

Japan Academy of Community Health Nursing (JACHN)

Established: October 15, 1997

JACHN Newsletter No.6

NEWS FROM JACHN

Greetings and Messages



Michiko Konishi

President of JACHN

Japanese Red Cross Toyota College of Nursing

The Japan Academy of Community Health Nursing (JACHN), established 10 years ago in 1997, now has more than 1,000 members. We elected members for the board of directors for the term of the 2007 to 2009 fiscal year. The board was re-organized and I was selected as its chair.

Conferences of the JACHN are held regularly; approximately 500 people attended the last conference where more than 100 research papers were presented. The Journal of the Japan Academy of Community Health Nursing (J Jpn Acad Com Health Nurs) is published twice yearly. In future issues I hope to see reports about collaborative research undertaken by researchers at universities and senior personnel engaged in practice.

The disease and demographic structures of Japan have changed greatly with the growth in the number of nuclear families and elderly population. As the population ages, we need to emphasize the prevention of lifestyle diseases and encourage the functional independence of the elderly to make the health care system sustainable. Simultaneously, support should be provided to inexperienced parents who are finding difficulties raising their children in nuclear families.

Community health nurses analyze health problems and promote relevant nursing care. It has become more important to propose enabling policies and to promote the empowerment of people who are the focus of the policies. Always critical are our collective efforts to enhance the abilities of nurses working at prefectural and municipal governments, workplaces, schools and home care settings.

Our members are sensitive to several current issues affecting our specialty. Firstly, newly-graduated public health nurses have insufficient education and experience to pursue activities in all areas of community care. Secondly, collaboration between those practicing nurses and university researchers is necessary for regional community analyses, because the analysis requires the development of scientific problem solving techniques. Thirdly, we must increase the problem solving abilities of community members as well as health professionals including nurses within regional health systems. This empowerment process should be accompanied by the promotion of evidence based practices and evaluation methodologies. JACHN will support these attempts of enhancing community health nursing nationwide, aiming at strengthening evidenced based measures in policy making and evaluation.

Methods for supporting people's lives vary depending on the countries. We, JACHN, hope to share our common interest and experience as we did at the 3rd International Conference on Community Health Nursing Research held in Tokyo in 2005. It is our hope to facilitate continuing interchange among regional and international nurses, focusing on community health nursing research.

I look forward to meeting with you as we work together to accomplish our shared aims.

Purpose and Actions of Committees for the Term of the 2007 to 2009 Fiscal Year

Editorial Board

Yuko Bessho

Kanagawa University of Human Services

The Journal of Japan Academy of Community Health Nursing is the official journal of Japan Academy of Community Health Nursing. The journal is issued twice a year. It is expected to share, accumulate and systematize the knowledge and information for the good nursing practice in the community.

Submitted articles are reviewed by two registered referees. The editorial board judges final acceptance or rejection, and the category of the article.

The categories are Original Article, Review Article, Preliminary Report, Community Health Nursing Report, Information and Letter.

The number of the articles submitted has been increasing. They are written by nurses in practice, research and education. Some articles are on the practice in the community, others are on home care nursing, industrial nursing or school nursing.

The contents of the journal will be up-loaded on the homepage of Japan Academy of Community Health Nursing.

Committee for the Promotion of Research Activities

Sachiyo Murashima

Graduate School of Medicine,
The University of Tokyo

The purpose of the Committee for Promotion of Research Activities (CPRA) is to systematically compile research evidence systematically gained through health guidance activities of public health nurses. It is stipulated in the Japanese law that health guidance activities should be done by professionals including public health nurses.

Three steps are to be taken for this purpose; organizing research teams in accordance with their special areas, compiling health guidance skill and documented outcomes in the research, and systematizing the gained results and information into data base as accessible resources. The activity areas include developing theory of public health nursing, administrative policies, and partnership with local communities, and also include establishing systems of group support, public health education, care management, health consultation, home-visit, and others yet to be specified.

Through the work of CPRA, JACHN will be able to document important activities, contributing to better understanding by the public that will contribute to the development of our academic field.

Publicity Committee

Reiko Okamoto

Kobe University School of Medicine

The purpose of the Publicity Committee of the Japan Academy of Community Health Nursing is to promote and enrich the publicity activities. Especially we attach much importance to the public relations of this academy and to publicizing its annual academic conference and the activities of each committee using the homepage.

The Publicity Committee has three projects as the principal focus for its current activities.

