

# Country Report 2016-2017



**KMA**  
KOREAN MEDICAL  
ASSOCIATION

**Korean Medical Association**

**Moojin CHOO, M.D., Ph.D**  
**President**  
**Korean Medical Association**

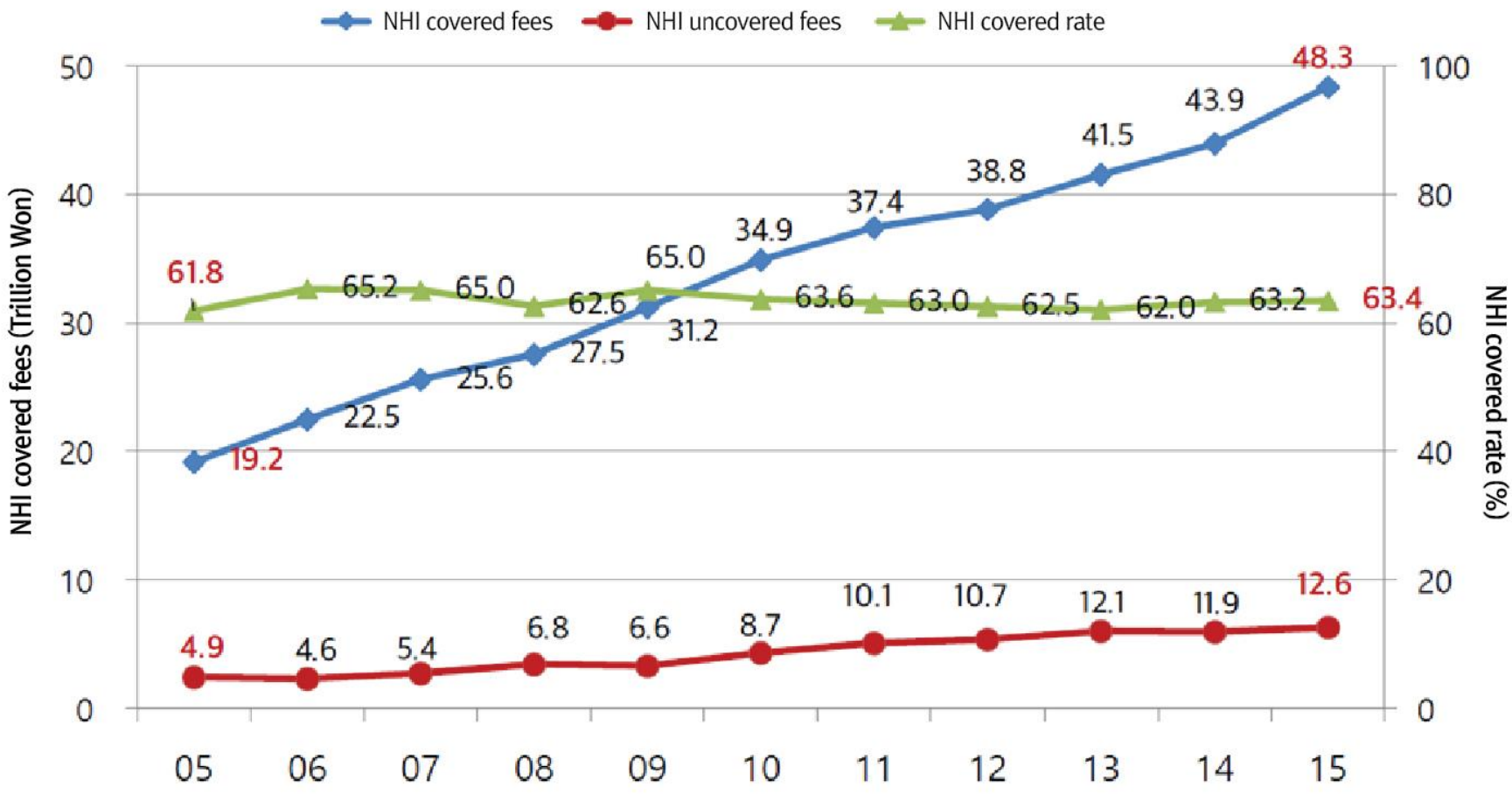
# **'New policy of National Health Insurance in Korea'**

