# Supports for Families of Children with Developmental Disorders

Development of Parent Mentor System and Parent Training in Japan

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At a workshop hosted by Vietnam Autism Network 2017

# The support law for people with developmental disorders (2005)

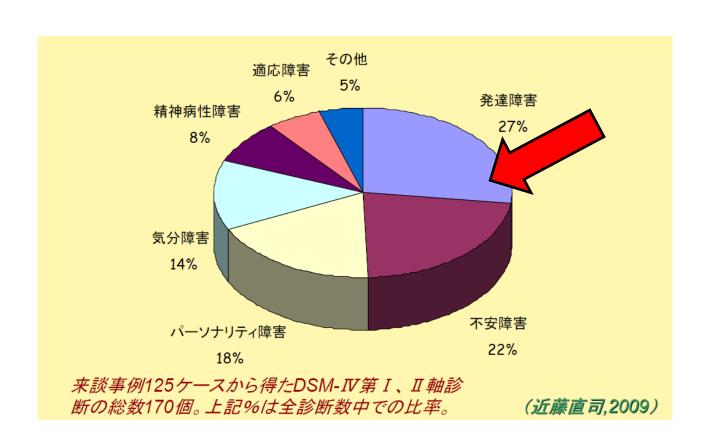
- Definition of Developmental Disorders in Japan
  - Brain dysfunction that is generally expressed during earlier age such as pervasive developmental disorder(autism, etc.,) learning disability, attention deficit hyperactivity disorder, etc
- Important Points
  - Early Screening and Support
  - Educational Support in School
  - Family Support
  - Vocational Support
  - Establishment of Center for Developmental Disabilities at all 47 prefectures and designated cities

### Other Issues about Developmental Disabilities in JAPAN

- Abuse
- Domestic violence
- School refusal (non-attendance)
- Social withdrawal
- Addiction of internet and on-line game

 It is indicated that those factors are related to developmental disabilities.

### Social Withdrawal (Kondo, 2009)



### Prevention

- Early Screening and Diagnosis System
- Early Training System
- Early Family Support System
  - Peer Counseling of Parent Mentor
  - Parent Training
- The family support from an early stage is necessary for prevention

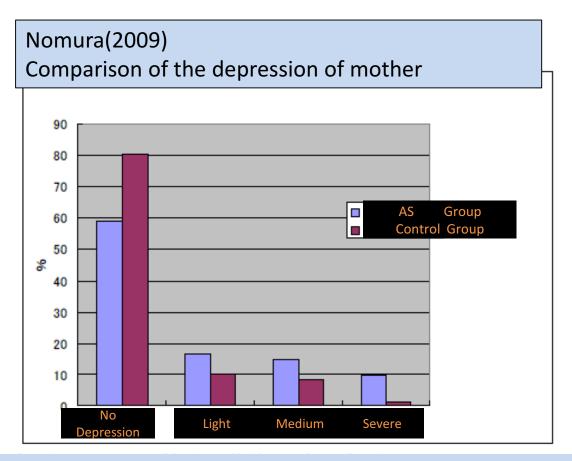
## **Parent Mentor System**

### What 's the Parent Mentor?

PM can consult and help for young parents!



## 10% of mothers having a child with ASD have severe depression



The depression (score of BDI) of mothers having a child with ASD is higher than the control group.

## What is the opportunity of the acceptance for mother of the child with ASD?(Ishimoto & Ohi 2008)

| Factors                            | Score of Means |
|------------------------------------|----------------|
| Advice from doctor                 | 2.582          |
| Information from internet or books | 2.746          |
| Family support                     | 3.612          |
| Support of peers                   | 3.612          |
| Love of child                      | 3.761          |
| Child raising                      | 3.672          |

Encounter with the friend of a parent having the child with ASD

## Why is PM necessary?

- In Japan, the number of children with developmental disabilities is estimated to be 6.5% (2012).
- Parents having a child with developmental disabilities have many difficulties with child care and have a high risk of depression.
- Parents have difficulties understanding and accepting a child's diagnosis.
- Experienced parents with children who have developmental disabilities can support young parents.

