

The JIHS Quarterly



CONTENTS

2. JIHS Hosts National GOARN Partner Meeting
3. JIHS Trains Hundreds in Crisis Management
3. JIHS Advances Research Integrity With iThenticate Rollout
3. JIHS Staff Join Shinjuku City Half Marathon as Medical Runners
4. New Peritoneal Disease Center Highlights Multidisciplinary Approach
4. Kiyose City Opens New Community Hub, Collaborating with JIHS
5. JIHS Continues Long Term Leadership Training
5. Short Term IDCL Program Draws Multidisciplinary Cohort
from Across Japan
6. Message from the New Director of Kohnodai Medical Center

JIHS Hosts National GOARN Partner Meeting

JIHS's National Center for Global Health and Medicine (NCGM) is deepening its involvement in the Global Outbreak Alert and Response Network (GOARN), working with the Ministry of Health, Labor and Welfare and the World Health Organization to train Japanese outbreak-response specialists.

On December 2, 2025, the NCGM hosted the "Japan GOARN Partner Institutions Meeting" alongside the quadrennial GOARN Global Partners Meeting. The event brought together 24 participants from 11 domestic partner organizations, with five more joining online. Three representatives from South Korea's National Medical Center also visited to observe Japan's coordination methods, training approaches, and experience in preparing personnel for GOARN deployments.

The program included presentations on Japan's recent deployment to support the mpox response in the Democratic Republic of Congo and on participation in the updated "GOARN Tier 2.0 Scenario-Based Training." The WHO Regional Office for the Western Pacific noted that Japan has already been conducting Tier 1.5 training with Japanese instructors alone.



Participants discussed their GOARN-related activities, challenges that hinder international deployments, and priorities for strengthening future training and support systems.

A live connection with the GOARN Global Partners Meeting featured remarks by Dr. Takao Ohmagari, Director of the NCGM Disease Control and Prevention Center, who underscored Japan's intention to build stronger coordination mechanisms as part of its global health strategy.

The meeting marked a significant step in strengthening collaboration among Japan's GOARN partner institutions and enhancing the country's readiness to contribute to global outbreak response.

JIHS Trains Hundreds in Crisis Management

On December 19, JIHS’s third Infectious Disease Crisis Management Workshop—focused on drills and simulation-based training—drew more than 800 participants from government agencies and local authorities.

Dr. Tomoya Saito of JIHS delivered a keynote on designing exercises that foster both foresight and inter-organizational trust. Presentations followed on lessons from the Osaka-Kansai Expo’s surveillance activities and on emergency laboratory response simulations conducted by the JIHS’s Emergency Operations Center.

Government officials highlighted insights from national-level exercises under Japan’s pandemic preparedness framework. Through discussion and Q&A, participants reaffirmed the rising demand for practical drills as local governments advance their infectious-disease response plans.

JIHS Advances Research Integrity With iThenticate Rollout

In preparation for adopting the similarity-detection service iThenticate®, JIHS held its seventh GHM Club Workshop on January 7, blending in-person and online attendance.

Leadership emphasized the importance of preventing research misconduct and understanding the responsible use of AI-based writing tools. Representatives from Turnitin Japan provided demonstrations, prompting wide-ranging questions on database scope, AI detection, confidentiality, and interpreting similarity scores in methods-heavy manuscripts.

The session also featured an update on JIHS’s English-language journals, *Global Health & Medicine* and *GHM Open*, underscoring their growing role in disseminating institutional research.

JIHS Staff Join Shinjuku City Half Marathon as Medical Runners

On January 25, 26 runners from JIHS—including physicians, nurses, pharmacists, and rehabilitation specialists—participated as “medical runners” in the Shinjuku City Half Marathon.

Despite winter cold, participants supported runners along the route, reflecting JIHS’s ongoing engagement with the local community beyond hospital walls.



