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iii On 20 September 2000, four doctors and one nurse were found liable for professional negligence in this incident.

iv The ownership of hospitals is predominantly private in Japan. In 1999, there were 9286 hospitals, of which the central government, local governments, and the Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare owned 370, 1368 and 229 hospitals respectively. The government-owned hospitals will become independent in 2004.