
どこかで聞いた話題やけどちゃんと理解してなかったなあ

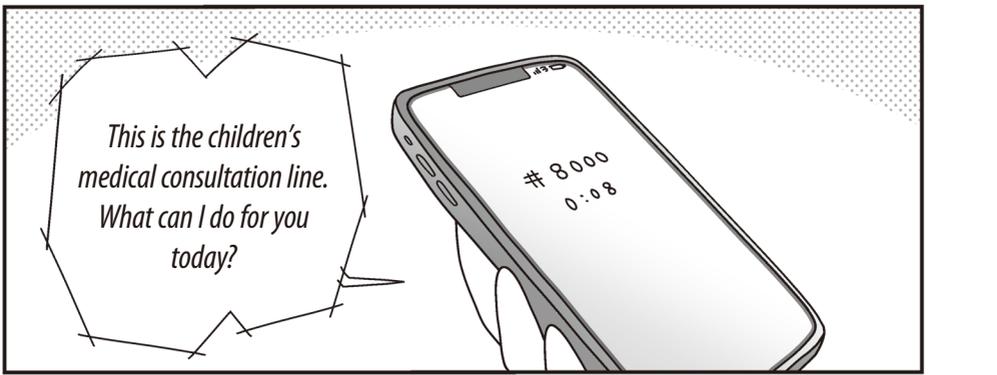
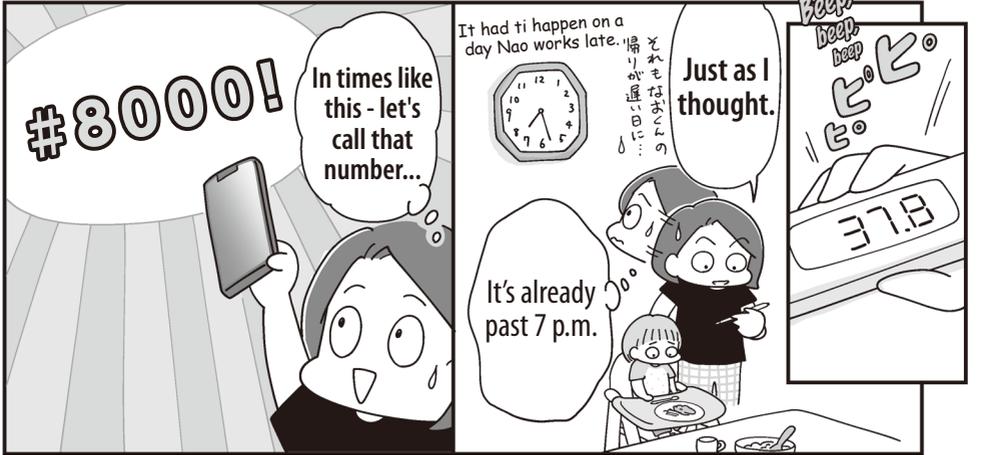
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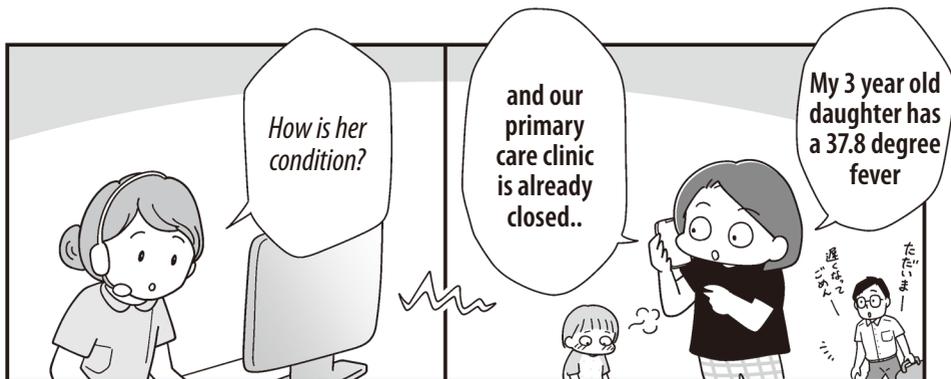
Primary care doctor



You can easily consult your primary care doctor about any concerns you have with changes in your health. They can give you a thorough examination based on your symptoms and past medical records.







8000
The children's medical consultation line

Is she confused or drowsy?

Is she getting enough fluids?

Does she have a severe headache?
etc.

Severe headache?

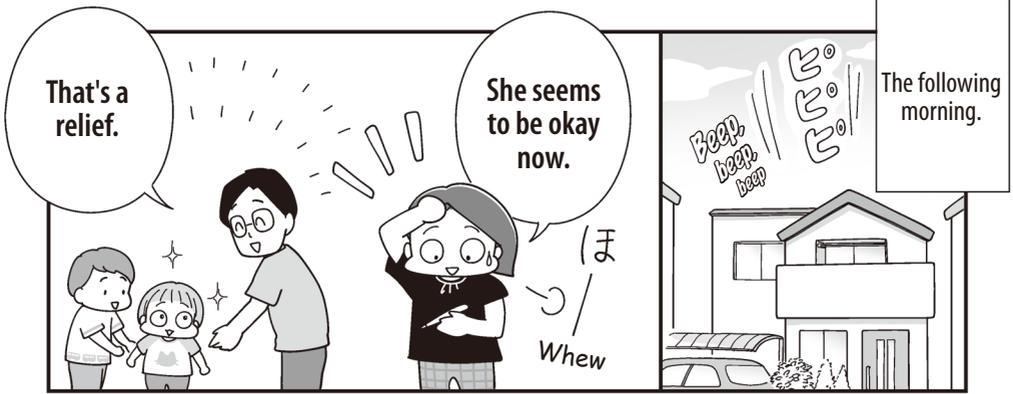
Does your head hurt?
あたまいたい？

It doesn't seem so.

Go to a medical facility

See a doctor the next day when the clinic's open	Go straight to a doctor
--	-------------------------

First, rest and monitor her condition at home...



The End



Children's
medical care

When your child suddenly gets sick or injured...

From your mobile phone  or landline call 

8 0 0 0

or TEL: 075-661-5596

- * If you call from dial-up lines or IP phones please call 075-661-5596 directly.
- * For residents of Kasagi Town, Minamiyamashiro Village, and some areas of Nishikyo and Fushimi Wards, please dial 075-661-5596 as these areas belong to the neighboring prefectures' phone zones.



For details please check here.

Eligibility: Children aged under 15 and their families who reside in Kyoto Prefecture

Consultation hours: From 7:00pm until 8:00am the next morning

- 3:00pm~8:00am on Saturdays (Excluding public holidays and year-end/New Year holidays)

Nurses and pediatricians will assist you.
Consultations about child-rearing are also available.



Child-rearing

Kyoto Childrearing Peer Support Center

Providing information about support for pregnancy, childbirth and child-rearing to create a better child-rearing environment.

Please check the "Health Guide for Families with Children"!

Information on assistance from local governments and related institutions

Information on available public services for pregnancy, childbirth, and child-rearing



Check here for further details



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Memo



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