



## School of Public Health, The University of Tokyo

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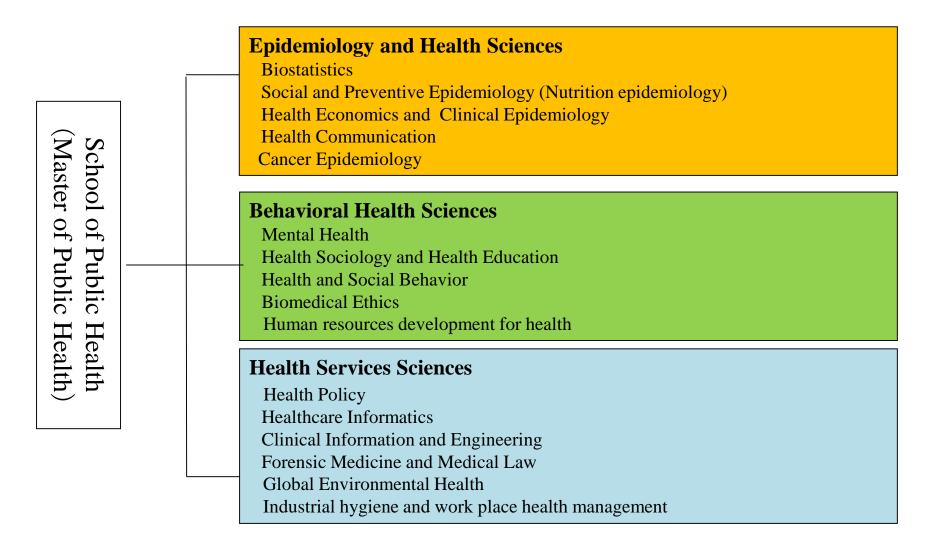


- Founded in 2007, under the umbrella of Graduate School of Medicine, The University of Tokyo
- extending the discipline legend on public health education:
  - First Department of Public Health in Japanese medical school since 1947
  - First undergraduate program on health sciences since 1965

#### Staff, students, & education

- 25 professors/associate professors, with junior faculty and adjunctive professors
- One- and two-year Master of Public Health (MPH) course
- About 30 master course students per year
- Four plus 1 terms (S1, S2, A1, A2, W) including 40 classes and independent study with master thesis

#### School of Public Health, The University of Tokyo



No doctoral program, but affiliated with School of Health sciences and School of Social Medicine to accept doctoral candidates

## Career path after graduation

- Nearly 400 graduates since 2007
  - 29% for health care providers
  - 10% for public institute/organizations
  - 16% for profit and non-profit private organizations
  - 14% for academia and research institutes
  - 31% proceeded to PhD program in Social Medicine and Health Science.

## Global research collaborations



# Current status of graduate level education in public health in Japan

- 5 SPHs (Kyoto, Kyushu, Tokyo, Teikyo, and St. Luke)
- Several independent MPH programs under master program in medical schools (Osaka, Keio, Tsukuba, etc.)
- About 200 MPH per year nationwide
- Consortium for Schools of Public Health since 2015, started information exchange (Chaired by Prof. Kawakami in Utokyo)
- Challenges
  - Limited resources and capacity to cover the range of disciplines, esp in non-SPH programs
  - Standardization of education quality
  - Competency training; conceptualization and implementation
  - Limited recognition of MPH in Japanese job market

### Challenge towards Globalization

- Language barriers; limited number of courses taught in English
  - Increase the number of courses
  - Program may include not only lectures but also other learning activities (e.g. site-visiting)
- Student exchange to be further extended
  - Financial space of home university
  - Administrative conflict/regulation against dual degree program and credit exchange systems.



## Potential; Facing common agenda in East Asia 2008

- Demographic and social transition
- Change in life styles and health risks
- Increasing demand for health and quality of life
- Concerns for health (in)equity
- Impact of globalization (economics, pandemic, and environmental issues)
- Increasing demand for human capital development skilled in public health research and practice

## Annual meeting with Peking University and Seoul National University



The PeSeTo Conferences on Public Health (2008, 2009, 2011, 2013, 2014, 2016, 2017, 2019)



#### 3 Schools of Public Health

PeSe7o since 2008

	Peking	Seoul	Tokyo
History	1950 (1985, 2000)	1959	2007
Department	7 departments 1 research institute 4 centers	<ul><li>2 large departments</li><li>with 15 tracks</li><li>2 research institutes</li></ul>	3 departments with 15 tracks
Degree	Undergrad Master (MPH) Doctoral Over 900 students	Master(MPH) Doctoral Nearly 300 students	Master (MPH) Nearly 60 students
Academic schedule	Sep to June	March to Feb	April to March
Language	Chinese	Korean	Japanese

#### Broader needs to complement each other

	Peking	Seoul	Tokyo
Biostat	<b>✓</b>	✓	✓
Epidemiol	<b>✓</b>	✓	<b>✓</b>
Occupational/ Environmnt	<b>✓</b>	(independent Dep.)	<b>(✓)</b>
Nutrition/ food safety	•	<b>✓</b>	✓
Toxicology	<b>✓</b>	<b>✓</b>	<b>✓</b>
Health educ , soc & communication	<b>✓</b>	✓	<b>✓</b>
Gerontology		<b>✓</b>	<b>(✓)</b>
Public health ethics			<b>✓</b>
Maternal and child health	<b>✓</b>	(community nursing)	School of nrs.
Health policy &managmnt	<b>✓</b>	✓ (with econ & mngnt)	<b>✓</b>
Informatics		<b>v</b>	<b>✓</b>
Forensic medicine	<b>(✓</b> )	<b>(✓</b> )	✓



#### Achievement of the first cycle (2008-2011)

- Successfully provided a platform to enhance mutual understanding among 3 SPHs on current research themes of faculty researchers, student's needs, and challenges that public health should overcome in each country's context.
- Shared interests to further extend this mutual communication into action, with clearer focuses on research and education of public health.

#### Bilateral strategic partnership b/w UTokyo and National Taiwan University School of Medicine

- Exchange extended to involve SPH in both sides
- Health policy comparison (esp. Universal health coverage) as a relevant topic
- Most recent focus on health disparity and socialdeterminants-of-health related policy issue

#### To conclude; SPH in Japan

- Increasing potential demand for healthcare professional with MPH qualification with emerging public health challenges
- Still limited market signal for private and public domains
- Quality assurance and standardization remains to be a challenge
- Globalization and exchange with neighborhood country SPHs open both potentials and challenge