1. Revision and updating of the homepage: we will revise the top page with a more conspicuous design, and also add an English page, a link page, a site map. Moreover, we will update the contents about the academic conference as information becomes available.
2. Publicity activities for member acquisition: we will present our academy's introductory essay on the homepage and on leaflets. We will utilize all opportunities for acquiring members.
3. Support of the committee activities using the homepage: we will insert the contents of their activities, research participants recruitment and other information to the homepage according to the request of each committee.

Because the Publicity Committee always wants to receive opinions/requests from members, whenever you have them, please contact us soon by all means.

Education Committee

Kayoko Hirano

National Institute of Public Health

Purpose: The Education Committee collects and analyzes opinions of the members of JACHN in order to express the academy's united opinion on the issues regarding public health nurses' practical competencies, basic education for public health nursing, and the post graduate education system for public health nurses.

Plan of Action:

1. The committee will collect and analyze the members' opinions about the public health nurses' practical competencies.
2. The committee will organize public health nurses' processes by which public health nurses gain practical competence and their required experiences.

3. The committee will organize the different types of practical competencies gained during basic education curricula in bachelor's degree programs and during the post graduate education.
4. The committee will produce a tentative position paper on public health nurses' practical competencies acquired through continuing education.
5. The committee will also discuss the educational system for licensed public health nurses.

Committee for Promoting International Exchange Activities

Kiyomi Asahara

St Luke's College of Nursing

The mission of the Committee for Promoting International Exchange Activities is to promote community health nursing practice, research and education activities with community health nurses in other countries. The focus of this committee for these three years is working with Asian countries.

We are planning the following activities:

1. Issuing the newsletter which informs the activities of Japan Academy of Community Health Nursing (JACHN) in English once a year.
2. Organizing the International Seminar at the 10th Anniversary Conference of JACHN. For this seminar, we will invite Dr. Khanitta Nuntaboot, associate professor, faculty of Nursing, Khon Kaen University in Thailand as a speaker.
3. Holding a joint Korea & Japan community health nursing conference every four years. First conference will be held at Korea in 2007. The next conference will in Japan in 2011. We hope these conferences will promote exchange activities for the practitioners, researchers and educators of both countries.

Policy Proposing Committee for Social Insurance Union Society Related Nursing

Setsu Shimanouchi

International University of Health and Welfare,
Odawara

This committee was established for the purpose of developing policy proposals for social insurance and the fee structure to cover nursing care services to community residents receiving home care based on the evidence.

1. The committee will be conducting a survey of all 1,100 JACHN members in order to ascertain their opinions on each of the three proposal options: grief care for family; terminal and dying

care; nursing fee system as to levels of care needs.

2. At present the committee is conducting another survey of the membership in order to identify policy proposals that they would like to put forward and about which they have supporting research-based evidence.
3. And, the committee is currently conducting a case based survey with the aim of developing evidence that links nursing skill and care system to improved outcomes for well-being of patient and their family.
4. We are planning to build and organize the support system for policy proposal to share within various fields of nursing by March, 2007.
5. Out of our work this year we plan to submit additional proposals for considerations by JACHN members.

Event planning committee of the 10th year anniversary of JACHN

Misako Miyazaki

Chiba University

The Event Planning Committee is preparing the activities for the 10th year anniversary of Japan Academy of Community Health Nursing (JACHN). These events will take place during the annual conference of JACHN in July 2007 in Kanagawa prefecture. The commemoration symposium titled "Reformation of the community health nursing and the role of the academic society toward the future" will be held. We will have an exhibition of our journals, showing our progress over the past 10 years. Also, we will exhibit our photographs taken at each annual conference. Beforehand, the committee will make a survey to find out what are the needs and concerns of the members of JACHN. We are looking forward to hearing from you about the planning for our anniversary.

The 10th Anniversary Conference of JACHN

JACHN was established on October 15, 1997. 2007 is our 10th anniversary of JACHN year. We organize an annual research conference to further develop Community Health Nursing in the context of the revolutions in health care, medical care and social welfare services and to promote academic interactions among practitioners and researchers. The 10th anniversary conference is a special opportunity to discuss and share opinions with other members and to experience a significant time to celebrate our unique field. We are looking forward for your participation.

Date: July 28 (Sat) – 29 (Sun), 2007

**Venue: Kanagawa University of Human Services Campus
1- 10- 1, Heisei-cho, Yokosuka, Kanagawa, Japan 238- 8522**

**Main theme: Conceptualizing the outcomes of community health nursing
– to develop better practice, education and research –**

**Chairperson: Yuko Bessho, Professor of Community Health Nursing,
Kanagawa University of Human Services**

Commemoration programs

**Symposium: Reformation of the community health nursing and the role of the academic society
toward the future**

International seminar: Health promotion in community health nursing in Thailand

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