

Symposium | Academia : [Symposium 94] International Activities by Psychiatric Societies and Associations

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[Symposium 94] International Activities by Psychiatric Societies and Associations

Moderator: Tsuyoshi Akiyama (World Federation for Mental Health)

[SY-94-02] International Activities of the Japanese Society of Psychiatry and Neurology

*Ai Aoki^{1,2}, Tsuyoshi Akiyama^{1,3}, Hidehiko Takahashi^{1,4} (1. Japanese Society of Psychiatry and Neurology (Japan), 2. Department of Healthcare Administration, Graduate School of Medicine, Nagoya University (Japan), 3. Rokubancho Mental Clinic (Japan), 4. Department of Psychiatry and Behavioral Sciences, Graduate School of Medical and Dental Sciences, Institute of Science Tokyo (Japan))

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Since the early 1990s, the Japanese Society of Psychiatry and Neurology (JSPN) has continuously promoted its international activities. This symposium will introduce the JSPN's international activities. These activities have three pillars: (1) building a collaborative network with international psychiatric organizations and psychiatrists, (2) strengthening the international activities of JSPN members, and (3) supporting mental health services for foreigners in Japan. The first pillar is to build a collaborative network with international psychiatric organizations and international psychiatrists. The JSPN started a reciprocal collaborative relationship with the Royal Australian and New Zealand College of Psychiatrists in 2012 and with the American Psychiatric Association in 2018. Since then, joint symposia have been held at both organizations' annual meetings to discuss current topics in psychiatry and promote cultural understanding. The JSPN also holds a Leaders' Round Table, which invites representatives from international psychiatric organizations and serves as an opportunity for open discussion. Additionally, the JSPN launched international membership in 2021. The second pillar is to strengthen the international activities of JSPN members. To foster the international activities of JSPN members, the JSPN began inviting international and Japanese early-career mental health professionals to present on a common theme at the annual meetings. Since 2006, this has been the Fellowship Award, which continues to this day. By 2024, 204 early-career mental health professionals from 57 countries had attended the JSPN annual meeting. The third pillar is to support mental health services for foreigners in Japan. To support foreign individuals receiving psychiatric care in Japan and associated individuals, the JSPN developed the leaflet "Psychiatric Care for Foreign Nationals: Promoting Cooperation Between Related Organizations" in 2024, which is now publicly available.