Seminar Series Concept Note

At a side event at the World Health Assembly (WHA) in 2019, the Union for International Cancer Control (UICC) highlighted the importance of developing data on cancer as the basis for Universal Health Coverage (UHC).

https://www.uicc.org/news/power-data-drive-progress-universal-health-coverage

This is because when planning to achieve UHC it is first necessary to specify and integrate systems in order to ensure sufficient scope and sustainability, and also to allocate appropriate funding.

Although cancer data is generally based on information acquired from patients, to date there has been little discussion about the processes and mechanisms by which clinical sites can share such data, and also how it can be shared internationally among the wider cancer research community. Data held by the International Agency for Research on Cancer (IARC) of the WHO is positioned as cross-sectional survey data after a certain amount of time. However, in the case of cancer care, unless patient data can be collected at regular intervals for individual patients, from the point of diagnosis through to treatment, it is extremely difficult to gain a true picture of the status of cancer medicine and its outcomes. This can be said to be the key difference in the processes associated with treating and understanding the medical outcomes of patients with infectious diseases and those battling cancer. In other words, whereas infectious diseases are largely acute in nature and outcomes are achieved in a relatively short period of time, cancer can be characterized as a long-term chronic condition. It is due to such characteristics that a true picture of the status of cancer care has yet to be fully visualized in the world of global health, and to date it has therefore been difficult to incorporate cancer care and treatment into international aid frameworks. However, the actual status of cancer care in any given country or region is not just an issue of medical treatment, it also broadly reflects the social situation. The Asia Health and Wellbeing Initiative (AHWIN) proposed by the Japanese government makes clear reference to the importance of achieving the compilation of cancer registries in Asia and this policy recommendation is founded on the strongly-held belief of cancer care medical practitioners that data should be the foundation for UHC.

This seminar series asks the big and very broad question "Is UHC for cancer in Asia an achievable goal?" To consider this question in detail each lecturer has been set three or more sub-themes or points to address within their allotted lecture.

In order to given consideration to the point that data development is essential as a foundation for achieving UHC, in addition to the three set sub-themes, each lecturer will

also be asked to answer the following question: "What should be done and what are the challenges for collecting data in Asia in various sectors of society?" The seminar series will cover various contemporary and timely challenges, including genomic medicine, AI, big data, telemedicine and cancer data. The aim is to further deepen discussion and generate knowledge on how Japan can contribute to the realization of UHC for cancer in Asia.

SEMINAR SERIES

Is UHC for cancer in Asia an achievable goal? In what forms can this goal be achieved?

2019

9/24   What significance do universities have in the era of digital knowledge?

(1) What roles should universities play in today's digital information society?
(2) How should we perceive the direction for knowledge in Asia?
(3) Significance of cross-boundary cancer studies in the context of the SDGs

10/1   Is UHC for cancer in Asia an achievable goal?

(1) What is the significance of UHC and the conditions for its realization?
(2) Special characteristics of cancer care
(3) Importance of and challenges for collection of clinical cancer data

10/8   Current status and future outlook for collection of cancer-related data in Asia

(1) Current status of cancer treatment and care in Asia
(2) How is cancer data collection being advanced by WHO IARC?
(3) Creating a cancer center for Asia
(4) Asia cohorts
(5) Cancer prevention in Asia
(6) What are the possibilities for epidemiology in Asia looking ahead to a future of genomic medicine and AI?

11/5   Cancer care in Asia from the perspective of latest developments in the U.S. pharmaceutical industry

(1) High-cost anti-cancer drugs and inequality in access to medical care

(2) How is the Asian market viewed by R&D departments in big pharma?

(3) What are the prospects for inter-industry cooperation when viewed from trends in digital health in the U.S.? (changing nature of the healthcare industry)

11/12   Global data sharing

① Who does digital data and personal medical information belong to?

② AI and big data

③ Knowledge representation, knowledge processing and application of AI in medicine

④ Formal handling of information in sharing

⑤ We need indecent space for handling information at sharing

⑥ UHC requires indecent use of human health information for health policy and medicine

⑦ What frame is required in sharing information at health policy and medicine?

11/19   Following up on the G20: What can finance do for cancer in Asia?

(1) Outlook for the Asian economy in 2019

(2) Beyond the G20: What can finance do for cancer in Asia?

(Given the reality that cancer care inevitably has a critical impact on medical finances and medical outcomes and sustainability in line with costs outlaid are being fiercely debated, what is the financial outlook for cancer care in Asia?)

(3) What is Japan's role in the international community? Cooperation with international coordinating agencies and other governments

11/26 **Asia Health and Wellbeing Initiative (AHWIN) and Cancer: What are the prospects for cancer genomics in Asia?**

(1) The ideal format for healthcare in an aging Asia and the role of Japan
(AHWIN and its background: Political momentum and trends)
(2) Japan's stance at the G20
(3) AHWIN
(4) Outlook for the benefits of personalized medicine for cancer care
(5) Genomic medicine and Asia
(6) Asia cancer center network

12/3 **Situation for health workers in aging Asian societies and UHC**

(1) Population trends and labor markets in Asia (what data is needed?)
(2) Health care system trends and HR development schemes
(3) Future for IT and cancer data development

12/10 **What can public-private partnerships achieve for cancer in Asia?**

(1) IFPMA and Access Accelerated
(2) Asian pharmaceutical product regulations and UHC
(3) What and where are the gaps in public-private partnership? What is necessary to enhance the quality of public-private dialogue?

2020
1/7 **UICC activities and challenges and outlook for cancer treatment in Japan**

(1) WHO Digital Health and UHC (WHO Draft Global Strategy on Digital Health)
(2) AHWIN and cancer care policies
(3) UHC challenges on the frontlines of cancer treatment in Asia (Health Technology Assessments and their value for patients)

1/14 AI and telemedicine: How is technology transforming the horizons for global health?

(1) Status of cancer diagnoses in Asia and data

(2) Digital pathology and an Asian genome network

(3) Characteristics of cancer in Asia from a pathology perspective

(4) Challenges for introducing and installing technologies in Asia

(What are the hurdles? What are the cost-benefits of telemedicine?)

(5) How could advances in telemedicine change medical care in Asia?

(6) Industry translation among medical device manufacturers: Data analytics player

1/21 What are the benefits of patient engagement and local community health?

(1) Why is patient engagement becoming globally mainstream?

(2) Social stakeholders as seen through the prism of World Cancer Day

(3) Collecting data on a local community basis

1/28 Student presentations (Group presentations)