



National Institute of Public Health

Human resource development and research to improve public health
—Aiming for a healthy and safe society—

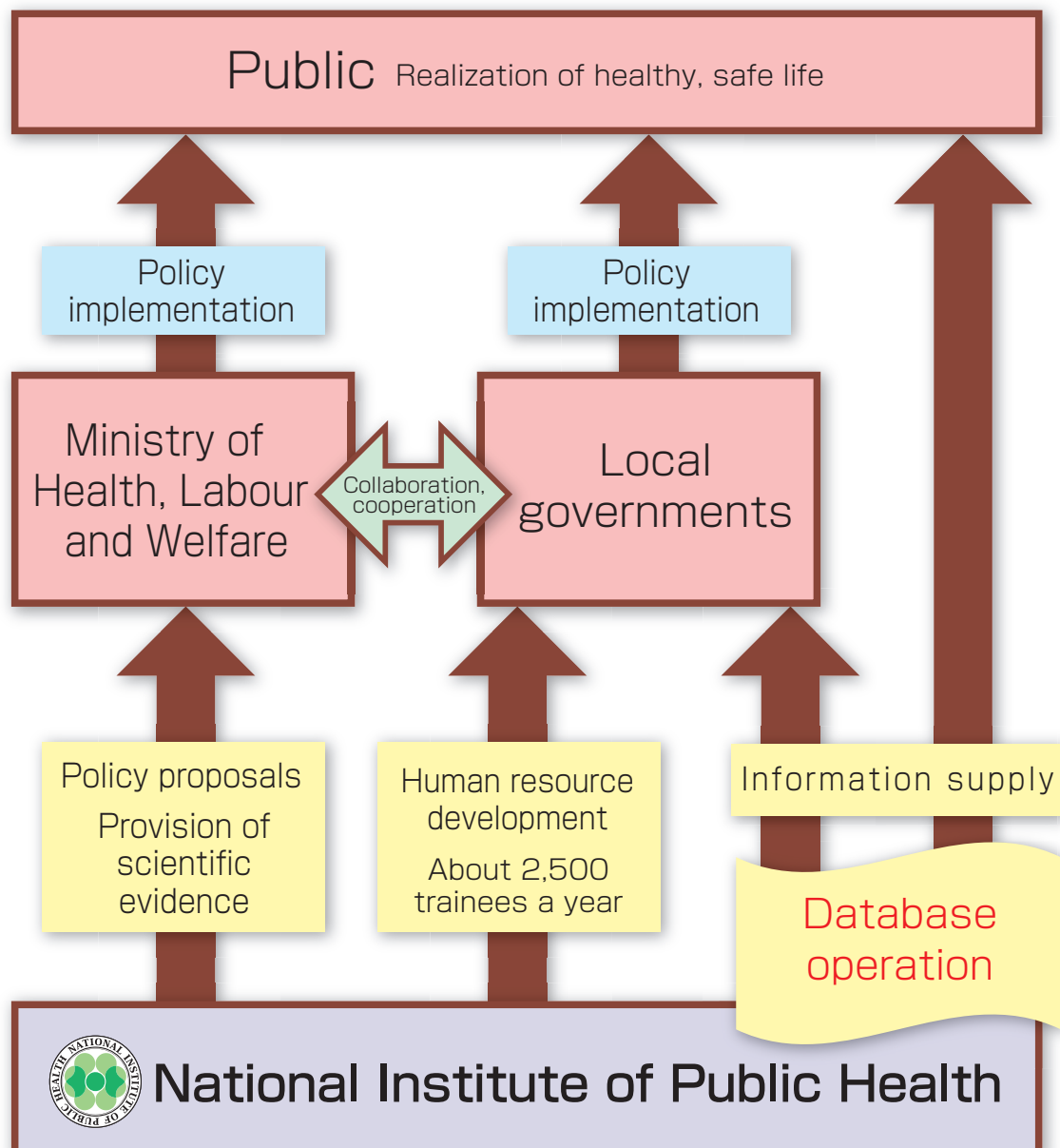


National Institute of Public Health website:
http://www.niph.go.jp/index_en.html

Mission of the NIPH

The development of public health, healthcare, and welfare systems capable of responding to the low birthrate and rapidly aging population is an urgent issue in Japan. In addition, there are strong calls for the building of a society that ensures lifelong health and safety.

