7. 全国国立大学病院国際化プロジェクト
The National University Hospital Council of Japan was founded to integrate opinions and contribute to the progress and development of the study of medicine, dentistry, and health care services in Japan. In addition, the Council sponsors discussions on a variety of issues related to medical care, training, and research at national university hospitals, national university dental hospitals, and national university research institution hospitals, including deliberations on important related topics to deepen mutual understanding. Furthermore, the Council convenes a regular general meeting once a year (around June) and occasional general meetings as necessary.

**Standing Committee**

The National University Hospital Council of Japan has a standing committee, and committee members are selected from among the general members to discuss suggestions for the agenda of general meetings, support for the operation of general meetings, matters entrusted by the general meetings, and the variety of other issues related to the operational management of university hospitals. Also, the head of the Standing Committee is the head of this council.

**Speciality Committee**

The Standing Committee has 14 challenges, each of which is assigned to a university for discussions of specialized matters.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Challenge</th>
<th>University</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Health care system reform</td>
<td>University of Tokyo</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Health insurance</td>
<td>Medical Hospital, Tokyo Medical and Dental University</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Community medicine</td>
<td>Tohoku University</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Education and training</td>
<td>Kyoto University</td>
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<tr>
<td>Advertising</td>
<td>Chiba University</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Medical safety management system</td>
<td>Osaka University</td>
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<tr>
<td>Hospital assessment</td>
<td>Hokkaido University</td>
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<tr>
<td>Infection prevention and control</td>
<td>Nagoya University</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Medical information network</td>
<td>University of Tokyo</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dental department</td>
<td>Dental Hospital, Tokyo Medical and Dental University</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Disaster control</td>
<td>Okayama University</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Realization of the future vision</td>
<td>University of Tokyo</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Research</td>
<td>University of Tokyo</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Globalization</td>
<td>Kyushu University</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

**Conferences**

Five conferences research and study specialized matters that are common to the university hospitals. Provided in parentheses are the names of the university hospitals responsible for administration:

<table>
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<td>Infection Prevention and Control Conference</td>
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<td>University Hospital Medical Information Network Conference</td>
<td>University of Tokyo</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Conference for Postgraduate Medical Education</td>
<td>Kyoto University</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Clinical Research Promotion Initiative</td>
<td>University of Tokyo</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Database Management Committee**

The Database Management Committee collects and analyzes useful data to improve the quality of the medical care, research, and training at university hospitals. And the committee contributes to the improvement and enrichment of management and operations permanently.
In 2012, the Council summarized the future image of national university hospitals in “Searching for the Future Vision of National University Hospitals - Challenges and Prospects” looking ahead 10 years into the future, and then created Action Plan for realization of the future image of National University Hospitals with a specific plan for every fiscal year, employees at national university hospitals were continuously working with high aspirations to realize the plan.

Key points in searching for the future vision of national university hospitals

The role of national university hospitals played in the past

- National university hospitals developed along with departments of medicine and medical universities and now consist of 42 national universities in Japan at present.
- Through training (training of health care personnel), medical care (providing advanced medical care and providing needed personnel to the community), and research (research and development of diagnostic and Medical Care), the national university hospitals contribute to the development of the economy and the society of Japan for the realization of the safe, secure lives of the citizens.
- National university hospitals actively contribute to society by addressing intractable diseases that cannot be handled by other hospitals to meet the medical challenges to cancer, perinatal period, and organ transplants.

Challenges faced by national university hospitals

- Short of doctors and excessive labor, risk of the collapse of community medicine
- Irrational management system
- Improper medical safety and infection control measures
- Deterioration in global competitiveness
- Vulnerable R&D foundation
- Implication of clinical training system
- Expectation for the quality of health care
- Acceleration of globalization
- Incorporation of national universities

Future image for national university hospitals

Training
- Help doctors create lifelong careers by providing training and medical specialization general practitioner courses through inter-hospital networks.

Medical Care
- Provide safe, secure, high-quality medical care services, cutting-edge medical technology by managing quality indicators, developing foundation departments, and restructuring hospital departments.

Research
- Develop and enrich the research environment and foundation, promote clinical research, and lead advanced medicine to bring about life innovation.

Contribution to Community/Society
- Improve the standard of community health care by building ausing doctor-dispatch system as the core medical institution in the community.

Globalization
- Share the excellent medical information in Japan with the world, build a medical network and promote personal exchanges with other countries.

Management
- Establish governance, reform the financial human resources systems, and promote collaboration between hospitals to fulfill the social role.

As one of the solutions that can be applied to all the challenges, promote the networking that makes use of the strengths of the hospitals.
With the growth of globalization, the movement of medical personnel and patients across borders is currently a major trend in the areas of medical care. With the nationwide expansion of remote medical education networks, continued personnel interaction through global reciprocal visits and interdisciplinary seminars as part of the action plan, the globalization section of the Standing Committee is leading the way in changing national university hospitals based on the Suggestions for the Promotion of the Globalization of National University Hospitals. The globalization section of the Standing Committee will also discuss the development of a system to share information on advanced medicine abroad and work on a variety of measures through the creation of excellent medical centers by building a global network to accomplish the Council mission.

**Suggestions for the Promotion of the Globalization of National University Hospitals**

1. Build a health care system that will lead the world.
2. Promote global personnel exchanges.
4. Strengthen the competitiveness of advanced medicine.

- Build a global network.
- Develop an ICT environment.
- Establish a Japan-based global standard.
- Outsource young staff abroad.
- Invite foreign medical practitioners.
- Provide English-media training.
- Promote the development of global science research making use of ICT.
- Set up an International Medical Information Center.
- Release Japan’s excellence in the world.
- Support global exchanges.
- Rebuild the system to support our drugs and medical equipment.
- Apply for special recognition in the areas of medical care.
- Set up a Global Support Center/Information Center.

- Creation of excellent health care centers by building a global network.
- Accomplishment of the globalization mission to the national university hospitals.
- Establishment of Japan’s global leadership in the areas of medical care.
Globalization Project Team and Working Group

A key project is to take full advantage of information and communications technology for daily global communications in medicine. Routine use of this economical and effective technology is sure to contribute to the globalization of Japan.

To fulfill this target, careful organization and preparations are necessary. The figure below shows our road map. The medical and engineering members are the two main components, who must be assigned in the hospitals both in Japan and in counterparts abroad. The doctors are responsible to make attractive programs in need, and the engineers are to be in charge of establishing the telemedicine system in each hospital. Then these two groups must meet each other in regular basis to share the needs of medical staff and the technological advancement and limitations.

Global expansion is to be based on domestic expansion. Although our activities have expanded globally beyond Asia, participants remain mostly top hospitals in the regions. Many more hospitals at every corner of each region are expected to join and must enjoy the benefits. It had been technically impossible to invite rural hospitals but new technologies have been changing the situations. Truly worldwide medical collaboration is our ultimate goal to provide all the patients with standardized medication.

Proposals for the global promotion of National University Hospitals

Step 1: Basic Structure

- National Univ. Hospitals
- Collaborating with Overseas Hospitals

Engineering
- System Setup
- Education of Local Staff for New Technology

Appoint
Select

Medical Staff

Education Research

Programs
Breakout Session

Step 2: Activity Expansion

- Medical–engineering Collaborating Seminars
- Enforcement & Evaluation of Activities
- International Visits

Globalization
Variety of Medical Programs
Private Univ. Hosp., Urban & Rural Hosp
Autonomous Management

Step 3: Goals and Achievement

International Human Exchange
Human Resources Development
Global Dissemination of Information
Medical & Engineering Cooperation