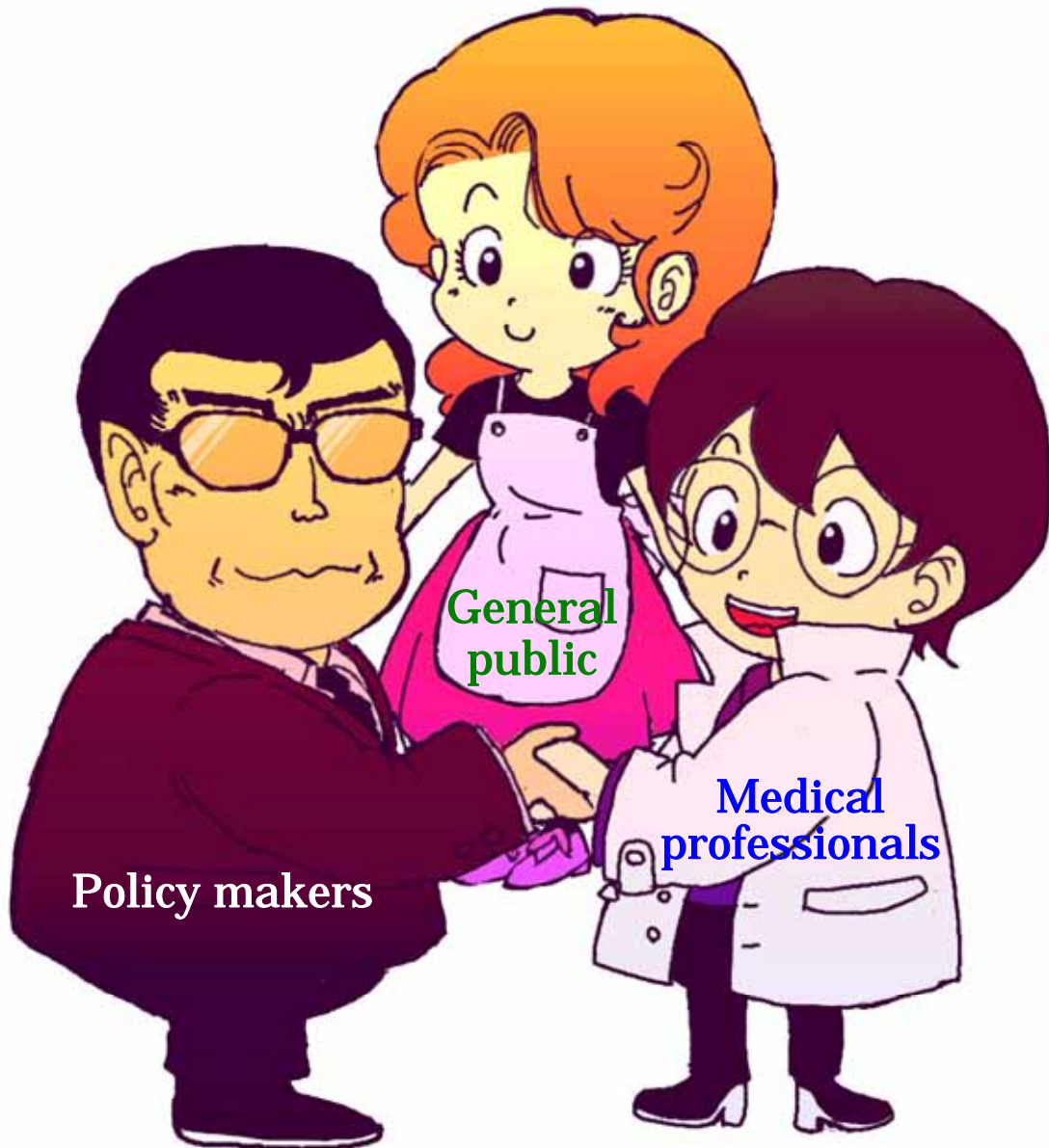


STOP THE MEDICAL COLLAPSE!!
by mutual cooperation among the
general public, medical professionals,
and policy makers.



Women's Committee, ACP Japan Chapter

Proposal from ejnet symposium 2008 (Dec. 7, 2008, Tokyo)

Consideration of the female physicians' work-life balance cannot be expected if male physicians work in a strict environment. If the female physicians do not keep working, work environment cannot be improved for the male physicians. To sever this vicious cycle, prevent further collapse of the medical system, and improve work environment for all male and female physicians, a symposium was held by ejnet, under the auspices of the ACP Japan Chapter and others. The objective was to share the problems and opinions on this issue from the standpoint of the general public, medical professionals, and policy makers. Our ACP Japan Chapter Women's Committee members also participated in the symposium and the following tentative proposals were submitted:

1, To Policy Makers:

- Convert the medical expense reduction policy.
- Secure necessary fiscal resources based on medical professionals and the general public's requests.
- Implement effective measures to rapidly improve the exhausting medical work environment, increasing the number of doctors and nurses as well as adjusting their uneven distribution.
- Reinforce medical education at the same time.

2, To Medical Professionals:

- Continue to carry out their mission with pride and make an effort to inform the general public about the exhausting medical work environment.
- Address serious issues such as uneven distribution of doctors and medical mistrust, on their own initiatives as professionals.

3, To the General Public:

- Understand the fact that the mutual trust relationship among doctors, patients, and their families is the prerequisite to receive the best medical care.
- Act as "a participant involved in public medical system" rather than "a user of medical services".

