



# National Institute of Public Health

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



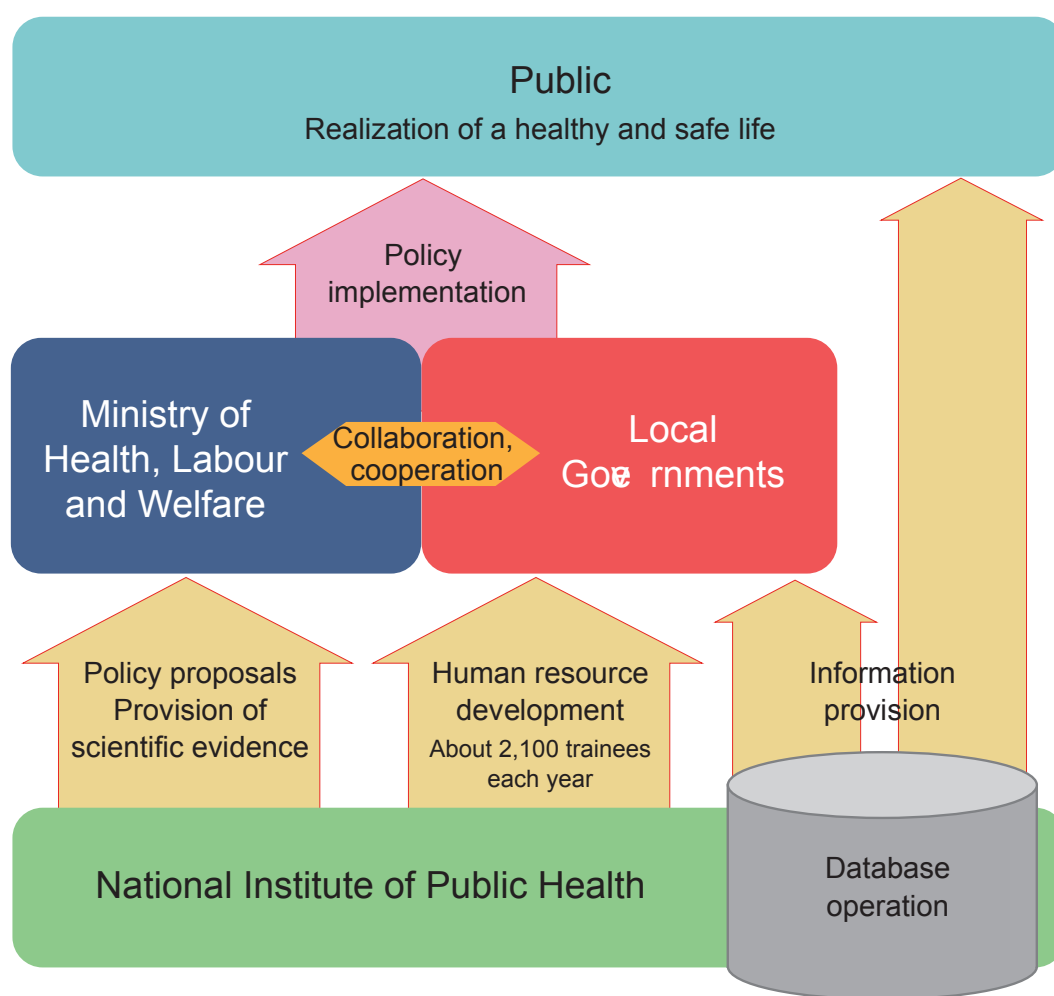
National Institute of Public Health

National Institute of Public Health (NIPH) , Japan  
<https://www.niph.go.jp/en/>

## Mission of the NIPH

With mark changes in the global environment, life in Japan today has become much more complex and diverse with remarkable advances made in science and information technology. Against this backdrop, the declining birthrate and rapidly aging population, coupled with the reform of the social security system, which includes pensions, healthcare, and nursing care, demand proactive measures to tackle the various issues concerning national life and health.