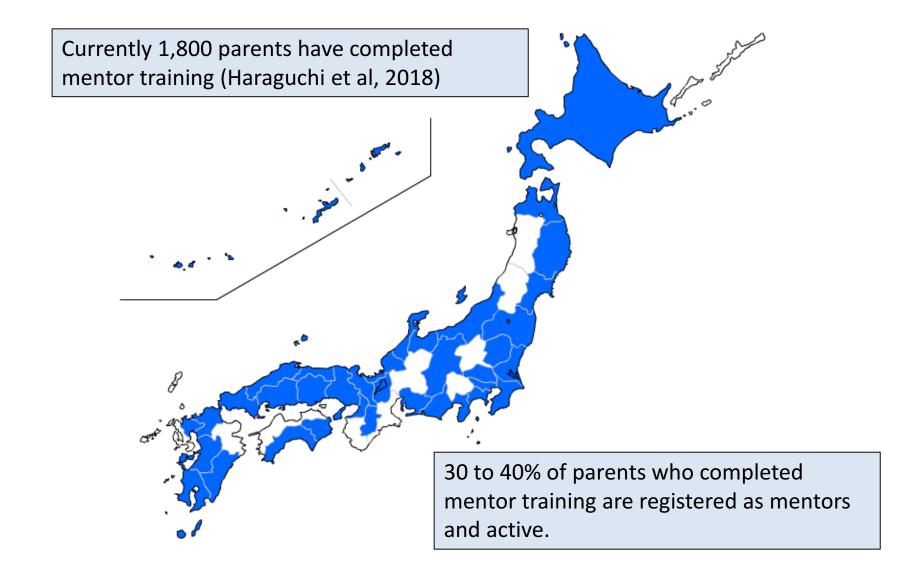
### History of PM in JAPAN



- 2005
- We were supported by the nippon-foundation, began the training workshop for the PM.

- 2010
- Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare established PM support system for developmental disabilities as the important policy

## Extended of the PM activity



### The Role of Parent Mentors

- 1. Empathize and guide young parents as someone with similar experiences.
- 2. Provide useful information about the local resources for developmental disabilities.
- 3. Introduce support agencies.

#### Characteristics of the Parent Mentor

1. Highly Empathetic

2. Having useful supportive information from an experienced parent's perspective

But these characteristics have several risks

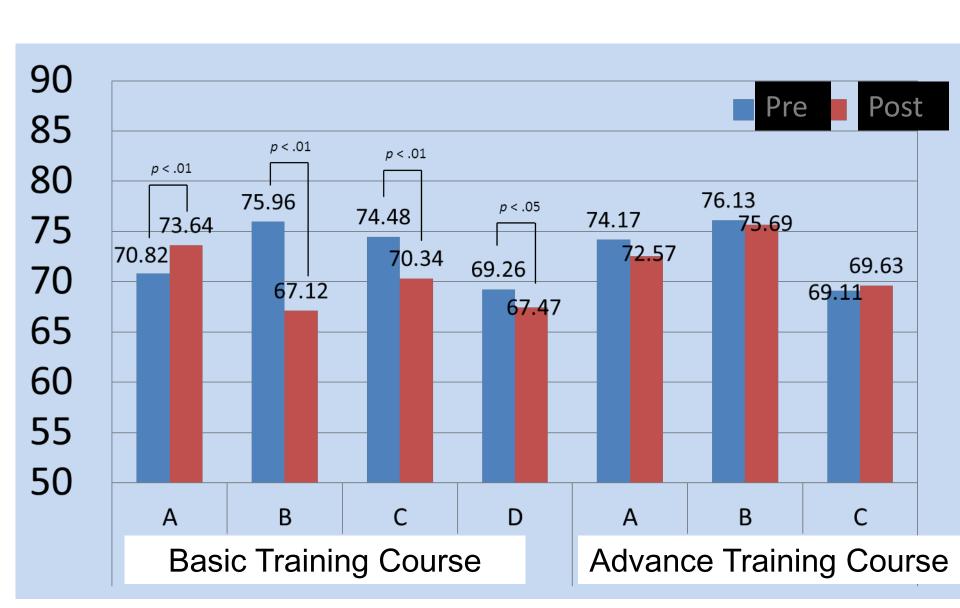
### **Training Program of PM**

- Basic Training Course
  - 2 day Workshop
- Advance Training Course
  - 2 day Workshop
- Follow-up Training Course
  - 1 day per year



### The effects of mentor training

Takezawa, Yoshikawa & Inoue 2012



### The General Activities of a PM

The family support needs are different in each prefectures

- Making support book workshop
- Peer counseling
- Telephone counseling
- Enlightening activities about development disabilities
- Parent training (sub staff)