Appendix 1) What is "ejnet":

A non-profit organization for career development of female doctors, which was founded by Dr. T. Takino, Vice-chair of the Women's Committee, and other colleagues.

(Japanese)

男性医師にゆとりがなければ女性医師の労働環境への配慮は望めません。女性医師が仕事を続けられなければ、男性医師にゆとりは生まれません。この悪循環を断ち切り、女性医師を含む医療環境改善のため、市民と医療関係者と行政と、それぞれの立場からみた問題点と改善案を共有する為のシンポジウムが ejnet 主催で開催され(2008年12月7日、於新生銀行 新生ホール。後援:日本医師会、日本女医会、大阪府女医会、至誠会、ACP日本支部、SVP東京、新生銀行) ACP 日本支部も後援しました。Women's Committee もこのシンポジウムに参画し、次のような提言(案) Proposal from ejnet symposium 2008 (Dec. 7, 2008, Tokyo) を作成しました。

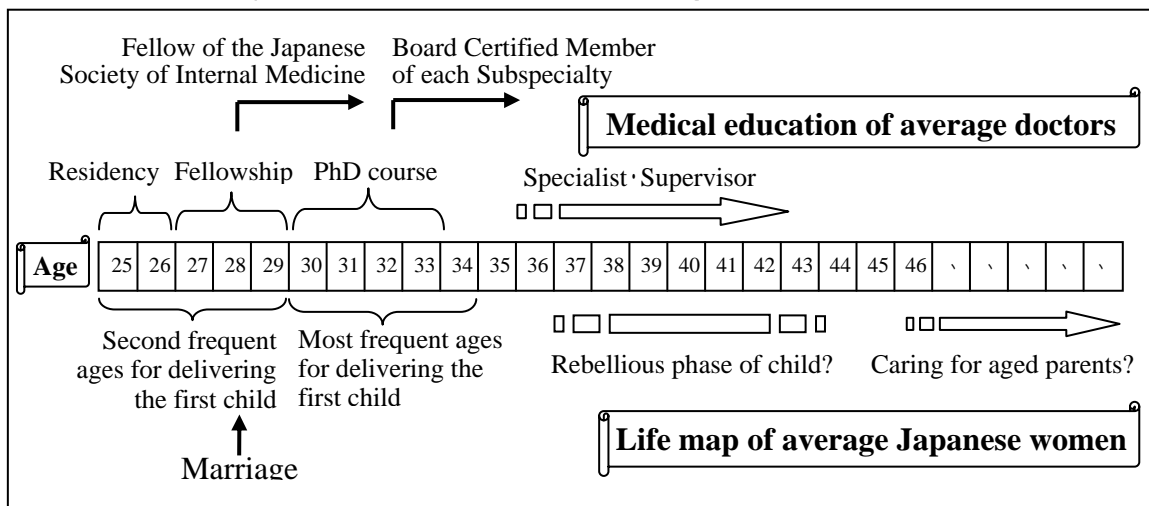
一、行政に対して、医療費削減政策を転換し、医療現場や市民の声を踏まえて必要な財源を確保するとともに、医療現場の過酷な労働環境を改善する即効性のある施策と、医師・看護師などの増員と偏在を調整する仕組み作り、医学教育の充実などを並行して行うよう求める。

一、医療人に対して、誇りを持って働きつつ医療現場の過酷な現状を社会へ知らせる努力を続けることと、医師の偏在やいわゆる医療不信の解消などの重要課題に、専門職自らのイニシアティブで取り組むことを求める。

一、市民に対して、最善の医療を受けるためには医師と患者・家族の間の信頼や協力が不可欠のものであることを理解し、「医療サービスの利用者」ではなく、「医療という公共のシステムを支える当事者」であるという意識を持って行動することを求める。

付 1)「ejnet(イーজেイネット)」とは: 内閣府認証NPO法人で、働きやすい病院環境作りにより女性医師支援をとおして病院の活性化をめざす、Women's Committee 副委員長瀧野敏子医師が代表を務める「女性医師のキャリア形成・維持・向上をめざす会」。2005年認証。会員数 450。

Appendix 2) Why a number of female doctors give up their careers in Japan:



Postgraduate training and life map of average Japanese women. The periods of training, application for fellowship, and postgraduate course for clinical doctors are perfectly overlapped with the average ages of marriage and child birth for Japanese women. (J Jpn Soc Intern Med 97: 2826, 2008).

Introduction of Women's Committee

Mission

To survey the key factors which encourage Japanese female physicians to advance their careers and actively contribute to society. The Committee, as women Members of ACP, suggests and practices improvement strategies

Goals and Objectives



We have built a mailing list and held a tea/luncheon party to network and help your activity and contribution. We will survey the problems facing female physicians and act for improvements. We believe it is important that not only medical professionals but also the general public and policy makers cooperatively participate in such activity. Solving the hardest problems requires the best people. We would like to hear your opinion and appreciate your cooperation. Thank you for your partnership.

Women's Committee, ACP Japan Chapter (<http://acpjc.naika.or.jp/>)

Chair: Keiko Hiyama, MD, FACP, Vice-Chair: Toshiko Takino, MD

Member: Harumi G. Yano, MD, Sayuri Motomura, MD, FACP,

Naoko Aragane, MD

Medical Student Member: Masako Sugihara, Takako Akimoto