

## 9 *Fatal Minamata disease*

### 【What is the symptom of the baby born with Minamata disease?】

When a baby got Minamata disease in its mother's body it is called Fetal Minamata disease patients. There were some babies who arrived with Minamata disease even though they had not eaten polluted fishes themselves. When a pregnant mother eats many polluted fishes, methyl mercury get through umbilical cord into placenta. Then the baby arrives with Minamata disease. Minamata disease isn't inherited from parents to children.

Such patients who had damaged organs by methyl mercury in their mothers' body had not healthy brains and nerve cells. And such patients who had serious symptoms had passed away in their youth.

#### **Main symptoms**

- Unstable neck
- Difficulty in walking, a stagger
- Convulsion
- Water mouth

It was so sad! There were several children who passed away without playing or going to school with their friends!