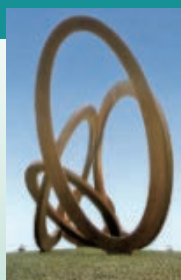
The mission of the NIPH is to contribute to the improvement of public health in Japan. NIPH fulfils this by providing training for staff at local governments and other organizations, implementing related surveys and research to promote administrative health, labor and welfare policies concerning public health, healthcare, welfare, and the living environment.



NIPH logo



This design, forming “H” for health, by the elements suggesting blood cells or seeds, is a symbolic representation of blooming life.



Entrance monument

Title: Junkan to Jōka  
[Circulation and Purification]

This work in iron by the sculptor Yoshio Shirakawa combines the primordial shapes of nature—circles and spheres—to convey a feeling of strength, simplicity, and warmth.

# History of the NIPH

As part of a reorganization and prioritization of national research institutes conducted by the then Ministry of Health and Welfare now the Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare (MHLW), 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 one center. In April 2011, the changing needs of the times led to a reorganization of NIPH into nine research managing directors, six research departments, and one center. In April 2018, the Center for Outcomes Research and Economic Evaluation for Health was established, resulting in the current organization of seven research managing directors, six research departments, and two centers.

## 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 operations.

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

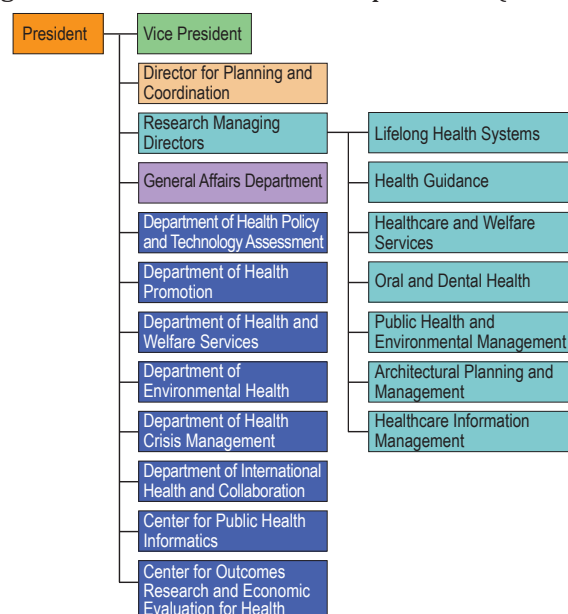
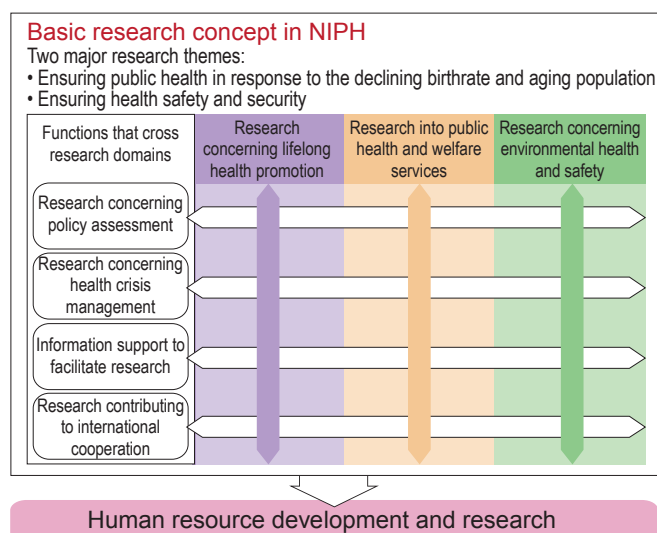
In 1990, in order to promote the systemization of medical treatment, it was again reorganized as the National Institute of Health Services Management with the mission of conducting research for the diffusion and improvement of medical treatment and the establishment and upgrading of medical institutions.