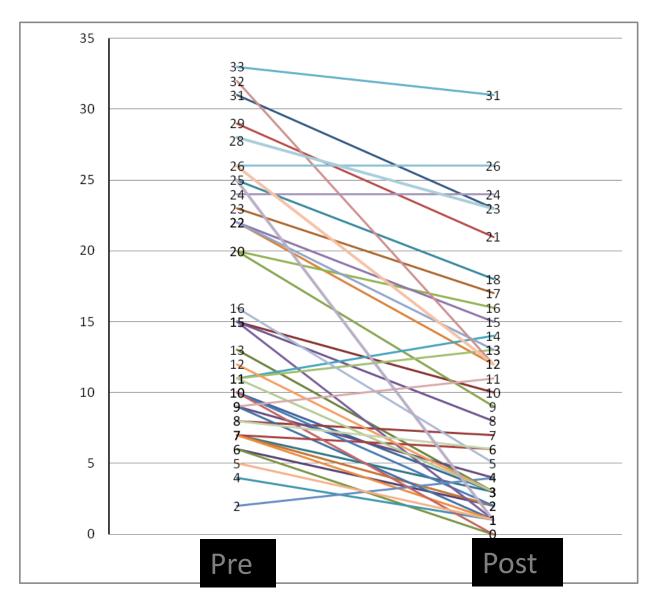
### Peer counseling



Before the children enter school, young parents must decide their schools. In this period, parents' stress is the most high.

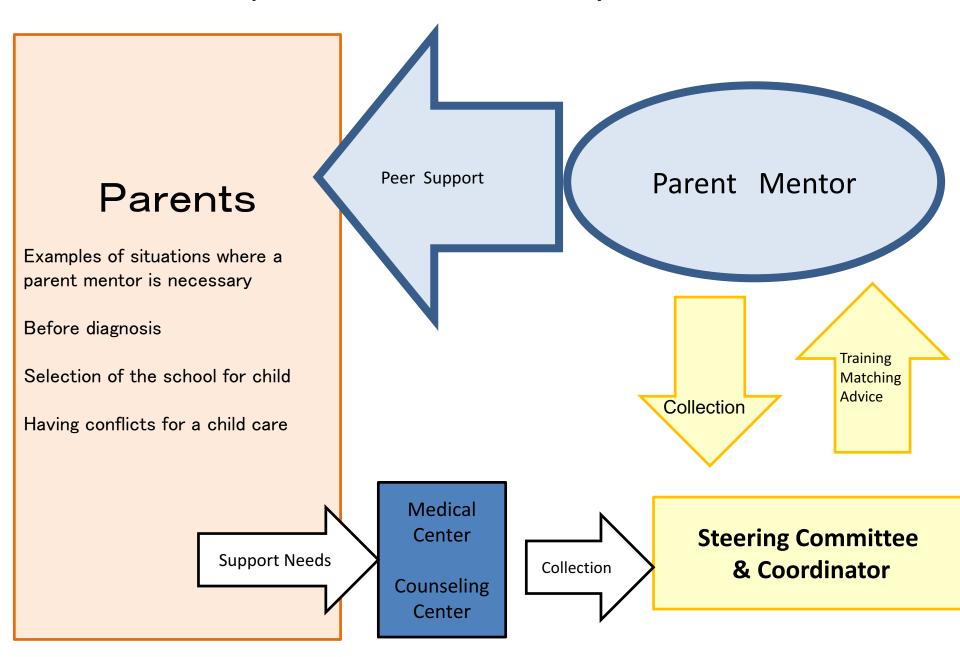
PMs can speak their experiences.

#### The Effect of Parent Training (Mentor Joined as Staff)



The change in depression scores (n=42)

#### Cooperation and Activity of PM







We are providing training programs and consultation about PM activities to local governments and support organizations in Japan.

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# Parent Training for Developmental Disabilities

# Parent Training for Developmental Disabilities

- Parent training devolved in the United States since the 1960s(Patterson & Gullion, 1968)
- Many skills were targeted
  - Problem behavior, Self care skills, Academic skills, Play skils,
     Communication skills etc
- In Japan as well, parent training programs for children with developmental disabilities, such as the Hizen, Seiken, Nara, and Tottori University styles, have been developed since the 1990s.
- For the past few years, parent training has been conducted in various places such as local governments, medical institutions, and developmental support organizations in connection with the Ministry of Health, Labor and Welfare's "Developmental Disability Support System Development Project".

## Parent Training for Developmental Disabilities

- It is carried out by 335/1741 local governments nationwide(JDDnet, 2019).
- Program contents
  - Group of 5 to 8 people
  - 5-8 consecutive courses
  - Learn how to interact with children with developmental disabilities through lectures, role play, and homework.

