



**Korea, the Medical Tour Service Leader:
Let Korea Take Care of Your Health**

**MEDICAL
TOURISM
KOREA**



The Best Medical Tourism Destination

Korea, Where One Can Change Their Life, Beyond Treatment.

Visit Korea, Where Patients Can Heal Their Minds as well as Their Pains.

CONTENTS

04	Why Medical Tourism Korea?
06	Integrated Internal Medicine
12	Physical Examination Center
14	Obstetrics and Gynecology
16	Orthopedics
18	Traditional Korean Medicine
10	Dermatology
08	Plastic Surgery

Why Medical Tourism Korea?

South Korea, a Medical Tour Service Leader Pioneering the Future of Medicine

South Korea ("Korea") is an IT leader that leads the digital era in the 21st century. At the same time, the country has set off *hallyu* (Korean wave) across all industries including fashion, food and content like K-pop and K-drama, just to name a few. What's more, Korea also emerged as a medical tourism powerhouse and has created medical *hallyu*, showing its strong capacity to lead the medical industry as well. With state-of-the-art medical equipment, smart IT-based medical technologies, smart hospitals and innovative treatments, Korea has become a "cradle of doctors." Professional medical tour agencies registered with the Ministry of Health and Welfare provide reliable medical tour services, ranging from airport pickups to hospitalizations, treatments, surgeries, and tours. Plus, the Korean government runs an international medical tour coordinator license program to raise the satisfaction levels of medical tourists.

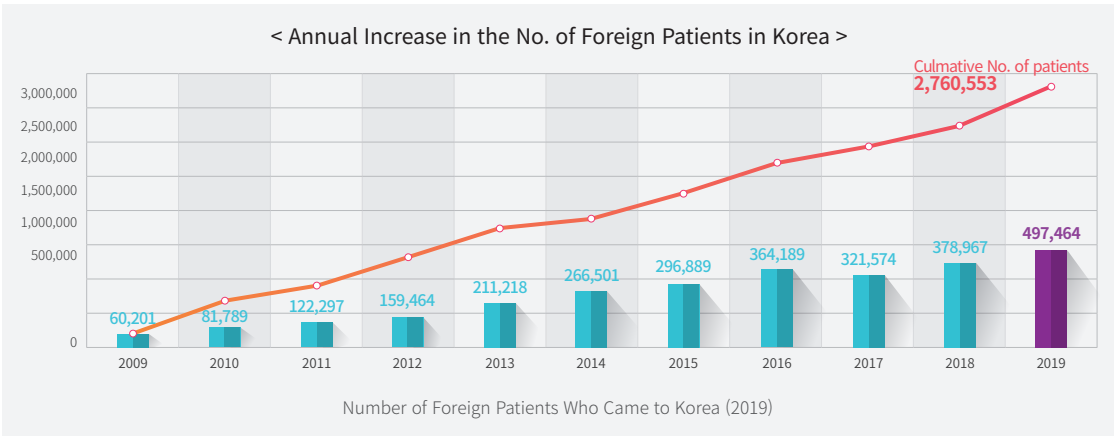
Korea Medical Tour Sets Global Medical Tourism Standards

The biggest advantage of Korean medical tours is the convergence of medical science and IT. Korean general hospitals' transplantations, robotic surgeries, and endoscopic operations have the best-in-class quality among medical tourist destinations. In particular, Korea's cancer survival rate is more than double the average among OECD countries, thereby boasting a world-class standard.