## The former Institute of Public Health

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

# Organization of the NIPH

The public health and welfare research that the NIPH tackles, can be broadly classified into the three research fields: 1) lifelong health promotion (Department of Health Promotion), 2) public health and welfare services (Department of Health and Welfare Services, and the Center for Outcomes Research and Economic Evaluation for Health), and 3) the living environment and safety (Department of Environmental Health) (see below the proposed change). In addition, the following departments have been established; the Department of Health Policy and Technology Assessment, Department of Health Crisis Management, Center for Public Health Informatics, and Department of International Health and Collaboration to deal with issues that traverse and are beyond the scope of the above three fields. And the research managing director positions to conduct specialist training and research across each department (seven fields) (See diagram on the right).





## Human Resource Development

Research managing directors, research departments and centers work together to provide employees; engaged in services relating to healthcare, environmental health and related social welfare services (healthcare services etc.) at local governments and other organizations (doctors, dentists, pharmacists, veterinary surgeons, public health nurses, nutritionists, radiological technicians, laboratory technicians, and social welfare staff) and people intending to engage in such services with training in the basic philosophies of healthcare services etc., basic and specialized knowledge and skills, and the latest information. Training comprises an advanced research course, public health expert courses, short-term courses, and international courses.



**Long-term training**



**Short-term training**



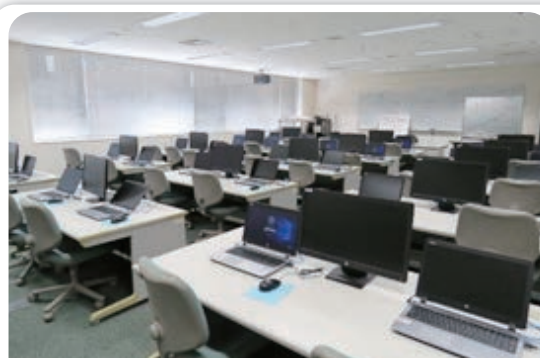
**Short-term training**



**International cooperation training**



**Library**



**Information and Statistical  
Analysis Room**

# Human Resource Development Program

NIPH regularly evaluates and reviews its human resource development training, and offers a broad range of programs that can meet the needs of society. About 2,100 trainees complete the training programs each year.

1

## Advanced Research Course

The advanced research course is designed to train people with advanced practical research skills capable of taking the lead in independently searching for and developing the optimum methods for solving the various problems on the front line of public health.

Capacity: 5  
Period: 3 years

2

## Public Health Expert Courses

The public health expert courses are designed to train and foster people capable of acquiring a broad vision and knowledge of public health and playing a leadership role as experts in solving the various problems on the front line of public health using existing evidence.

7 fields (including health and welfare services administration)  
Capacity: 45  
Period: 2 months – 1 year

3

## Short-term Courses

The short-term courses provide people engaged in public health, healthcare, welfare, etc. with the latest knowledge and skills relating to specific themes.

About 40 courses (including public health and nursing course, regional healthcare collaboration management course, water supply engineering course, and epidemiological statistics course)  
Capacity: About 1,900  
Period: 2 days – 6 weeks

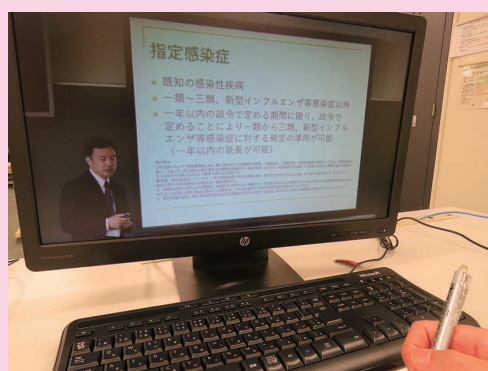
4

## International Courses

Conducted in collaboration with the World Health Organization (WHO), the international courses provide primarily leaders in healthcare services etc. in developing countries with the knowledge and skills they need to fulfill their roles.