## Introduction of Korean National Health Insurance(NHI)

- NHI is introduced in 1977 and applied to whole people since 1989
- NHI growth from US\$ 4.3 billion to US\$ 11.2 billion for recent 10 years
- NHI coverage rate has stagnated in the early 60% for the last 10 years

# NHI coverage rate has stagnated for the last 10 years (2006 ~ 2015)

● NHI covered fees **215%**, NHI uncovered fees increased of **272%** → NHI covered rate increased of **1.6%**



# The key point of the government's new policy ( I )

- **Korean government announced the new policy on August 9, 2017**
- **The NHI coverage enhancement policy which includes measures to turn all uncovered medical treatments\* into the ones entitled to insurance coverage, except for plastic surgery and beauty treatments**

\* Such as selective medical treatments fee, room charges of superior general hospital, nursing fee, etc

# The key point of the government's new policy (Ⅱ)

- **Restricting the number of uncovered treatments by expanding the new Diagnosis Related Group (DRG) payment system on hospitals**
- **To this end, the government plans to increase the health insurance coverage rate from the current 63% to 70% by 2022**
- **Spend 30.6 trillion Korean won(about US\$ 270 billion) from 2018 to 2022**

**Agrees with its objective,**

- **improve the NHI system to satisfy both the public and the medical community including doctors**
- **reduce the financial burden of the public.**

# Korean Medical Association(KMA)'s proposals

- ① **Determination of appropriate medical costs and development of reasonable criteria for compensation**
- ② **Phased conversion centering on critical medical services or treatments that may cause catastrophic medical costs**
- ③ **Establishment of new medical delivery system**
- ④ **Measures not to hamper efforts to introduce new medical technologies**
- ⑤ **Establishment of ways to secure sufficient financing for the NHI system considering the current system's finance situation and its sustainability**



# Cancer patients and their family against the new policy 'no permission off-label using'



# **The 4<sup>th</sup> industrial revolution changing medicine in Korea**

# New issues in Korea

- We had a big match between Se-dol LEE, Korean Go master, and AlphaGo, AI(Artificial Intelligence) developed by Google DeepMind in march 2016.
- This match was spotlighted around the world.

- The 4<sup>th</sup> industrial revolution is expected to bring about a fundamental change to the medical industry.
- IBM's Watson for Oncology is first introduced by Gachon University Gil Medical Center in Korea.
- Another 5 hospitals
  - Pusan National University Hospital
  - Konyang University Hospital, Keimung University
  - Dongsan Medical Center
  - Daegu Catholic Medical Center
  - Chosun University Hospital

# 3D Printing using in medicine



# Korean Society of 3D Printing in Medicine was founded in march 2017



**Re-rising on actions of using  
diagnostic radiologic devices  
by Korean traditional medical  
doctors**

# Use of modern medical devices by Korean traditional medical doctors?

- In Korea, we have modern medicine and traditional medicine, two different licences
- Traditional medicine is medicine passed down from ancestors's oriental medicine.
- Today, traditional doctors have to practice only traditional medicine under the Korean current Act



# KMA's firm Oppositions and Campaigns recent 3 yrs



# Proposed new bills

- **Two similar bills are proposed by two different groups, each 10 members of National assembly last week**
- **Main contents : Korean traditional medical doctors can use the diagnostic radiologic devices such as simple x-ray, and a new system can analyze the new techniques of traditional medicine**

# KMA's opinion and prospection

- **Korean Medical Association is strongly against the idea of letting Oriental doctors use modern medical devices including diagnostic radiologic devices**
- **KMA is ready to struggle against a new proposed bills**
- **KMA expect it will be hard time to dispose of the new bills**



# Thank you