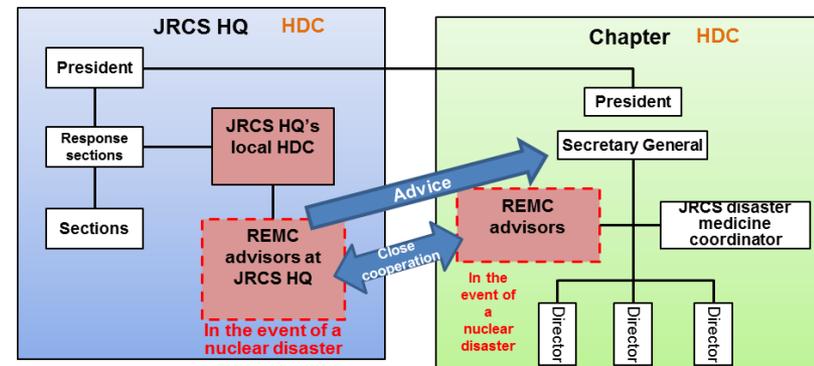


If a nuclear disaster occurs, relief and assistance to survivors need to be provided quickly and appropriately while taking into consideration the safety of JRCS responders. A structure needs to be established to realize this response. “Radiation emergency medical care advisors” (REMC advisors) are supposed to take an important role in the event of a nuclear disaster.

1. A significant difference in the JRCS chain of command between a nuclear disaster and other natural disasters: If a JRCS chapter in an affected area has made a request for relief assistance to the JRCS Headquarters (JRCS HQ), the JRCS HQ is supposed to send pre-appointed “REMC advisors” to headquarters of disaster control (HDCs) set up at the JRCS HQ and the affected chapter prior to dispatching JRCS relief teams to the affected area.
2. These REMC advisors will collect information on the status of the nuclear accident and JRCS’s planning activity areas from the affected chapter and public authorities’ headquarters of disaster response. Based on the information, the advisors will try to decide on whether or not it is possible for JRCS relief teams to provide activities safely and then inform the HDCs at the JRCS HQ and the affected chapter of their judgment as their advice.
3. Based on the request for relief assistance made by the affected chapter and advice given by REMC advisors, the JRCS HQ will make a decision on a course of action with regard to dispatching of JRCS relief teams to the affected area.
4. Based on information obtained from the JRCS relief teams, the affected chapter and public authorities’ headquarters of disaster response, the REMC advisors will continue to try to figure out the status of JRCS activity areas to ensure the safety of JRCS responders. If the activity areas are likely to become dangerous, the advisors will give the responders instructions, for example, to wear protective suits or evacuate the areas.



REMC advisors:

(1) REMC advisors are comprised of radiological experts (physicians) and radiological support members (radiological technologists).

(2) REMC advisors are appointed in advance in a preparedness phase. As shown in the right table, 11 JRC hospitals are designated as radiation emergency hospitals (as of April 2016). In addition to these hospitals, some physicians and radiological technologists of the JRC atomic-bomb survivors’ hospitals in Hiroshima and Nagasaki and the JRC Fukushima Hospital that responded to the Fukushima Daiichi accident are also appointed as REMC advisors.

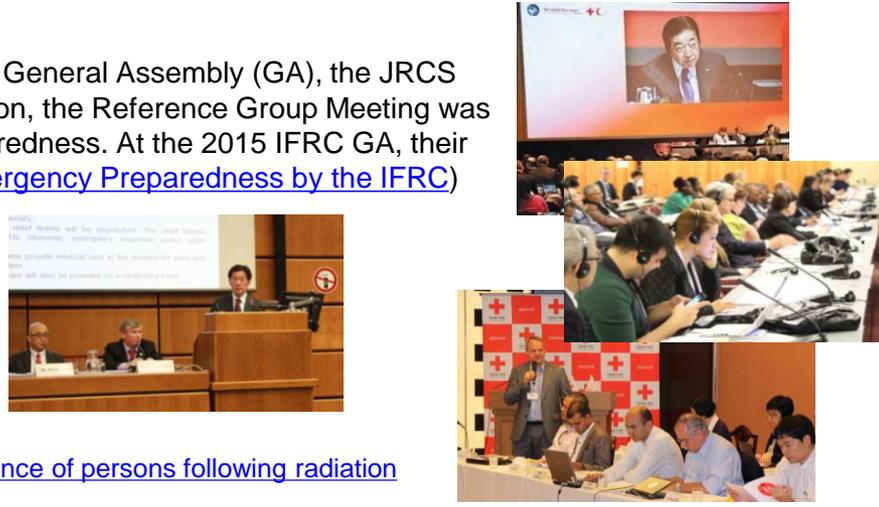
(3) If a nuclear disaster has occurred or is likely to occur, and the affected chapter has made a request for relief assistance to the JRCS HQ, the REMC advisors are supposed to be placed immediately at both the JRCS HQ and the JRCS chapter in the affected area.