3 courses  
Period: 1 week – 1 month

## ICT (Information and Communications Technology) Activities



NIPH is promoting the use of a distance learning system to reduce the length of group training and improve training efficiency.

NIPH is also promoting the use of ICT, including the use of teleconferencing systems for interim and final presentations of research papers in the advanced research course and public health expert courses.

## Research

NIPH researchers cooperate with each other in cross-sectional research aimed at improving training, making recommendations for Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare policies, providing scientific evidence for the drafting of policies, and providing scientific evaluation of policies nursing care demand proactive measures to tackle the various issues concerning national life and health.

### Examples of research at NIPH

#### Promotion of lifelong health

- NIPH supports health-promotion measures covering such areas as maternal and child health, lifestyle-related diseases, smoking, aging, dementia, and dental health with the aim of vitalizing local communities by extending healthy life expectancy.

#### Improvement of healthcare quality and safety

- NIPH supports healthcare policies from a patient perspective with the aim of providing safe, reliable and efficient services at healthcare facilities.

#### Promotion of healthcare and nursing care collaboration

- NIPH supports the formulation of prefectural plans, regional healthcare initiatives, and nursing care insurance (support) plans with the aim of building efficient and quality healthcare systems and community-based integrated care systems.

#### Promotion of economic assessment of public health projects

- NIPH supports the evaluation of the effects of specific medical examinations and health guidance, with the aim of promoting the optimization of healthcare spending to flexibly respond to Japan's aging population.

#### Improvement of the living environment

- 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 improving the quality of the living environment.

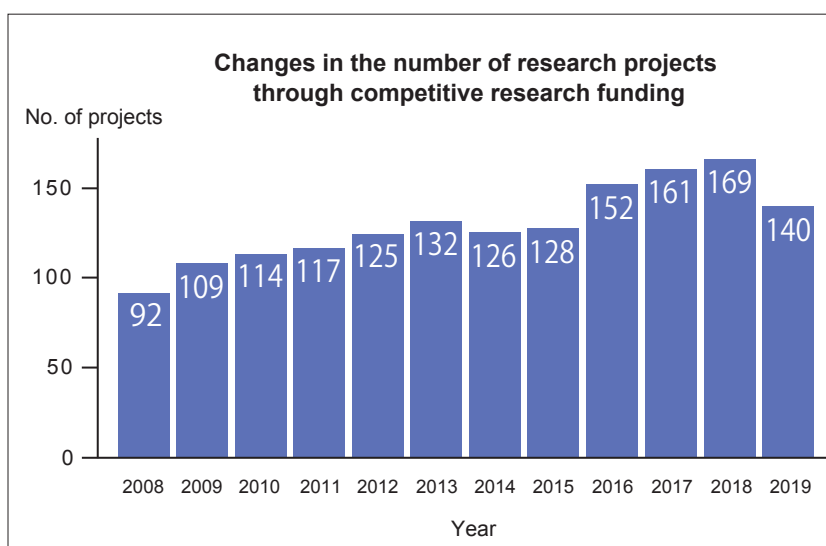
#### Promotion of health crisis management

- NIPH supports the drafting of policies and the collection and provision of information concerning phenomena that cause health crises (natural disasters such as earthquakes, volcanic eruptions, and wind and flood damage, infectious diseases, radiation, etc.) with the aim of promoting appropriate measures to address future threats to public health and try to avoid or as much as possible reduce the potential health crises.

## Changes in the number of research themes (competitive research funding)

NIPH strives to secure priority funding and basic funding from General Accounts, and competitive research funding from such research grants as the health, labor and sciences research grant, and Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology scientific research grant.

The graph on the right shows changes in the number of NIPH research themes through competitive funding.



