

Panel 3-1. Health Equity

Date & Time: Oct. 23 (Wed), 14:30-16:30

Venue: Room 203

Host: - Asian Network for the Inclusion and Integration of Migrants and other Vulnerable Populations (VPs) in Health Security Preparedness and Achieving UHC (ANISE)
- Migrants' Neighbor Network & Action (MINNA)
- Committee for Migration and Health, Japan Association for Global Health (JGIH)

"Addressing migrant health challenges for better access to health services in Asian countries"

Moderator	Jun KOBAYASHI	(Japan Association for Global Health)
Chair	Betty Ya-Wen Chiu	(Vice-President & Taiwan Regional Director, APACPH Principal Investigator, Institute of Population Health Sciences, National Health Research Institutes, Taiwan)
Panel 3-1. a	Patrick DUGAN	(IOM regional office for Asia and the Pacific) <i>Overview: Migration and health in Asia</i>
Panel 3-1. b	Dang Luong Quang	(MHWG/Ministry of Health, Vietnam) *Video <i>Development and deployment of health handbooks for Vietnamese workers in Korea, Japan and Taiwan</i>
Panel 3-1. c	Azusa IWAMOTO	(National Center for Global Health and Medicine, Japan/Migrants' Neighbor Network & Action, Japan) <i>Challenges and responses to address the issues of using health services, infectious diseases, and sexual and reproductive health</i>
	Akira SUDO	(Itami Health & Welfare Office, Hyogo Prefectural government, Japan) <i>Mental health support for foreign residents by public health centers and their network in Japan</i>
Panel 3-1. d	Ju-Yeun LEE	(Institute for society & health, Republic of Korea) <i>Access to Health Services for Migrant Workers in Occupational Injuries and Diseases in South Korea</i>
Comment	Masami FUJITA	(National Center for Global Health and Medicine, Japan/Migrants' Neighbor Network & Action, Japan)

Abstract

As the number of international migrants has been increasing in Asia, one major challenge is to ensure access to health services for migrants including low-skilled temporary workers in receiving countries. To increase health literacy among migrants and overcome barriers to health services, the Migrant Health Working Group (MHWG) led by the Ministry of Health in Vietnam as sending country has developed the Health Handbooks for Vietnamese Workers in Japan, Korea and Taiwan. The handbooks consist of five pillars; namely i) overview of using health services, ii) infectious diseases, iii) sexual and reproductive health, iv) occupational health, and v) mental health. This symposium builds on the network established through the handbook development process and will discuss different aspects of access to health services along with the above mentioned five pillars.

The session will begin with an overview of migration health including access to health services in Asia and the experience of developing and deploying the health handbooks for migrant in the East Asian countries. These introductory presentations will be followed by challenges and responses to address the issues of i) using health services, ii) infectious diseases, and iii) sexual and reproductive health, from the viewpoint of Migration Integration Policy Index (MIPEX) Health Strand. Furthermore, specific examples of iv) mental health and v) occupational health will be presented - experiences of public health approach in supporting migrants with mental health conditions in Japan and multi-sectoral approach to monitor occupational injuries in Korea. Based on the above presentations, the session will examine approaches to address challenges of migration health, particularly access to health services. Finally, it will discuss future collaboration on broader migration health issues across countries.