JRCS Chapter	Hospital	Designated as:
Hokkaido	Date Red Cross Hospital	Primary REH*
Miyagi	Japanese Red Cross Ishinomaki Hospital	Primary REH
Fukushima	Japanese Red Cross Fukushima Hospital	Fukushima Health Management Survey hospital
Ibaraki	Japanese Red Cross Mito Hospital	Primary REH
Fukui	Fukui Red Cross Hospital	Primary REH
Shiga	Japanese Red Cross Otsu Hospital	Primary REH; Hospital for supporting secondary radiation medicine
Shiga	Japanese Red Cross Nagahama Hospital	Secondary REH
Kyoto	Japanese Red Cross Maizuru Hospital	Primary REH
Tottori	Japanese Red Cross Tottori Hospital	Primary REH
Shimane	Matsue Red Cross Hospital	Primary REH
Hiroshima	Hiroshima Red Cross Hospital & Atomic-bomb Survivors Hospital	(Internal institute: Nuclear Radiation Effects Counter Measure Research Institute)
Ehime	Matsuyama Red Cross Hospital	Secondary REH
Saga	Japanese Red Cross Karatsu Hospital	Secondary REH
Nagasaki	Japanese Red Cross Nagasaki Genbaku Hospital	(Internal institute: Nuclear Radiation Effects Counter Measure Research Institute)

By sharing information/collaborating with the IFRC, the national and local governments, international organizations, specialized organizations and research institutions in/outside Japan, the JRCS has strengthened its structure to respond to nuclear disasters.

1. Collaboration with related organizations abroad

- To discuss how to operationalize the 2011 Resolution adopted at the IFRC General Assembly (GA), the JRCS has played a main role in cooperation with the IFRC. Following the resolution, the Reference Group Meeting was established and they worked on nuclear and radiological emergency preparedness. At the 2015 IFRC GA, their activity outcome was summed up. (Reference: [Nuclear & Radiological Emergency Preparedness by the IFRC](#))
- The IAEA (International Atomic Energy Agency) has held experts' meetings on nuclear/radiological disasters. Dr. Masao Tomonaga, Honorary President of the Japanese Red Cross Nagasaki Genbaku Hospital and Dr. Yoichi Watanabe, then-Deputy Director General of the Japanese Red Cross Fukushima Hospital participated in some of the meetings and gave a presentation.
 - [A JRCS' presentation on an IAEA meeting \(March 2014\)](#)
 - [Participation in IAEA's "Consultancy Meeting on Medical follow-up and surveillance of persons following radiation emergencies" \(June 2015\)](#)
 - [Participation in IAEA's "International Conference on Global Emergency Preparedness and Response" \(October 2015\)](#)



2. Collaboration with related organizations in Japan

- To promote information sharing about recovery in Fukushima Prefecture and disaster risk reduction, the JRCS signed a partnership agreement with Fukushima Future Center for Regional Revitalization (FURE) of Fukushima University on assistance for reconstruction in Fukushima (October 2014) and has worked together. The JRCS also signed "Joint Declaration regarding Revitalization and Disaster Preparedness" with Fukushima Prefecture (March 2015).
- The Fukushima Medical University has helped the JRCS in considering solution of challenges in the event of a nuclear disaster. Some other specialized organizations in Japan have sent their staff to give lectures at meetings or seminars organized by the JRCS. The JRCS has pursued collaboration with these organizations.
- As for cooperation with the Japanese governmental agencies, the JRCS worked with relevant departments of the Nuclear Regulation Authority and the Cabinet Office in studying or considering nuclear disaster preparedness. The agencies have sent their staff to give lectures at meetings organized by the JRCS. Cooperative relationships with these agencies have been developed.



- [The 1st Red Cross Nuclear Disaster Seminar \(December 2013\)](#)
- [Meeting of Radiation Emergency Medical Care Advisors](#)