

Japan Medical Association

Declaration on the Environment

Adopted at the Board of Trustees of the Japan Medical Association

April 21st, 2009, Tokyo, Japan

The preservation of global environment and establishment of a sustainable society are imperative to enable humankind to continue to exist into the future on the Earth. However, the global environment is already changing rapidly, and accompanying this is a strong danger of new health problems emerging.

Environment protection is regarded as one of the key objectives to attain “human security” described in the human development report of United Nations Development Program (UNDP). The Japan Medical Association, therefore, promotes environmental health activities with the aim of resolving problems related to the health impacts caused by environmental factors such as pollution spreading globally.

The Japan Medical Association will work proactively to implement the following measures.

1. Promote healthcare activities that are environment-friendly

- Contribute to greenhouse gas reduction by as energy saving measures in hospitals and clinics
- Promote appropriate management of chemical substances and proper disposal of infectious medical waste
- Construct an information network for environmental health in collaboration with local medical associations

2. Promote environmental health education

- Develop a system for providing medical association members with information on environmental health
- Enhance provision of environmental health-related information to school and industrial physicians
- Strengthen collaboration with environmental health-related organizations

3. Provide the general public with education on the importance of environmental health and support practicable environmental health activities

- Promote educational activities related to the health impacts of environmental issues
- Promote global warming countermeasures at medical association offices
- Promote environment-friendly lifestyles as a part of measures to prevent lifestyle-related disease

4. Lobby the government to create a safe and secure environment

- Urge the government to implement measures that support balance between comfortable health care environments and global warming countermeasures
- Urge the government to promote measures to prevent diseases caused by environmental factors
- Promote global efforts on environmental preservation