In order to promote administrative health, labor, and welfare policies in Japan relating to public health, healthcare, and welfare, the NIPH implements training for local government employees, etc. and related surveys and research. The NIPH engages in various other activities as well, including making policy proposals to the Ministry of Health, Labor and Welfare and providing scientific evidence for the promotion of policies; the supply of health-related information to local governments and the public. Through these activities, the NIPH contributes to the improvement of public health in Japan.



History of the NIPH

As part of a reorganization and prioritization of national testing and research institutes conducted by the then Ministry of Health and Welfare(now the Ministry of Health, Labor and Welfare), the NIPH was established as a new body in Wako City, Saitama Prefecture, in April 2002 through the merger of many organizations and functions of the former Institute of Public Health and the former National Institute of Health Services Management plus the Department of Oral Science of the National Institute of Infectious Diseases(excluding the oral infectious disease function). Furthermore, to complete the move, a new building including laboratories and an auditorium was opened in October 2004.

Initially the NIPH's research framework consisted of 15 research departments and 1 center. In response to the needs of the times, a reorganization aimed at rationalization took place in April 2011, and the current setup of 9 research managing directors, 6 research departments, and 1 center was established.



The former Institute of Public Health

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The Institute of Public Health was established in Shirokanedai in Minato-ku, Tokyo, in 1938 as an organization for the training of public health technicians and research relating to public health. It received financial assistance from the US Rockefeller Foundation.

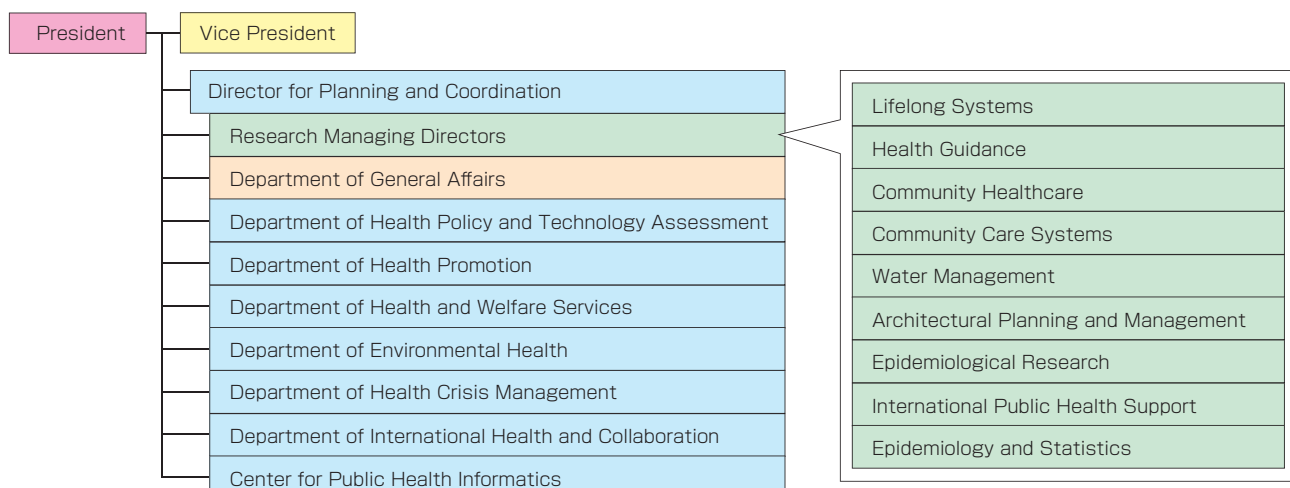
The former National Institute of Health Services Management

The National Institute of Health Services Management was established in 1949 within the First Tokyo National Hospital(now the National Center for Global Health and Medicine)as the Hospital Management Training Institute with the aim of modernizing Japan's hospital management and business.

In 1961, together with improvement of the research framework, it was reorganized as the Hospital Management Research Institute.

In 1990, in order to promote the systemization of medical treatment, it was again reorganized as the National Institute of Health Services Management with the mission of conducting research for the diffusion and improvement of medical treatment and the establishment and upgrading of medical institutions.

