MONTREAL ICN COGRESS 2023
SYMPOSIUM 03
JNA's challenge to strengthen UHC in Japan and enhance nursing capacity in community: from the perspective of public health nurses, midwives, and nurses

Date & Place: 2023.7.2, 13:00-14:00, Room I, Palais des Congrès de Montréal

About Japanese Nursing Association:

JNA is the largest healthcare professional organization in Japan, which advocates nurses (public health nurses, midwives, nurses, and assistant nurses). Its membership is on voluntary basis. JNA is a nationwide organization that operates in collaboration with 47 prefecture nursing associations (corporate members). Established in 1946, JNA was certified as a Public Interest Incorporated Association in 2011.

Symposium abstract:

In comparison to other countries, Japan is recognized as having achieved UHC at an early stage. To sustain UHC, given that Japan's population is ageing at the fastest pace in the world and the birth rate continues to decline, the question is how to effectively, efficiently, and comprehensively support the lives of diverse populations in communities.

In Japan, the "Community-based Integrated Care System" has been established and promoted to support home care for the elderly. Further measures have been initiated to develop a social security system for all-generations (UHC) that includes not only the elderly, but also children, the disabled, the needy, and even all healthy people with potential needs. In advancing this, the key to the realization of UHC is to secure the workforce and establish an efficient mechanism to support the new system, as the working population is rapidly shrinking due to the declining birth rate.

Nursing has the potential to contribute to these two resolutions. Nursing professionals are always on the front line in protecting the health and well-being of the population, therefore, they should demonstrate their power and leadership in both practice and policy toward the realization of robust UHC.

In Japan, there are three nursing professions: public health nurses, midwives, and nurses. This symposium will share how each of the three professions have worked together to address the challenges of UHC and how they are currently working to improve UHC. It also aims to advance the discussion of the potential contribution of nursing to the realization of UHC.

"Nursing in Japan 2023(English version and Japanese version)"
The booklet provides the institutional framework of nursing, its historical development, and current challenges in Japan.
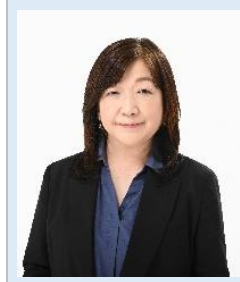
"Midwifery in Japan Overview (English version)"
In the leaflet, you can find the brief overview of midwives, maternal and child health statistics, social welfare systems, and activities of midwives in Japan.
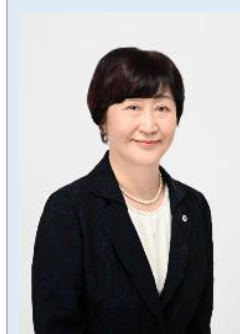
Moderator:

Dr. Yukari Nakano
Executive Officer, JNA, Tokyo, JP
Dr. Yukari Nakano has joined the Japanese Nursing Association in 2015 after working as a researcher at medical schools and third-party evaluation organizations for hospitals, and as a representative director of a consulting company. As manager, she worked to strengthen and promote policies related to nursing and to enhance international exchange activities, and has been in her current position since June 2023. She holds a doctor's degree in health sciences.
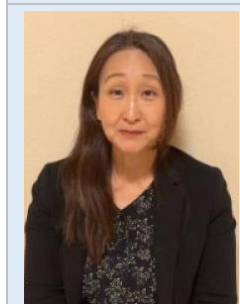
Speakers:

Ms. Hiroe Takahashi
President, JNA, Tokyo, JP
She served as president of the Osaka Prefecture Nursing Association and as a board member of a district of the JNA for 6 years from 2016. Having developed some of new projects in collaboration with local government, industry and academia fields, and during Covid-19 pandemic she has energetically committed to supporting the nursing professionals on the front lines. She has been a professor of international nursing at the university and in her current position since June 2023. She received the Healthy Society Award in 2021. She holds a master's degree in science.

Ms. Miho Hashimoto
Director, Health Policy Bureau, JNA, Tokyo, JP
Miho Hashimoto, BSN,MSN, has worked for the Japanese Nursing Association (JNA) in managerial positions for over 12 years. Since her appointment to the Director of Health Policy Bureau in 2019, she has been instrumental in nursing policy development and organisational management. She also has rich experience in nursing labour and workforce, including establishing nursing workforce strategies, collecting evidence, and developing guidelines.

Ms. Masayo Kobayashi
Chief, Midwives Division, Department of Health Promotion Policy, JNA, Tokyo, JP
Ms. Masayo Kobayashi is a Midwife (MW) and had been studied doctoral program and obtained credits at Preventive Nursing Courses, Division of Health Sciences and Nursing, Graduate School of Medicine, the University of Tokyo. Following clinical experience in midwifery, she joined the Japanese Nursing Association in 2009 and engaged in supporting various midwifery activities and rebuilding the nursing credentialing system. Currently, her work focuses on supporting to strengthen midwifery policy and competencies for midwifery practice.

Ms. Sachi Sakata
Public Health Nurses Division, Department of Health Promotion Policy, JNA, Tokyo, JP
Sachi Sakata, PHN, MSN, joined the Japanese Nursing Association in 2013 and engaged in activities to promote public health nursing and nursing credentialing system, including the development of practice guidebooks for Public Health Nurses (PHNs), support for various public health service delivery, and management of the credentialing system. Currently, her work focuses on the promotion of graduate education for PHNs and the development of PHN workforce.