# International Cooperation

International cooperation in public health is critical, NIPH actively implements training and contributes to the formulation of international policies in cooperation with WHO, the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD), and Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA). Four special fields and the NIPH Library are registered as WHO Collaborating Centres, and through these centers, NIPH promotes research in healthcare services etc. in collaboration with WHO Headquarters, WHO Western Pacific Regional Office, and others. Moreover, at the request of various countries, NIPH has concluded research agreements (MOU), sponsors trainee and researcher exchanges, and holds research conferences and symposiums nursing care demand proactive measures to tackle the various issues concerning national life and health.

WHO Collaborating Centres	Year of Designation	Content
WHO Collaborating Centre for Integrated People-Centred Service Delivery Department of International Health and Collaboration	1986	Conduct collaborative research with WHO Western Pacific Regional Office concerning systems for the provision of public health and healthcare services.
WHO Collaborating Centre for Community Water Supply and Sanitation Department of Environmental Health (Water Management)	1986	Contribute to improving drinking water and sanitation in developing countries, and conduct dissemination and educational activities on water safety in cooperation with WHO Western Pacific Regional Office.
WHO Collaborating Centre on Tobacco Testing and Research Department of Environmental Health (Public Health and Environmental Management)	2014	Develop methods of analyzing tobacco products.
WHO Reference Library Library Service Office, General Affairs Section, General Affairs Department	2004	Maintain a comprehensive collection of WHO publications, and make the publications available to those with an interest in WHO (in principle, one library per country).

## ■ NIPH International Courses

### • Joint Courses with WHO Western Pacific Regional Office (FY2018)

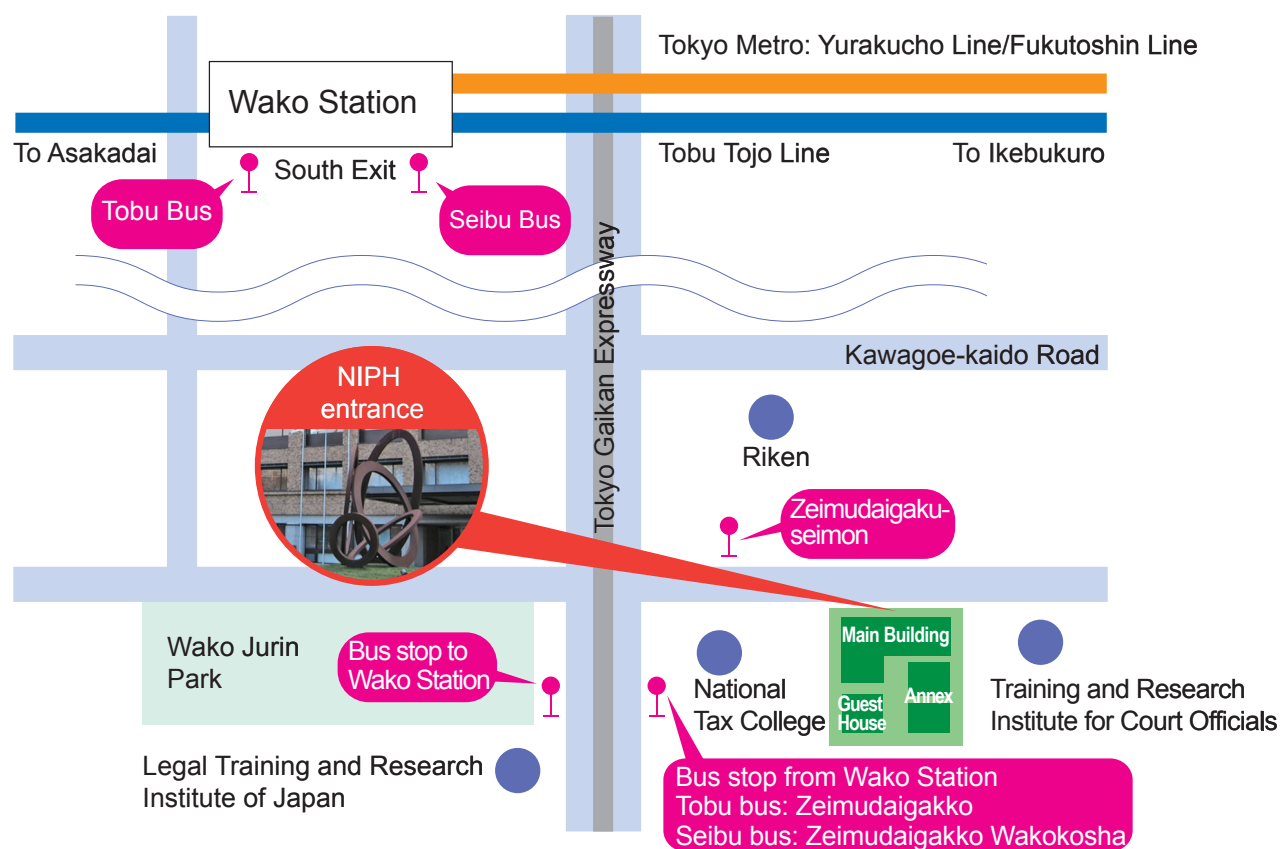
Course name	No. of participants	Course period	Countries
Regional Workshop on Strengthening Leadership and Advocacy for the Prevention and Control of Noncommunicable Diseases (LeAd-NCD)	21	4 days	Solomon Islands, Cambodia, Philippines, Viet Nam, Micronesia(Federated States of), Republic of Korea, Tonga, Fiji, Japan
Hospital Quality and Patient Safety Management Course	20	3 days	Mongolia, Cambodia, China, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Viet nam

