

Global Health Vision Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare, JAPAN

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Global Health Vision of MHLW, JAPAN(Summary)

The Purpose of the “Global Health Vision”

- As **global health challenges**—including **infectious disease response, drug development, and the training and retention of medical professionals**—become increasingly **interconnected** across **domestic and international fronts**, the Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare (MHLW) recognizes that active engagement in international health **not only** contributes to **global society** but also helps address **domestic health issues**.
- To this end, MHLW has formulated the “**International Health Vision**”, outlining its **strategic approach** and **concrete measures** for **global health**. This vision will serve as a driving force in advancing international health initiatives.

Global Health Vision of MHLW, JAPAN(Summary)

Specific Initiatives

- (1) Establishment of the "UHC Knowledge Hub"**
- (2) International Strategy for Strengthening Drug Discovery Infrastructure**
- (3) Strengthen Collaboration Between the Japan Institute for Health Security (JIHS) and the ASEAN Centre for Public Health Emergencies and Emerging Diseases (ACPHEED)**
- (4) Building an Indo-Pacific Health Strategy**
 - (4-1) Development of "Ecosystem for the Development of Pharmaceuticals and Medical Devices"**
 - (4-2) Circular Elderly Health Strategy: Foreign Care Worker Policy and Support for International Expansion of Care Providers**
- (5) Strategies to Ensure a Stable Supply of Pharmaceuticals as Economic Security**
- (6) Appropriate Contributions to International Organizations and Global Health Initiatives(GHIs)**
- (7) Promotion of International Policy Dialogue**
- (8) Strengthening the Governance of the Ministry's International Department and the International Health Human Resource Strategy**

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Global Health Vision of MHLW, JAPAN(Specific Initiatives)

(2) International Strategy for Strengthening Drug Discovery Infrastructure

- **Revitalize** the "**Drug Discovery Ecosystem**" to support the launch and growth of **startup companies**, **reconstructing** the **foundation** of drug discovery.

(4-1) Development of "Ecosystem for the Development of Pharmaceuticals and Medical Devices"

- **Establish** a **parallel and cyclical** support system to improve the **clinical development environment** and strengthen **regulatory capabilities**.

(5) Strategies to Ensure a Stable Supply of Pharmaceuticals as Economic Security

- **Promote** diversification of active pharmaceutical ingredient (**API**) **supply sources** and **establish** a system to ensure **uninterrupted product delivery** to medical institutions in case of **disruptions** in **overseas API supply**.

(2) International Strategy for Strengthening Drug Discovery Infrastructure

Background & Purpose

- With next-generation **biopharmaceuticals** shaping drug discovery, **global collaboration** is essential.
- Japan has strong **academic research, innovative startups,** and **pharmaceutical manufacturers** with talent and funding.
- By **integrating** into the **international drug discovery ecosystem,** Japan can become a **hub** for groundbreaking **drug innovation.**
- Establishing a cooperative **ecosystem** among **entrepreneurs, academia, government,** and **investors** will accelerate progress.

Key Initiatives

- **Global Collaboration:** Engage **top-tier talent, facilities,** and **companies** worldwide.
- **Establishment of a Research Hub:** Develop a **center** with **laboratories** and **hospital** functions to attract specialists.
- **Bridging Basic Research & Clinical Trials:** Secure **human resources,** train **biotechnicians,** and build **GMP-compliant manufacturing facilities.**
- **Funding & Support:** Provide **grants** for **early-stage research** with strong **public-private collaboration.**

(2) International Strategy for Strengthening Drug Discovery Infrastructure

Concept for realizing the Near-Future Health Care Eco-System Strategy



Building an ecosystem in which economic and social dynamism is widely spread in Japan and overseas

Note: The ecosystem in this strategy refers to a virtuous cycle in which various domestic and foreign entities (industry, government, academia, etc.) and resources (people, goods, money and information) collaborate and develop in multidimensional and multilayered manner.

International Strategy

Developing innovative new drugs by strengthening drug discovery capabilities

Realization of a virtuous cycle of medical and long-term care in the Asian region, etc.
(Promotion of inbound and outbound, etc.)

Establishment of an infectious disease crisis management system that will lead the global fight against infectious diseases

Establishment of the "UHC Knowledge Hub" in Japan

Domestic Strategy

Further promotion of DX in medical and long-term care

Establishing stable supply system of generic drugs

Creating an environment in which innovation can be used for health promotion and treatment

Reform of the provision system (Promotion of measures against the maldistribution of physicians)

Promoting active participation of women, elderly and foreign nationals

Drug Discovery Innovation

(4-1) Development of "Ecosystem for the Development of Pharmaceuticals and Medical Devices"

Background & Purpose

- Improving **access** to **essential medicines** and **medical devices** is crucial for achieving **UHC** under the **SDGs**.
- Japan is enhancing **pharmaceutical regulations** and **clinical development** systems to support health improvements in **Asia**.
- Initiatives like **PMDA-ATC** (established in 2016) have strengthened **regulatory harmonization** and increased Japan's role as a **reference country**.
- **NCC** and **JIHS**, through projects like **ATLAS** & **ARISE**, are facilitating **international joint clinical trials** and improving drug **development capabilities**.
- The aim is to create a cyclical **pharmaceutical** & **medical device** development **ecosystem**, beginning with **Thailand** and expanding to other Indo-Pacific countries.

Key Initiatives

- **Regulatory Capacity Building**: **PMDA-ATC** continues training and harmonization efforts for **Asian regulatory authorities**.
- **Thailand-Focused Collaboration**: **PMDA Asia Office**, **NCC**, and **JIHS** will provide tailored support for **regulatory authorities** and **stakeholders**.
- **Accelerating Drug Commercialization**: Conduct **international joint clinical trials** and **clinical research**, starting in **Thailand**.
- **Future Expansion**: Gradual adoption of **English application dossiers** for ethical drug approvals in Japan and research on Asian market regulations.

(5) Ensuring Stable Pharmaceutical Supply as Part of Economic Security Strategy

Background & Purpose

- In 2019, cephazolin supply disruptions highlighted Japan's reliance on **Chinese** active pharmaceutical ingredients (**APIs**) .
- The 2022 Act promotes **diversification** of **API sources** and ensures **stable supply** for critical drugs.
- A system is needed to maintain **uninterrupted medical care** even during overseas supply **disruptions**.

Key Initiatives

- **Domestic API Production Support**: **¥55.3 billion** allocated in FY2022 for **domestic antimicrobial API** manufacturing facilities.
- **Economic Viability Consideration**: Address **price differences** between domestic and foreign APIs and develop **sustainable support measures**.
- **Stockpiling & Diversification**: Expand initiatives to **secure API supply sources** and maintain **stable pharmaceutical distribution**.

Thank you for your attention

