

TOMODACHI J&J Disaster Nursing Training Program 2015; Tokyo Symposium (2015/10/25)

Topics: Outcome of two-week training program for nursing students from the affected areas
Venue: Johnson & Johnson Tokyo Office (Tokyo)

On October 25th 2015, Professor Shinichi Egawa made a special lecture at the Tokyo Post-Trip Symposium for the TOMODACHI J&J Disaster Nursing Training Program. This program is co-hosted by the TOMODACHI Initiative and Johnson & Johnson Family of Companies in Japan (hereafter Johnson & Johnson Japan) to provide opportunities for nursing students to study about disaster nursing in New York and Washington D.C. Eight students from nursing schools in Miyagi visited the United States for two weeks in August 2015.

The TOMODACHI Initiative is a public-private partnership between the U.S.-Japan Council and the U.S. Embassy in Tokyo, which was born out of support for Japan's recovery from the 2011 Great East Japan Earthquake.

Now it has more than 4,000 TOMODACHI alumni throughout the U.S. and Japan. The TOMODACHI Initiative and Johnson & Johnson Japan actively organized this program with support from the Miyagi Obstetrics and Gynecology Medical Information Network Association and the Children's National Health Care System. Other organizations such as the Japanese American Association of New York and many others collaborated to make this program a success. The students visited Goldman Sachs, the 9/11 Memorial, New York University, the United Nations, Columbia University, Johnson & Johnson Headquarters, and other facilities related to disaster nursing such as the Robert Wood Johnson Hospital in N.Y., the National Children's Health System, FEMA, Johns Hopkins University, Fairfax County Task Force 1, American Red Cross, Embassy of Japan in the United States, USUHS/CDHAM, the National Institute of Health among others. Their training included not only lectures, but the students were also able to experience donning and doffing personal protective equipment and various simulations.

Students who experienced the 2011 Great East Japan Earthquake had clearer dreams and future plans after experiencing this program. They presented their own experiences during the Tokyo Symposium including their renewed interest in the field of mental health, preparedness and community resilience with a passion and sincere attitude. Professor Megumi Komatsu from the National Hospital Organization, School of Nursing also presented on the significant impact the students had during their learning process.

Professor Shinichi Egawa presented the current situation of disaster medicine and public health in Japan and reviewed the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction. He explained the cluster approach and the concept of disaster risk reduction. During the Tokyo Symposium, the attendees took part in workshops where they discussed their views on professionalism of nursing, interdisciplinary collaboration, and improving the daily standard of health. More than 50 attendees from the field of nursing attended and actively discussed these topics within the workshop and

networking session afterwards. The students are expected to be the next generation of leaders in the field of disaster nursing.



Prof. Egawa speaking



Introduction of the terminology about disaster risk reduction



Trainees and the facilitators from Johnson & Johnson, US-Japan Council, Tohoku University and Sendai Medical Center, School of Nursing and Midwifery
 Shinichi Egawa (Division of Disaster Medical Science)