New Peritoneal Disease Center Highlights Multidisciplinary Approach

NCGM marked the establishment of its new Peritoneal Center with a commemorative lecture on December 22, reviewing the evolution of peritoneal disease treatment and outlining future directions.

Experts from Japan and abroad discussed progress in treating peritoneal metastases, including surgical innovations and research priorities. Nurses, anesthesiologists, rehabilitation specialists, intensivists, and others described the increasingly collaborative nature of high-complexity care.



The concluding lecture emphasized the importance of integrated diagnostics, centralized expertise, and sustained innovation to advance outcomes and pass knowledge to the next generation.

Kiyose City Opens New Community Hub, Collaborating with JIHS

Kiyose City celebrated the opening of its new multi-purpose complex “Matsubokkuri” on February 1, with local officials and residents as well as JIHS’s President, Dr. Norihiro Kokudo and Dr. Mami Kayama, President of the National College of Nursing from JIHS in attendance.

Located within Kiyose Central Park—now undergoing comprehensive redevelopment with the National College of Nursing—the facility is designed as a hub for intergenerational exchange, disaster-resilience functions, and accessible community services.

JIHS reaffirmed its commitment to collaborating with the city on public health, education, and community development initiatives.



JHS Continues Long Term Leadership Training

As part of a ministry-commissioned initiative to cultivate regional infectious-disease crisis leaders, JHS began its long-term IDCL program in April. The December module showcased the progress of trainees who began on-the-job training within the Ministry of Health in mid-November—an experience designed to deepen understanding of national-level public health administration.

Trainees were assigned to core divisions managing infectious-disease countermeasures, immunization policy, quarantine, and regional healthcare planning.

In late December, participants also joined an external lecture hosted by the national DMAT office, examining recent legal reforms shaping disaster response and medical operations.



Short Term IDCL Program Draws Multidisciplinary Cohort from Across Japan

From November 2025 to January 2026, 31 participants—including physicians, public health nurses, pharmacists, veterinarians, dentists, and administrative staff—completed the short-term leadership course.

The program blends e-learning, in-person modules, field visits, tabletop exercises, and external lectures over a three-month period, aiming to solidify core competencies for regional crisis leadership and cross-agency coordination.

In November, participants visited key institutions of JHS, including the



Center for Clinical Sciences and the National Center for Global Health and Medicine, receiving lectures on clinical research during emergencies, AMR countermeasures, and core principles of crisis management for local governments.

In December, trainees toured quarantine stations at Haneda Airport and in Yokohama, examining protocols for symptomatic travelers, PPE procedures, and lessons from Japan's early COVID-19 responses.

In January, simulations centered on decision-making under emergency declarations. Participants engaged in structured debates on public-health measures, followed by lectures from senior prefectural and national officials on administrative decision-making and intergovernmental coordination.

Message from the New Director of Kohnodai Medical Center

The Kohnodai Medical Center traces its origins to the Military Medical Corps Hospital established in the early Meiji era. Following its predecessor, the National Center for Global Health and Medicine, the institution adopted its current name in April 2025 with the launch of the Japan Institute for Health Security (JIHS). The photographs shown depict the hospital from the Meiji period to the present.



Dr. Kazuhiko Yamada,
Hospital Director

At our center, we provide care for a broad range of conditions, placing strong emphasis on interdisciplinary teamwork. We are committed to delivering treatment within the community and supporting patients in returning to their daily lives. We also maintain close collaboration with regional hospitals and clinics, and devote particular attention to mental health services—including psychiatry, child and adolescent psychiatry, and psychosomatic medicine—for people of all ages.

I assumed the position of Director in October 2025. Together with all staff, I remain committed to ensuring that our center continues to serve as a trusted medical institution for the community. We sincerely appreciate your continued support.

Historical Evolution of Kohnodai Medical Center

A visual timeline illustrates the institution's progression from its Meiji-period foundations through major milestones in 1941, 1981, and the establishment of JIHS in 2025.