Organization of the NIPH



Human Resource Development

The NIPH implements training for personnel engaged in work both in Japan and overseas relating to public health and healthcare, public hygiene, and related social welfare (doctors, dentists, pharmacists, veterinary surgeons, public health nurses, management nutritionists, medical radiological technicians, clinical laboratory technicians, social welfare workers, etc.), and personnel aspiring to work in such positions, with the aim of transmitting the basic principles of public health, etc., elementary and professional knowledge and skills, and the latest information. There are the advanced research course, the public health expert courses, the short-term courses, and the international courses.

The NIPH regularly evaluates and reviews this training for human resource development and offers a variety of programs in response to society's needs. About 2,500 trainees complete programs every year.

(1) Advanced Research course

The aim of the advanced research course is to train people with advanced practical research skills capable of searching for and developing the best methods themselves and thereby solving problems on the front lines of public health.

Capacity: 5 persons

Period: 3 years

(2) Public Health Expert courses

The aim of the public health expert courses (10 fields) is to give trainees a broad vision and knowledge of public health and to cultivate people capable of playing a leading role as professionals in solving problems using existing evidence.

Capacity: 55 persons

Period: 2 months - 1 year

(3) Short-term courses

The short-term courses (about 40 courses) provide the latest knowledge and technologies relating to specific themes to people engaged in public health, healthcare, welfare, etc.

Capacity: About 2,000 persons

Period: 3 days - 6 weeks

(4) International courses

Conducted in collaboration with the World Health Organization (WHO) and others, the international courses (6 courses) offer the necessary knowledge, skills, etc. mainly to people in leadership positions in the fields of public health, healthcare, and welfare in developing countries.

Period: 1 week - 1 month



Research

In order to improve training, make policy proposals to the Ministry of Health, Labor and Welfare, and provide scientific evidence for the drafting of policies, the NIPH implements cross-sectional research with the cooperation of researchers.

Examples of Research at the NIPH

Promotion of lifelong health building

- The NIPH supports health-building measures in such areas as maternal and child health, lifestyle-related diseases, smoking, aging, dementia, and dental health with the aim of vitalizing local communities through the prolongation of healthy lifespans.

Improvement of the quality and patient safety in healthcare services with patient-centeredness

- The NIPH supports healthcare services from patient perspectives with the aim of providing safe, trustworthy, and quality services at healthcare facilities and home care.

Promotion of community-based integrated care

- The NIPH supports medical care plans and long-term care plans at local (prefectural and municipal) levels, with the aim of building efficient and quality community-based integrated care systems.

Promotion of economic assessment of public health projects

- The NIPH supports evaluation of the effects of specific medical examinations and specific health guidance with the aim of promoting the optimization of medical spending to respond to the aging society.

Improvement of the living environment

- The NIPH supports measures to address the causes of various health hazards in the living environment (water supplies, building environment, radio waves, microorganisms, etc.) with the aim of achieving a qualitative improvement of the living environment.

Promotion of health crisis management

- The NIPH supports the drafting of policies and gathering and supply of information concerning phenomena that cause health crises (natural disasters such as earthquakes, volcanic eruptions, and flooding; infectious diseases; radiation; etc.) with the aim of promoting appropriate measures to address threats to public health and avoid and reduce health crises.



International Cooperation

International cooperation in the field of public health is important. In collaboration with both domestic and international organizations, such as the World Health Organization(WHO), the Organization for Economic Development and Cooperation(OECD),and the Japan International Cooperation Agency(JICA),the NIPH actively implements training and involvement in the drafting of international policies.

■ Training Record(April 2014 – March 2015)

● Record of joint training with WHO

Regional Workshop on Strengthening Leadership and Advocacy for the Prevention and Control of Noncommunicable Diseases(LeAd-NCD)	20	December 8-11 (4 days)	14(Cambodia, China, Fiji, Guam, Laos, Malaysia, Mongolia, Palau, Philippines, Samoa, Singapore, Solomon Islands, Viet Nam)
Hospital Quality and Patient Safety Management Course	13	February 12-18 (4 days)	5(Cambodia, Fiji, Laos, Mongolia, Viet Nam)

