

"Achieving safe and secure pregnancy and delivery using a mobile ultra-small fetal monitor" which has been promoting by Kagawa University, Melody International Ltd., and NPO e-HCIk was awarded the 2020 Japan Science and Technology Agency Chairman award.

The award was founded to honor excellent efforts, as "STI for SDGs" by Japan Science and Technology Agency: JST". This is the award to prompt contributions to achieve "Sustainable Development Goals: SDGs", according to resolve the regional issues by using "Science, Technology and Innovation: STI" and to aid regional developments.

There are so many areas in the world to have environments that obstetricians and midwives cannot give birth safely and securely. Also, in developed countries including Japan, medical disparity has been creating, in order that similar problems had been increasing by decrease number of obstetricians and uneven distribution of obstetricians to urban areas. In addition, in the current situation concerned about Corona virus infection, there are cases which hesitates to go to pregnant woman medical examination.

Therefore, awarded members developed the mobile ultra-small fetal monitor which works with wireless and with inner battery. With this monitor, it made possible an online system that pregnant woman can measure fetal heart-rate by herself, and doctor at hospital remotely can now diagnosis fetal health from the transmitted heart-rate.

This monitor also can be used for pregnant woman while emergency transportation and disasters. In addition, the online system had that obstetricians can access to stored-data in the cloud server with using smartphones and tablets. By this, the monitors can now be used everywhere every time and all of related medical staffs can now share the measured data.

In the future, they are aiming to introduce to areas where obstetricians are in shortage, such as remote islands and remote areas in Japan, and to introduce onto emergency vehicles. In addition, they are aiming to introduce and expand to overseas, including developing countries.

This effort was selected for the JST award, because it suits for the "utilization and innovation of STI", and also suits for the spirit of the SDGs that "no one will be left behind" by promoting the expansion and introduction in Japan and overseas.

Description of mobile ultra-small fetal monitor. <https://www.melodyi.net/>