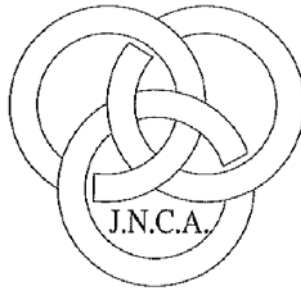


# Japan National Health Insurance Clinics and Hospitals Promoting Comprehensive Community Medical and Health Care



Japan national health insurance clinics and hospitals (JNCs) are established by national health insurance providers (municipalities and the national health insurance association). Here, JNCs are municipal medical and health facilities that provide medical services as well as contribute to comprehensive medical and health care services, comprehensive community medical and health care by providing health care, medical care, and welfare (nursing) services to community residents.

## **Definition of Comprehensive Community Medical and Health Care**

What is comprehensive community medical and health care?

1. Care to improve the quality of life (QOL) to assist community residents to live in the safe and secure environments they have resided in, by the continuous practice of comprehensive community medical care considering the social dimensions involved in providing care.
2. Community medical and health care is all-round medical and health care which shows respect for the life styles and normalization independent lives of community residents and is focused on resident participation and cooperation between facility care and home care. This also includes curing as well as health and home care, rehabilitation, welfare, and nursing services.
3. We aim to service not an area but a community.

(Revised in April 2008. Noboru Yamaguchi)

## **JNCs Human Focused Plans**

1. JNCs provide all-round medical and health care that meet the needs of community residents in consideration of the geographical and social conditions of the communities and in balance with other local medical facilities.
2. JNCs also play an active role as centers for comprehensive community care by integrating and consolidating medical care, health care, nursing, and welfare adapted to an aging society.
3. JNCs will actively work towards establishing general national insurance clinics or hospitals as well as building comprehensive community support centers, home nursing support centers, home visiting nursing stations, and nursing care facilities for the elderly by cooperating with and accommodating the functions of existing health and welfare facilities.

(Enacted in November 1994, partly revised in April 2001 and on March 25, 2010. Japan National Health Insurance Clinics and Hospital Association (JNCA))

(Explanation)

1. Japan National Health Insurance Clinics and Hospitals (JNCs) are municipal medical facilities (hospitals and clinics) established by the insurers affiliated with the national health insurance (municipalities and national health insurance associations).

2. Municipalities may establish hospitals and clinics as “public facilities” stipulated by Article 244 of the Local Autonomy Act. National health insurance providers are able to establish hospitals and clinics as part of the “insurance project” of Article 82 of the National Health Insurance Act. Therefore, JNCs are “public facilities” according to Article 244 of the Local Autonomy Act as well as they are hospitals and clinics that have been established as “insurance projects” stipulated by Article 82 of the National Health Insurance Act.

3. Local ordinances must be adopted for the establishment of municipal facilities; however, the establishment of JNCs must involve the stipulation of municipal health insurance ordinances which ensure that the facilities will “conduct health care related projects” and “establish hospitals or clinics” as well as ordinances to establish national health insurance clinics and hospitals (implementing projects based on Article 82 of the National Health Insurance Act).

4. Municipal medical facilities are established to ensure medical care in areas where private medical facilities cannot be established and/or the improvement of medical standards cannot be expected otherwise, however, JNCs are established to conduct services that “provide conditions for all-around prevention and medical care” in addition to medical services, and promote activities to become centers for “comprehensive medical care” by progressive service improvements.

The services we provide have made a significant impact by reducing the number bed-ridden elderly people, transforming care from facility care to home care, controlling medical costs and revitalizing regional activity by long term participation in comprehensive community medical and health care.