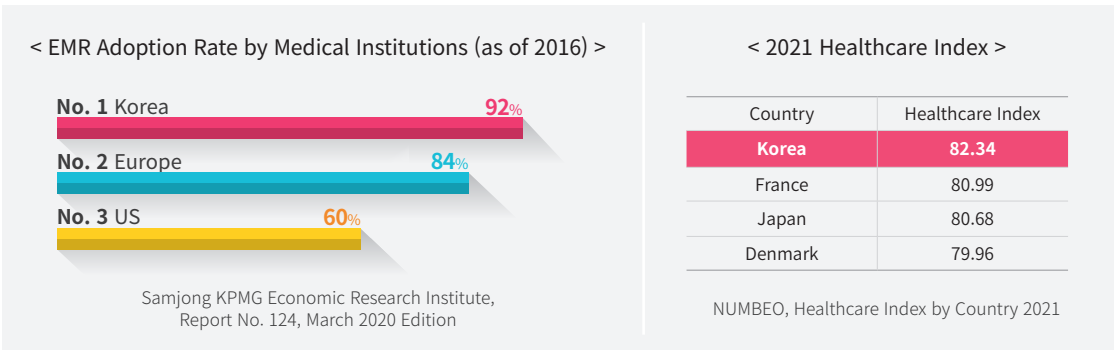
Korea, Visited by Patients from Around the World

The number of foreign patients in Korea continues to grow. Patients come from various regions in the world including Russia, Central Asia, Middle East, the Americas and Europe. In addition, patients from nearby countries such as China and Japan also come to Korea for medical treatment.



Top Medical Infrastructure Globally

Korea's world-class medical services can be verified by statistical analysis of medical data. The rate of adoption of the electronic medical record (EMR) system by Korean medical institutions ranks top globally. The country has the second highest healthcare index in the world. The index assesses robotic endoscopic surgery, medical equipment, diagnostic system, and medical system, thus showing that Korea has established a solid foothold as a medical powerhouse.



Integrated Internal Medicine



Boasting the World's Highest Cancer Survival Rate Thanks to Innovative Cancer Treatment Technology

Status

Korea is the world-renowned leader in cancer treatment. Global no. 5 plus three of the top 20 global hospitals for cancer treatment are based in Korea. In addition, hospitals, universities and various research institutes in the country are dedicated to new medical technologies used for cancer treatment. A majority of foreign patients who come to Korea receive robotic surgeries to treat various cancers, including colorectal cancer and stomach cancer.

Strength

The survival rate of patients with major cancers in Korea is the highest in the world. The five-year survival rate of stomach cancer patients is 77% in Korea, which is two or three times higher than that of the US (32.4%) and UK (21.6%).

Plus, approximately 1,000 doctors around the world apply for medical training in Korea to learn the country's integrated cancer treatment systems, including integrated precision medicine platforms that leverage clinical data on cancer patients, in addition to robotic surgeries.

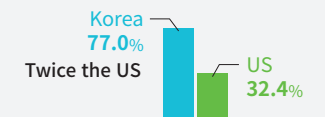


Medical Field

Korean cancer centers provide one-stop services supporting prevention, testing, treatment, rehabilitation, and follow-up management. University hospitals and general hospitals as well as 12 government-designated cancer centers offer the world's best-in-class cancer treatments. In addition, patients can receive the same one-stop service for major internal diseases in addition to cancer treatment. University hospitals and general hospitals provide world-top class treatment services in this area as well.

- General internal medicine department
- Infectious diseases department
- Endocrinology-metabolism department
- Rheumatology department
- Gastroenterology department
- Cardiology department
- Nephrology department
- Allergy department
- Hematology-oncology department
- Pulmonology department
- Family medicine department

Global comparison of 5-year survival rate for stomach cancer



The Ministry of Health and Welfare & Korea Health Industry Development Institute, Smart Care Treatment

No. of foreign patients who visited the integrated internal medicine department in 2019



113,422 people

Plastic Surgery



Getting Plastic Surgery in Korea Is in Fashion in the New *Hallyu* Era

Status

With the *hallyu* boom led by K-pop and K-drama worldwide, Korea is leading global beauty trends. For foreigners who aspire to K-beauty, getting plastic surgery in Korea has become a turning point in their lives beyond a simple medical operation. This is why many foreigners visit plastic surgeons in Korea.