● Record of training programs with JICA

Name of program	No. of participants	Date(Duration)	Countries
Health Systems Management	16 persons	June 2-25 (3 weeks)	12(Afghanistan, Congo, Honduras, Jordan, Kenya, Myanmar, Sierra Leone, Sudan, Tanzania, Uganda, Zambia, Zimbabwe)
Social Security System Strengthening of Policy on Aging in Asia: Challenges of Aging Societies and Policy Responses	9	September 2-10 (9 days)	6(Cambodia, Indonesia, Philippines, Sri Lanka, Thailand, Viet Nam)
Social Security System Strengthening Towards Universal Health Coverage in Asia	11	November 10-21 (2 weeks)	8(Bangladesh, Cambodia, Indonesia, Laos, Myanmar, Philippines, Sri Lanka, Thailand)
Health Policy Development	17	January 20-29 (8 days)	11(Congo, Iraq, Kenya, Laos, Pakistan, Philippines, South Sudan, Sudan, Tanzania, Uganda, Viet Nam)

For details about JICA training, please inquire at JICA branches around the world or the JICA headquarters.

● In addition, the NIPH also offers numerous one-day training programs and facility visits.

■ WHO Collaborating Centres

Four special areas and the NIPH library are registered as WHO Collaborating Centres, through which the NIPH promotes research relating to public health and other themes in liaison with the WHO headquarters, the WHO Western Pacific Regional Office(WPRO),and others.

Titles of WHO Collaborating Centre	Year of designation	Content
WHO Collaborating Centre for Integrated People-Centred Service Delivery (Department of International Health and Collaboration)	1986	Collaborative research, policy dialogues and seminars with WHO/WPRO in the areas of patient safety and healthcare quality improvement
WHO Collaborating Centre for Community Water Supply and Sanitation(Department of Environmental Health [Area on Water Management])	1986	Efforts to improve water and hygiene in developing countries and implementation of water-safety awareness-raising activities in cooperation with the WHO/WPRO secretariat, etc.
WHO Collaborating Centre on Tobacco Testing and Research(Department of Environmental Health [Area on Health Environment Management])	2014	Implementation of research to reduce the smoking rate in cooperation with the WHO/WPRO secretariat, etc.
Collaborating Centre for the WHO-FIC(Center for Public Health Informatics)	2011	Implementation of efforts to develop and spread the WHO-FIC(Family of International Classifications)
WHO Reference Library(Library Service Office, General Affairs Section, Department of General Affairs)	2004	Comprehensive collection of WHO publications and supply to all people with an interest in the WHO(In principle, one library per country)

