

Japan Pharmaceutical Association

The Japan Pharmaceutical Association (JPA) was established in 1893 and has a voluntary membership system. The number of the members totals approximately 100,000. JPA members are at the same time members of any of 47 prefectural pharmaceutical associations and consist of pharmacists engaged in every field of profession: community pharmacy(77.9 %), hospital/clinic(8.4 %), drug retailer(1.1 %), wholesalers(2.4 %), administration(1.6%), manufacturer/marketer(0.8 %), education and research(0.8 %) and others(7.0 %).

The JPA's principal activities include; (1)advancing pharmacy and pharmaceutical care; (2)contributing to providing healthcare through pharmaceutical care such as rational use of medicines; (3)providing instructions about public health; (4)increasing people's awareness about pharmaceutical sanitation; (5)contributing to regional health and ensuring medical safety; (6)securing and supplying pharmaceuticals to cope with disasters; (7)cooperating with and supporting prefectural pharmaceutical associations; (8)specific insurance business, such as pension benefits for members; (9)welfare business for members; and (10)non-life insurance agency.

In response to peoples' expectations, the JPA aims to ensure the developed system of the *Bungyo* (separation of dispensing and prescribing) [to implement GPP Guideline in Japan] and to bring about the healthcare system where pharmacy service is properly evaluated, as well as to ensure safety and security in use of medicines and to enhance competence of pharmacists.