Strength

Korea is a leader in the plastic surgery sector with 25% of the global beauty market. Korea's plastic surgery technology has become a global standard that Korean plastic surgeons write related medical textbooks across the globe. In particular, Korea's facial liposuction technology used to create a V-shaped facial line without reshaping the bones boasts an unmatched superiority. Therefore, the country recorded the largest number of facial liposuction cases in the world. Furthermore, Korea offers a reliable medical environment for patients, such as cameras installed in operating rooms and the disclosure of the names of medical staff members who participate in the surgeries. In addition, differentiated services, including beauty classes and cultural programs for foreigners, are offered as well.



Medical Field

Cosmetic surgery is divided into invasive surgery, which cuts or punctures the skin, and minimally invasive or non-invasive surgery that uses injections, laser or ultrasonic waves. Recently, minimally invasive, or non-invasive surgery, which is affordable with less risk of side-effects, is preferred by those in their 20s and 30s who want instant yet natural-looking results.

• Minimally Invasive/Non-Invasive Surgery

- Botox
- Winkle reduction
- Injectable fillers
- Aqua peels

• Invasive Surgery

- Breast augmentation
- Facial plastic surgery
- Hair transplantation
- Liposuction

Size of the Korean cosmetic surgery market



Hana Financial Investment,
Cosmetic Surgery Overweight

No. of foreign patients who visited the plastic surgery department in 2019



90,404 people

Dermatology



K-Beauty for Youth and Beauty

Status

Korean celebrities are known for their clean and beautiful skin, so Korea's dermatology treatment and skincare know-how have grabbed much attention. Dermatology clinics in Korea provide optimum and customized medical services through scientific skin diagnosis while offering total beauty care services from consultation to examination to operation and recovery.

Strength

Korea boasts the world's best-in-class stem cell technology, which has anti-aging and immunity-boosting effects. As skincare service demands from oversea patients grow, the Korean government has launched a program whereby Korean health & medical practitioners can work overseas. With this, a large number of doctors and specialists in aesthetic procedures and post-procedural management have entered overseas markets.



Medical Field

Dermatology treatment is mainly divided into dermal laser treatment and skincare treatment. Laser treatment is provided after customized analysis of skin type, whereby skincare treatment follows. Recently whitening, wrinkle care, filler injection for neck wrinkles, and skin regeneration treatments have been popular.

• Skin Laser Treatment

- Freckle/pigment
- Scar/pores
- Lifting
- Dermatopathy

• Skincare

- Acne/flush
- Whitening/moisturizing/regeneration

Medical areas where Korean medical staff advanced into overseas markets



Korea Health Industry Development Institute, Overview and Outlook of Overseas Internship Program for Health and Medical Staff

No. of foreign patients who visited the dermatology department in 2019



85,194 people

Physical Examination Center



One-stop Physical Examination System from Identifying a Disease to Treatment

Status

Korea's physical examination system is garnering attention as the importance of prevention, early diagnosis, and timely treatment of severe diseases grows globally. Korea ranks no. 1 in terms its EMR system adoption rate by medical institutions and it offers a one-stop service from examination to treatment. Korea provides rapid examination and precise reading through customized physical examinations and state-of-the-art medical equipment. Once a disease is discovered, they work with specialized hospitals. All this helps the public live longer and healthier lives.

Strength

Korea is the only country that provides citizens with physical examinations throughout their life. According to the Global Health Security Index, Korea ranked fifth among 194 countries worldwide in terms of disease detection, leading the effort to prevent diseases. The rate of Korean hospitals that own magnetic resonance imaging (MRI) devices is more than double the average, placing Korea fourth among OECD countries. Also, the country has a digital medical system whereby users can conveniently book physical examinations, answer questionnaires before the examination, and check the result with their mobile phone.



Medical Field

Physical examination programs are divided into basic, in-depth, and premium programs. Hospitals specialized in physical examinations have separate wards for locals, foreigners, and VIPs for stay-in examinations. These specialized physical examination programs are particularly preferred by foreign patients since they can receive top-level comprehensive physical examinations at a ward that is of a five-star hotel quality and get one-on-one assistance from coordinators.

