

JNA News Release

Japanese Nursing Association

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Exploring career development of nurses in global health and nursing policies at the 53rd Conference of the Japan Society of Nursing

The Japanese Nursing Association (JNA) is working to develop nurses who can be active on an international basis. As part of this effort, JNA held a seminar entitled “Global Trends in Healthcare and Nursing” and an exchange meeting entitled “Current State and Issues in Career Development for Nurses in Global Health and Nursing” at the 53rd Conference of the Japan Society of Nursing held in September and November 2022. This news release introduces the outline of the seminar and the exchange meeting. JNA will continue to hold sessions on global nursing topics at this Conference to promote the development of nurses who can play active roles globally.

Seminar: Global Trends in Healthcare and Nursing

Chairs:

Yukari Nakano: Manager, Department of International Affairs, JNA (seminar in September)

Miho Hashimoto: Director, Health Policy Bureau, JNA (seminar in November)

Speakers:

Megumi Teshima: Professor, Graduate School of Nursing, Chiba University/ Board member, International Council of Nurses (ICN)

Eriko Anzai: Nursing Officer, WHO Western Pacific Regional Office (WPRO)

The purpose of this seminar was to share the latest information on global solidarity in nursing, as well as global health issues in the Western Pacific region to which Japan belongs, in light of the current situation in which health issues are no longer inherent and fixed in specific countries or regions as society becomes more globalized. The seminar also aimed to help consider the ideal and role of nursing in the future.

In a presentation entitled “ICN - Nursing: Voice to Lead,” Prof. Teshima, who has been serving as an ICN Board member (Western Pacific region) since autumn 2021, introduced ICN and its efforts and stressed the importance of unity among nurses to address healthcare and nursing challenges. She mentioned that the impact of COVID-19 on the health and wellbeing of nurses needs to be monitored in the long term, with support in both educational and mental aspects, including for nursing students.

Ms. Anzai, who has been assigned to WHO WPRO as a Nursing Officer since June 2022 (temporarily transferred



Seminar: Global Trends in Healthcare and Nursing



Ms. Eriko Anzai



Prof. Megumi Teshima

from JNA), gave a presentation entitled “Global Trends in Healthcare and Nursing - From the Standpoint of WHO”. She introduced WPRO’s initiatives following the explanation of the WHO and WHO WPRO, and the trends of WHO activities relevant to nursing. She explained that her role as a WPRO Nursing Officer is to disseminate WHO policies in the region and to assist member states in development and strengthening their nursing systems. She also mentioned that being the first Nursing Officer in the region is raising great expectations.

Both presentations shared that there is a great possibility that Japan’s experience can contribute as a leading example of the achievement of Universal Health Coverage (UHC), which is a major global theme, and that the nurses play a major role in strengthening the foundation of UHC.

Exchange Meeting: Current State and Issues in Career Development for Nurses in Global Health and Nursing

Chair:

Yasuhide Nakamura: President, Friends of WHO Japan

Speakers:

Ogusa Shibata: Nursing Officer/Technical Officer, WHO WPRO

Erika Ota: Professor, Global Health Nursing, Graduate School of Nursing Sciences, St. Luke’s International University/Director, WHO Collaborating Center for Nursing Development in Primary Health Care

Kohei Onozaki: Professor, Graduate School of Public Health, St. Luke’s International University)

The purpose of this meeting was to introduce the careers of speakers who are active in various settings worldwide, share the current situation and issues concerning career development of nurses in global health and nursing, and raise their motivation and interest to participate in this field. In addition, in view of the role of JNA as a professional association, they discussed on career development of nurses in particular who can participate in global health and nursing policies.

Ms. Ogusa Shibata, who spoke from the standpoint of a nurse working in a global organization, gave a presentation on the theme of “Current State and Issues in Career Development for Nurses in Global Health and Nursing.” She introduced the outline of the WHO and WHO WPRO, as well as challenges in the present state where the presence of the Japanese nurses in global organizations is low. She mentioned her expectations that the knowledge and nursing perspective of Japan, as a leading country dealing with an aging population and related issues, would be useful in this field. In addition, Ms. Shibata proposed the importance of support and necessary actions for the Japanese nurses in the process of their career development, stating that the development of Japanese nurses’ careers while gaining experience both in Japan and abroad would ultimately contribute to the promotion of nursing and healthcare policy in Japan.

Prof. Erika Ota, who spoke from the standpoint of training nurses and nursing students as an educator and researcher, introduced the main activities of nurses in the field of global health and nursing in the presentation of

“Current State, Challenges, and Prospects of Career Development for Nurses in Global Health.” She emphasized the necessity to plan careers from an early stage, as while there are many options for employment in the field of global health and nursing, it is necessary to obtain a master’s or doctoral degree, work experience, language proficiency, and other abilities, experience, knowledge, and skills to get employed.

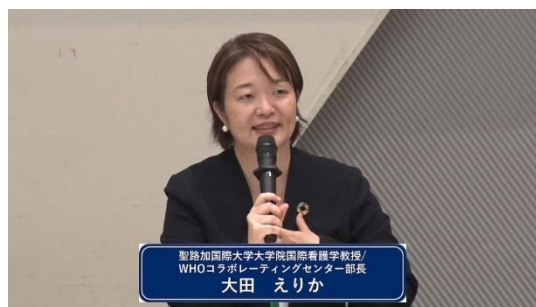
Mr. Kohei Onozaki, who has worked with a wide range of healthcare professionals, gave a presentation on the theme of “Personnel Needed in Global Health and Nursing.” He overviewed the image of a good leader and the leadership required, and then went through the competencies required, which include not only experience, knowledge, and skills, but also abilities, potential, personality, and values. In the field of global health and nursing, he mentioned that cooperation, diversity, and a high level of public-mindedness are important. The importance of this field is increasing, and he said that it is necessary to promote the development of personnel as leaders alongside their career development in cooperation with relevant groups, governments, and global organizations.

In the discussion among the speakers, the importance of mentors and the opportunities for students to develop their interests was recognized, and a proposal was made to establish a systematic support system that enables collaborative career development through cooperation among global organizations, JNA, universities, and the private sector.

Prof. Teshima, an ICN Board member, who made the final designation statement, provided information on the ICN leadership program and said that the requirements for recommendation to global organizations and others seem to have a tendency to include detailed screening of personality aspects such as sincerity.



Ms. Ogusa Shibata



Prof. Erika Ota



Prof. Kohei Onozaki



Dr. Yasuhide Nakamura