

Symposium | Community care : [Symposium 1] What is truly effective outreach services in community mental health ?- Report on practices and issues in Japan and Canada:For system building and human resource development -

📅 2025年9月25日(木) 13:05 ~ 14:35 🏢 Session Room 2 (Main Hall B)

[Symposium 1] What is truly effective outreach services in community mental health ?- Report on practices and issues in Japan and Canada:For system building and human resource development -

Moderator: Itsuo Asai (Heart Clinic Medical Corporation), Lisa Andermann (Department of Psychiatry, University of Toronto)

Commentator: Sosei Yamaguchi (National Institute of Mental Health, National Center of Neurology and Psychiatry)

[SY-1] What is truly effective outreach services in community mental health ? - Report on practices and issues in Japan and Canada: For system building and human resource development -

Koji Yoshida¹, Mariko Watanabe², Sosei Yamaguchi³, Maria A.Y Choi⁴, Samuel Law⁵ (1. Toyo University (Japan), 2. Chihaya Clinic (Japan), 3. National Institute of Mental Health, National Center of Neurology and Psychiatry (Japan), 4. Court Support Program & Seniors Wellness Centre (Canada), 5. University of Toronto (Canada))

キーワード : Assertive Community Treatment、 Intensive Case Manegement、 Cultural comparison

Outreach Services in community mental health, like Intensive Case Management (ICM) and Assertive Community Treatment (ACT) have been established as standard treatments in Western countries to support people with serious mental disorders.

In contrast, Japan introduced ACT 20 years ago, developing a relatively lightweight, unique outreach support system, such as home nursing and welfare services. However, Japan's medical system is still based on a fee-for-service model that centers around hospitalization, and mental healthcare continues to be hospital-centric. Moreover, human resource such as community based social work development is still adapting to this system.

On the other hand, in Canada, ACT and ICM have been successfully developed with strong public support, and in recent years, newer services like Flexible ACT (FACT) have also emerged.

At this symposium, we will report on the current development of support services in Japan, comparing and analyzing the characteristics and challenges of each service. This will be done through contrasting to a more established setting like Canada. We will also consider how to develop human resources and localize outreach support to create the kind of services that is meaningfully beneficial in the community.