• Basic Program

- Basic items
- Medical examination via interview, electrocardiogram (ECG), lung function, breast tomography, blood test (uric acid, liver function, kidney function, thyroid, blood sugar, etc.), gastroscop, abdominal ultrasonography, eye examination, blood pressure, etc.

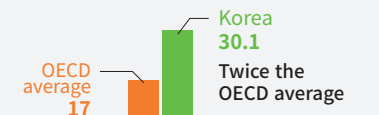
• In-depth Program

- Basic items plus items that patients want to add

• Premium Program

- Stay-in examinations at a VIP hospital room
- Basic and in-depth examination

No. of MRI devices owned
(per one million of population)



OECD Health Statistics 2020

No. of foreign patients who
visited physical examination
centers in 2019



54,185 people

Obstetrics and Gynecology



Hope for Couples Suffering from Infertility and Subfertility

Status

Korea has become a beacon of "hope" to infertile or subfertile couples around the world. Korea is home to one of the top five global fertility centers and has achieved an excellent rate of success for pregnancy and childbirth of high-risk mothers, not to mention infertility treatments. Hospitals in Korea provide customized treatments and services by accurately identifying the cause of each patient's subfertility; and they protect the lives of newly born babies with state-of-the-art medical systems, including fetal intensive care units for newborns in critical condition.

Strength

Korea's infertility and subfertility treatment success rates are at an astonishing level achieving 45 to 50% pregnancy success. Korea is unmatched in terms of price competitiveness as well, with IVF treatments costing one-sixth the price of treatments in the US. Furthermore, Korean hospitals introduced a time-lapse system, which observes and records the entire embryo development process and selects the best embryo in order to induce a healthy pregnancy.



Medical Field

Infertility and subfertility treatments are mainly divided into artificial fertilization and in vitro fertilization (IVF), where an egg is combined with the sperm in vitro and returned to the woman's womb. IVF is an innovative solution for treating infertility.

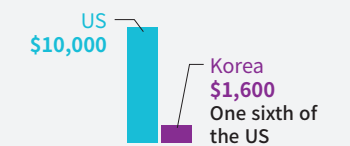
• Infertility & Subfertility

- IVF
- Artificial fertilization
- Polycystic ovary syndrome
- Endometriosis

• Female Cancer

- Gynecologic cancer
- Ovarian cancer
- Cervical cancer
- Uterine cervical cancer

IVF price comparison among major countries



The Korea Tourism Organization, Report on Setting Mid/Long Term Strategies for Korea Medical Wellness Tourism

No. of foreign patients who visited the obstetrics and gynecology department in 2019



41,007 people

Orthopedics



From the World's First to the World's Best! Ranks 5th Globally in Terms of the Number of Spine Disease Research Papers

Status

The number of spinal diseases is rapidly increasing due to the frequent use of smartphones and computers in the modern era. Korea has had many spinal disease patients due to a sedentary lifestyle. Through countless clinical trials and research activities, the country made notable achievements in spinal surgeries, including endoscopic laser treatment for disc diseases, robotic surgeries, and minimally invasive surgeries, etc.

Strength

The success rate of scoliosis surgeries in Korea is very high at almost 80 to 90% for idiopathic scoliosis. Korean researchers published 84 case papers through the World Spinal Column Society, putting Korea in the top five in the world. Following the establishment of an endoscopic laser surgery methodology to treat disc disease for the first time in the world, Korea succeeded in producing spinal surgery robots in the country. Korea will provide global top-class surgeries for spinal disease patients by leveraging global pioneering medical technology.



Medical Field

Orthopedics is divided into the areas of spinal disease and joint disease. Patients are highly satisfied with minimally invasive spine surgery because it maintains normal tissues while treating the affected area, making it easier for them to return to normal life rapidly.

