

TB control for foreign-born people living in Japan.

- Pre-entry screening of active TB and how to follow-up people with LTBI post-entry

Background

There is a convergence of tuberculosis (TB) in Japan from the increase of TB among Japanese elderly TB and the growing number of foreign-born persons (FB) TB living in Japan.

In Japan, the number of newly registered TB patients of FB origin exceeded 10% for the first time in 2018, and the ratio of newly registered FB TB patients in their 20s was particularly high at 70.4%. The increase in young FB TB patients is likely due to increasing international student admissions and technical intern trainees from higher TB burden countries. In contrast, Europe and the United States, which are countries with low TB burden, the proportion of newly registered TB patients of FB (immigrants) is 50 to 90%, which is considerably higher than in Japan.

Japan's birthrate is declining and the population is aging rapidly. As a result, dependency on foreign labor is expected to increase. In the "Revised Immigration Control Act (Immigration Act)" enacted in December 2018, the status of residence "Specific Skills (No. 1 and No. 2)" was newly established, and the acceptance of foreign workers was expanded.

Currently, the COVID-19 pandemic restricts international travel around the world. Similarly, international students and trainees are not currently allowed to enter Japan. However, with control of the COVID-19 pandemic, it is expected that migrant entry will resume, despite a potentially worse global TB situation caused by the COVID-19 pandemic.

As a measure to stop active TB prior to Japan entry, migrants from 6 countries such as the Philippines, China, Vietnam, Nepal, Indonesia, and Myanmar, who stay for 90 days or more, a non-TB certificate are required to issue a visa. On the other hand, the FB from high TB burden countries are thought to have a higher TB infection rate than those in Japan, but are not tested for latent tuberculosis infection (LTBI) before or after entering Japan. In some countries where TB prevalence is low, LTBI testing for FB (immigrants) are performed at pre and post-entry of the countries. With the forecasted increased of FB persons in Japan, LTBI screening and TB prevention of migrants in Japan should be considered as an important public health intervention for current control and long-term elimination of TB in Japan.

Meeting object:

To build on prior meetings on TB control among FB persons living in Japan, this meeting will focus on specific approaches to pre- and post-entry LTBI screening for FB and mechanisms and policies for follow-up used successfully in other countries that may be applicable to Japan as a long-term strategy.



Meeting Style: Hybrid Zoom Webinar

Language: Japanese ⇔ English interpretation (2 interpreters)

Time and Date:

- 9:00 – 12:00 a.m. 31 October 2020, Saturday (Tokyo)
- 20:00 –23:00 p.m. 30 October 2020, Friday (Atlanta, Germantown, USA)
- 17:00 –20:00 p.m. 30 October 2020, Friday (California, USA)
- 8:00 – 11:00 a.m. 31 October 2020, Saturday (Singapore)

Participants

- Speakers and Co-chairs
 - Toru Mori, MD, Research Institute of TB, Tokyo, Stop TB Partnership Japan, Co-Chair
 - Loyce Masae Kawamura, MD, QIAGEN USA, Co-chair
 - Drew Posey, MD, CDC USA
 - Seiya Kato, MD, Director of Research Institute of TB, Tokyo
 - Akihiro Ohkado, MD, Research Institute of TB, Tokyo
 - Jin Takasaki, MD, National Center for Global Health and Medicine
 - Omura, Secretary General, the Japanese Language School
- Discussion with Japanese TB Experts (TBD)

Sponsor: Stop TB Partnership Japan. Co-sponsor: QIAGEN

AGENDA

Time:			
9:00 – 9:15	Opening address	Dr. Toru Mori RIT (STBJ) Dr. Loyce Masae Kawamura (QIAGEN)	Objects of this meeting
9:15 – 9:20	Introduction		
9:20 – 9:50	Session 1	Dr. Drew Posey (US CDC)	The current US immigration pre-entry guidelines for active TB and LTBI screening (draft)
9:50 – 10:20		Dr. Seiya Kato (RIT JATA)	Overview of current situations of TB control for foreign-born people in Japan, its problems to be solved in the future
10:20 – 10:40		Dr. Akihiro Ohkado (RIT JATA)	Overview of TB control by LTBI screening of foreign-born people
10:40 -10:50	Break		
10:50 – 11:10	Session 2	Dr. Jin Takasaki (NCGM Japan)	Necessity of LTBI test from the viewpoint of medical experience for foreign-born tuberculosis patients
11:10 – 11:30		Ms. Omura (Japanese language school)	My experience on TB outbreak at my school.
11:30 – 11:50	Discussion		
11:50 - 12:00	Wrap up	Dr. Mori Dr. Kawamura	