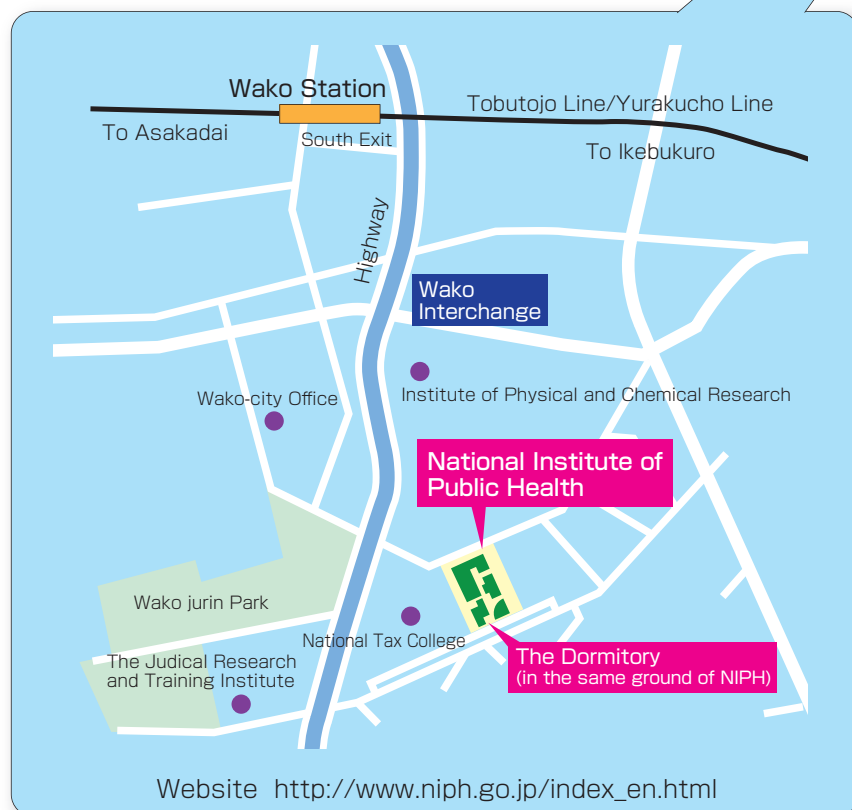
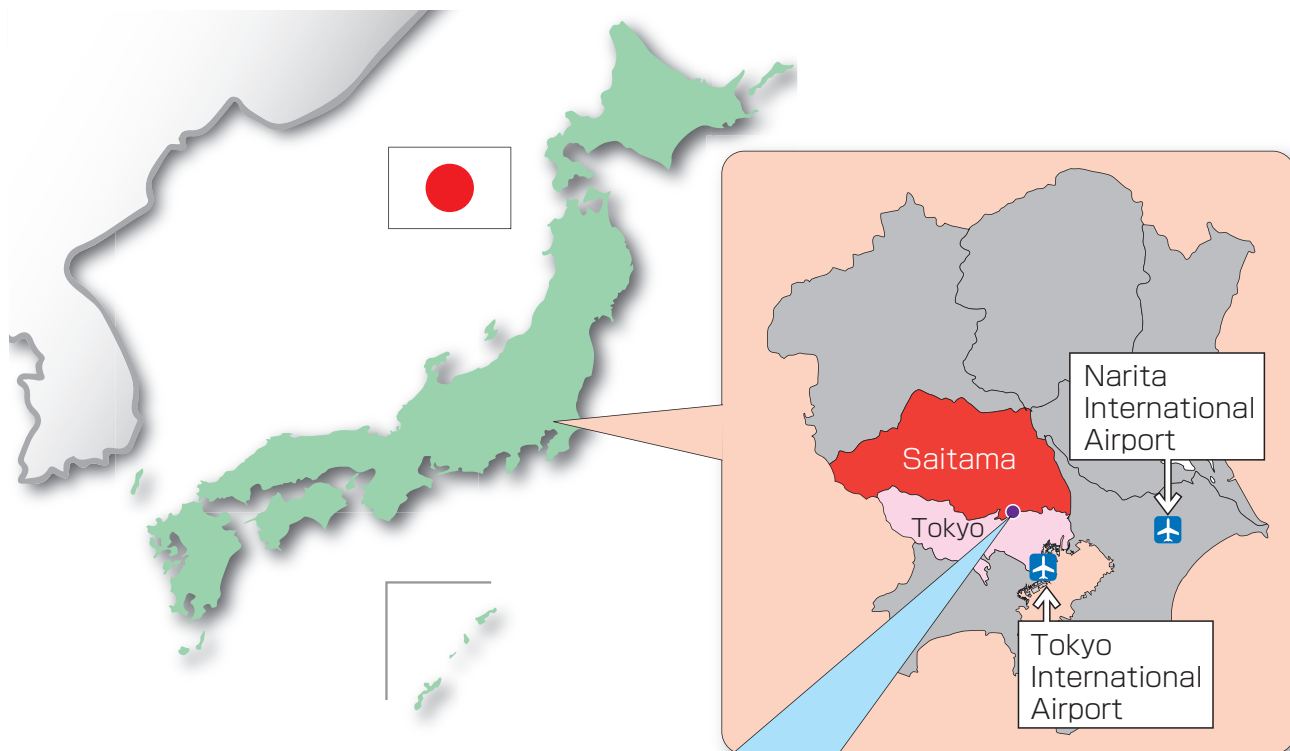
■ International Collaboration with Research Institutes and Universities

The NIPH is a member of the International Association of National Public Health Institutes(IANPHI)and the Asia-Pacific Academic Consortium for Public Health(APACPH).It has also concluded research agreements with various overseas public health research organizations, such as the Korea Institute for Health and Social Affairs(KIHASA)and the University of the Philippines Manila, exchanging researchers and trainees, holding study meetings, and so on.

Summary of International Cooperation and International Training



Access



Logo mark of the NIPH



The design, suggesting blood cells or seeds, forms the letter "H," the first letter in the word "health." It is a symbol of life getting ready to grow and blossom.

Monument in front of main entrance Title: "Circulation and Purification"



This work of iron by the sculptor Yoshio Shirakawa is a combination of circles and spheres, the fundamental shapes of nature. It conveys an impression of strength, cleanliness, and warmth to people.

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(Approximately 30 min. from the Metropolitan Tokyo area)