

Symposium

📅 2025年9月25日(木) 14:45 ~ 16:15 🏢 Session Room 6 (Conference Room B)

[Symposium 12] Development of mental health care for Cambodian people

Moderator: Tsutome Aoki (Department of Psychiatry, Asahi General Hospital)

[SY-12]

Development of mental health care for Cambodian people

Toshiyuki Marutani¹, Akihiro Nishio², Sotheara Chhim^{3,4}, Naofumi Yoshida^{5,6} (1.Kinshicho Kubota Clinic(Japan), 2.Health Administration Center, Gifu University(Japan), 3.Transcultural Psychosocial Organization (TPO) Cambodia(Cambodia), 4.Psychological Medicine Clinic(Cambodia), 5.Advanced Research Center for Human Sciences, Waseda University(Japan), 6.Bureau of Social Welfare, Tokyo Metropolitan Government(Japan))

[SY-12-01]

Mental health care by a Japanese NGO and its research on causal beliefs and help-seeking behaviors

*Toshiyuki Marutani (Kinshicho Kubota Clinic(Japan))

[SY-12-02]

The experience of developing the educational module of mental health for children in ASEAN countries

*Akihiro Nishio (Gifu University(Japan))

[SY-12-03]

Health Issues among Cambodian and Myanmar Migrant Workers in Japan: A Focus on “Technical Intern Training” and “Specified Skilled Worker”

*Naofumi Yoshida^{1,2} (1.Advanced Research Center for Human Sciences, Waseda University(Japan), 2.Bureau of Social Welfare, Tokyo Metropolitan Government(Japan))

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[SY-12] Development of mental health care for Cambodian people

Toshiyuki Marutani¹, Akihiro Nishio², Sotheara Chhim^{3,4}, Naofumi Yoshida^{5,6} (1.Kinshicho Kubota Clinic(Japan), 2.Health Administration Center, Gifu University(Japan), 3.Transcultural Psychosocial Organization (TPO) Cambodia(Cambodia), 4.Psychological Medicine Clinic(Cambodia), 5.Advanced Research Center for Human Sciences, Waseda University(Japan), 6.Bureau of Social Welfare, Tokyo Metropolitan Government(Japan))

キーワード : Cambodia、Mental health care、New era

This session explores various aspects of mental health care activities towards a new era in Cambodia and for Cambodian immigrants in Japan. Dr. Marutani will introduce a brief history of the implementation of a Japanese NGO Supporters for Mental Health (SUMH) in Siem Reap. He will also discuss causal beliefs regarding schizophrenia and help-seeking behaviors among patients with schizophrenia and their families who visited the SUMH-Cambodia rehabilitation center and Transcultural Psychosocial Organization (TPO) Cambodia. Dr. Nishio will focus on developing school-based mental health interventions in Southeast Asian countries in collaboration with the Southeast Asian Ministry of Education Organization (SEAMEO). The schedule in Cambodia is still suspended due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Accordingly, he will show mental health education modules for children in the Philippines. Dr. Sotheara, the executive director of TPO Cambodia, will mention the rapid growth of mental health professionals along with the limitation of treatment options in Cambodia these days. For this session, he will show his clinical experiences with an innovative treatment, Transcranial Magnetic Stimulation (TMS) in his Psychological Medicine Clinic in Phnom Penh. Dr. Yoshida will focus on immigrants from Cambodia and Myanmar with status of residence of "Technical Intern Training" and "Specified Skilled Worker" in Japan. He will mention these specific systems and present the latest situation about their psychological problems.

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[SY-12-01] Mental health care by a Japanese NGO and its research on causal beliefs and help-seeking behaviors

*Toshiyuki Marutani (Kinshicho Kubota Clinic(Japan))

キーワード：NGO、Causal beliefs、Schizophrenia、Help-seeking behaviors

In 1997, we launched Japan's first NGO aimed at supporting international mental health care, Supporters for Mental Health (SUMH). After its field survey to explore the local people's needs, we trained community mental health specialists, one of whom directed the regional office SUMH-Cambodia in Siem Reap Provincial Hospital until 2017. When it was most active, the regional office also visited twice-monthly psychiatric consultation services at the two hospitals covering rural areas, where psychiatric services were previously non-existent or very limited. Along with medical services, we conducted research on causal beliefs regarding schizophrenia and help-seeking behaviors among patients with schizophrenia and their families, in cooperation with Transcultural Psychosocial Organization (TPO) Cambodia, directed by our co-presenter Dr. Chhim Sotheara. Our data show that the participants' causal beliefs included those inconsistent with allegedly prevalent traditional beliefs. In addition, causal beliefs were not a decisive factor in shortening the duration of untreated psychosis (DUP). We suggest that it is crucial to embed the meaning of psychiatric treatment into local meaning worlds for better help-seeking behaviors. When it comes to the future prospects of SUMH-Cambodia, we have difficulty proceeding to hand over our activities in the provincial hospital to the local government.

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[SY-12-02] The experience of developing the educational module of mental health for children in ASEAN countries

*Akihiro Nishio (Gifu University(Japan))

キーワード：Mental Health Education、ASEAN、Cambodia

School-based mental health interventions are considered to have potential for the promotion of mental health in developing countries. Therefore, in 2019, we held a workshop to discuss the promotion of mental health in schools in southeast Asian countries in collaboration with the Southeast Asian Ministers of Education Organization (SEAMEO) on March 6th and 7th in Bangkok, Thailand, where officials from ASEAN countries gathered. There, the current state of school mental health in each country was reported, and based on that, a discussion was held on the minimum standards for school mental health that should be adopted by ASEAN countries. We will show the results of this workshop and share our leading experience that we developed mental health education modules for children in the Philippines in 2020. This project was intended to expand to Cambodia and other South East Asian countries. However, because of the pandemic, our project came to a halt and is not progressing until now.

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[SY-12-03] Health Issues among Cambodian and Myanmar Migrant Workers in Japan: A Focus on “Technical Intern Training” and “Specified Skilled Worker”

*Naofumi Yoshida^{1,2} (1.Advanced Research Center for Human Sciences, Waseda University(Japan), 2.Bureau of Social Welfare, Tokyo Metropolitan Government(Japan))

キーワード：Migrant Workers、Southeast Asia、Japan、Health、Support Systems

Japan is becoming a mature society characterized by a declining birthrate and an aging population. In response to ongoing labor shortages, the country has begun accepting more overseas workers. As Japan moves toward becoming a multicultural society, it will be increasingly important to provide healthcare services rooted in the cultures of diverse ethnic groups, especially mental healthcare. This presentation focuses on two types of residence status for migrant workers from Cambodia and Myanmar: “Technical Intern Training” and “Specified Skilled Worker.” It examines the health issues these migrant workers face, especially in relation to mental health. The analysis draws upon various sources, including materials published by government and public institutions containing statistical data, a literature review of previous studies, and fieldwork conducted by the presenter. We examine the real conditions of Cambodian and Myanmar workers under these two residence statuses by analyzing both the sending and receiving contexts. This includes the roles and responses of relevant government institutions and sending organizations in Cambodia and Myanmar, as well as Japan’s policies, support frameworks, and the provision of medical and welfare services for migrant workers. By considering both ends of the migration trajectory, this presentation seeks to understand the structural factors that shape the health experiences of migrant workers. The content will be updated to reflect the most recent available data and developments at the time of the symposium.