### • Joint Courses with JICA (FY2019)

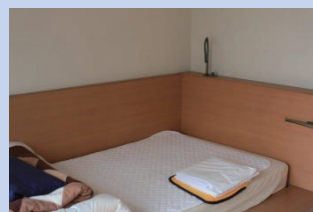
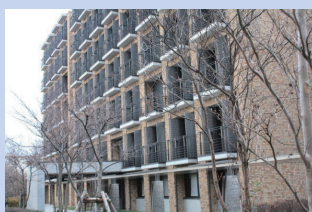
Course name	No. of participants	Course period	Countries
Health Systems Management	12	2 weeks	Afghanistan, Burundi, Kenya, Liberia, Sierra Leone, Tajikistan, Uganda, Uzbekistan, Yemen, United Republic of Tanzania
Social Security System Strengthening Towards Universal Health Coverage in Asia	11	2 weeks	Cambodia, Egypt, Ghana, Indonesia, Kenya, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Myanmar, Nigeria, Senegal, Sri Lanka, Thailand
Health Policy Development	10	2 weeks	Bangladesh, Egypt, Ghana, Iraq, Liberia, Sierra Leone, South Africa



# Map of government buildings and guest house



Dormitory for  
course participants  
148 rooms



## Address

2-3-6 Minami, Wako City, Saitama JAPAN 351-0197  
Tel: 048-458-6111 (Main number) Fax: 048-469-1573

Course-related enquiries:

## Course Administration Section

Tel: 048-458-6187 Fax: 048-458-6112

## Transport

### Train

- Tobu Tojo Line / Tokyo Metro (Yurakucho Line/Fukutoshin Line)
- About 25 minutes' walk from Wako station

### Bus

- Take Tobu Bus (和01) (about 15 minutes), and get off at Zeimudaigakko Bus Stop (3 minutes' walk)
- Take Tobu Bus (和06) or (和08) (about 15 minutes), and get off at Zeimudaigakuseimon Bus Stop (2 minutes' walk)
- Take Seibu Bus (泉39) (about 15 minutes), and get off at Zeimudaigakko Wakokosha Bus Stop (3 minutes' walk)

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