

Brief Report

Oral presentation at the 7th Asian Health Literacy International Conference and a project meeting at People's Hospital 115

The 7th Asian Health Literacy Association (AHLA) International Conference was held from 10-12th November 2019 in Ho Chi Minh City, Vietnam. The conference theme of this year was “Health Literacy in Smart Universal Healthcare”. This event served as a platform to share and explore about issues on health literacy among health practitioners, policymakers, and researchers. Dr. Khoa Tuan Vo, as a course instructor of this JICA EBM promotion project and a PhD candidate of Juntendo University, presented his work at the conference with A/Prof. Hirohide Yokokawa (Juntendo University) on November 11th. The presentation was titled “The 14-item health literacy questionnaire for diabetes patients: translation and preliminary validation study of the Vietnamese version”, which was conducted as a part of Dr. Khoa’ thesis project co-instructed by A/Prof Yokokawa and Prof. Toshio Naito (Juntendo University), A/Prof. Emeritus Khue Thy Nguyen (HCM City Medical Association), and Prof. Aya Goto (Fukushima Medical University).

On the same day, a hospital visit at People's Hospital 115 was organized by Dr. Phuong TT Chu, the Head of Department of Endocrinology. Dr. Phuong and her medical staff warmly welcomed A/Prof. Yokokawa, and a junior doctor, Ms. Thuong Thu Che, explained about the hospital with updated information and attractive pictures. In return, Dr. Yokokawa described about our JICA project and Juntendo University. Furthermore, Dr. Khoa reported preliminary achievements of his thesis project. The highlight of the visit was the discussion about future expansion of our collaboration between two countries. Dr. Yokokawa recommended application to the PhD fellow program at Juntendo University for doctors with a passion to learn clinical epidemiology research and adequate English proficiency. In addition, Dr. Khoa suggested that Prof. Goto, a project manager of this JICA project, to consider expanding the training course at People's Hospital 115. The visit was closed with a promise to take steps forward for developing the memorandum of understanding for future literacy collaboration between People's Hospital 115 and Juntendo University.