• Joint Diseases

- Avascular necrosis of the femoral head
- Degenerative arthritis
- Damaged knee joint meniscus
- Damaged cruciate ligament and collateral ligament of knees
- Calcific tendinitis

• Hand/foot Joint

- Carpal tunnel syndrome
- Plantar fasciitis

• Spinal Disease

- Spinal stenosis
- Sprain
- Myofascial pain syndrome
- Disc degeneration

• Shoulder Joint

- Shoulder pain
- Frozen shoulder

No. of cases presented by each country at the Global Spine Society in 2017



The Ministry of Health and Welfare, Korea Health Industry Development Institute, Smart Care Spine

No. of foreign patients who visited the orthopedic department in 2019



26,068 people

Traditional Korean Medicine



A Combination of Traditional Korean Medicine and Science! Cooperative Treatment Methodology Using Traditional Korean and Western Medicine

Status

A growing number of foreign patients visit Korea to receive traditional Korean medicine. Traditional Korean medicine has gained a lot of popularity worldwide for those seeking weight loss, beauty care as well as illness treatment. Traditional Korean medicine hospitals are dedicated to developing science-based traditional Korean medicine, further upgrading the standardized herbal medicine system through medicinal herb research institutes and a certification system for herbal medicine production facilities. Plus, Korea has a customized medical service environment for foreign patients, such as dedicated medical staff for foreign patients and a customer service center that is operated 24/7.

Strength

The effect of collaborative treatment by both traditional Korean and western medicine has been scientifically proven. An SCIE journal announced research that gauged neck pain before and after getting western and traditional Korean medicine. Results showed that the pain index was 43.3 after western medicinal treatment, and the pain index further dropped to 26.1 after receiving Chuna manual medicine (CMM) treatment. This shows the drastic decrease in pain when combining western and traditional Korean medicine. In Korea, such collaborative treatment is applied to spinal surgery rehabilitation and treating edema after plastic surgery with outstanding results.



Medical Field

The most representative treatment in traditional Korean medicine is Chuna manual medicine (CMM). CMM, a representative non-surgical therapy for spinal diseases, is an integrated treatment that resolves problems with joints, muscles, and bones while boosting ki (energy) circulation throughout one's meridian system. In addition, traditional Korean medicine-based beauty care, leveraging acupuncture, has gained popularity among the middle-aged population, for locals and foreigners alike. This is because applying acupuncture to one's skin muscles can reduce wrinkles and reinforce skin muscles.

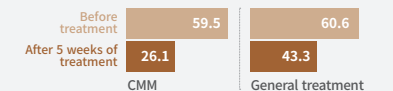
• Lower Back Treatment

- Chuna manual medicine (CMM)
- Nerve root recovery therapy
- Motion style acupuncture treatment (MSAT)

• Joint Treatment

- Chuna manual medicine (CMM)
- Motion style acupuncture treatment (MSAT)
- Daoyin exercise therapy

Visual analog scale (VAS) of neck pain



Pain reduced by 1.5 times, more effective than general treatment

Jaseng Spine and Joint Research Institute, Result of Research on Patients with Neck Pain

No. of foreign patients who visited the traditional Korean medicine department in 2019



23,723 people

Useful Information for Medical Tourists

Visit Medical Korea

www.visitkorea.or.kr

Visit the medical tourism site operated by the Korea Tourism Organization (KTO) for information on immigration such as visa issuance, hospitals, agencies, coordinators for different languages, accommodation, and tours.

Medical Tourism Information Center

Seoul	• Location	6F, Korea Tourism Organization Seoul Center, 40, Cheonggyecheon-ro, Jung-gu, Seoul, Republic of Korea
	• Contact	+82-2-752-2102
	• E-mail	medicaltourism@knto.or.kr
	• Working hours	09:00 - 18:00

Incheon (Airport)	• Location	Gate 7, 1F, Incheon International Airport, 271, Gonghang-ro, Incheon, Republic of Korea
	• Contact	+82-32-743-2172
	• E-mail	medicaltourism@knto.or.kr
	• Working hours	09:00 - 19:00

Busan	• Location	787, Gaya-daero, Busanjin-gu, Busan, Republic of Korea
	• Contact	+82-51-818-1330
	• E-mail	medicaltourism@knto.or.kr
	• Working hours	09:00 - 18:00