## Effect of Parent Training for Developmental Disabilities

#### Children

- Reduction of problem behavior
- Acquiring adaptive behavior and communication skills

#### Parents

Reduction of stress and depression

## Effectiveness of behavioral group parent training (GPT) for parents of children with ASD Inoue & Haraguchi (2011)

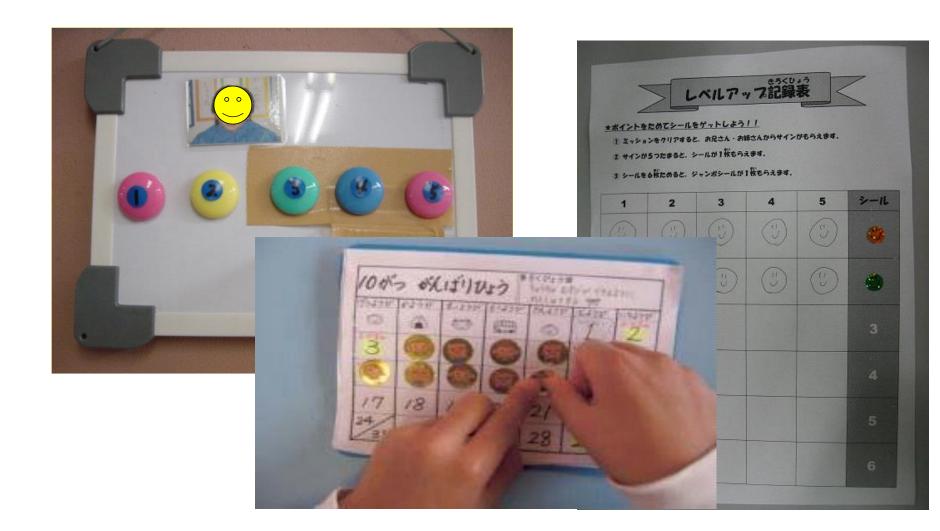
#### Training components

- 1. Lecture on behavior modification
- 2. Group activity and discussion
- 3. Home work

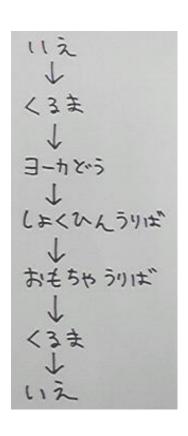
One Session → 2 hours Total 9 sessions



## Method of Reinforcement Introduction of Token System



# Method of Control of Antecedents Scheduling







### **Group Activity & Discussion**

#### #2 "How to Praise"

This group activity aims to promote parents' praising of the child.

The sheet on the right shows two scenes with mother calling out "Dinner's ready." in each.

Scene 1: The boy replies, "OK." and comes without putting away his toys.

Scene 2: The boy doesn't reply but begins putting away his toys.

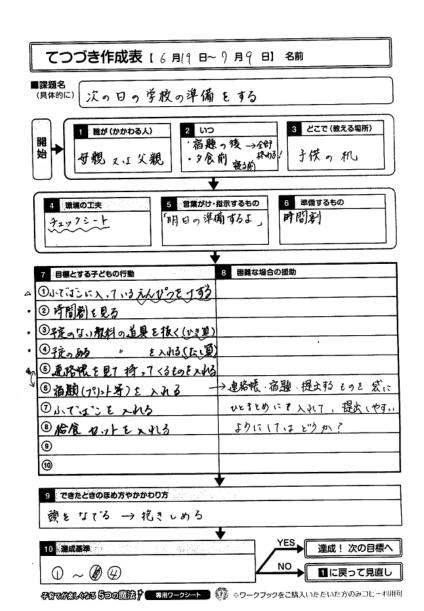
The parents are asked to notice the good behavior in each and practice giving positive words.



## **Group Activity & Discussion**

The "Home Work Program" targets specific parenting needs and is created with the advice of staff.

|                                 |                 | <b>Bがか</b> フ<br>(た@ | #315                |        | 次の日う朝ま      |     |
|---------------------------------|-----------------|---------------------|---------------------|--------|-------------|-----|
|                                 | <b>ル</b> 5<br>日 | %<br>月              | シ <sub>フ</sub><br>火 | %<br>水 | 7/9         | ALT |
| 1. えんぴつをけずる                     | 0               | Δ                   | $\triangle$         | ◁      | 7           |     |
| 2. じかんわりをじゅんびする。                | 0               | 0                   | 0                   | 0      | Δ           |     |
| 3. ひきざん する。                     | 0               | 0                   | 0                   | 0      | Δ           |     |
| 4. たしざん する。                     | 0               | 0                   | 0                   | (6)    | Δ           |     |
| 5. れんらくちょうを見て、持ってくるものを入れる。      | _               | Δ                   | (O)                 | (9)    | Δ           |     |
| 復必赖気 に<br>6. れんらくちょう・しゅくだいを入れる。 | Δ               | 0                   | 0                   | (j)    | $\triangle$ |     |
| 7. ふでばこを入れる。                    | 0               | 0                   | 0                   | (0)    |             |     |
| 8. 給食セットを入れる。                   | HARKAN          | Δ                   | が見さんかり              | (o)    | Δ           |     |
|                                 | 1)6130          |                     | 17430               |        |             | -   |



|         | MR                                     | Non-MR                         |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|---------|--|--------------------------------|--|--|--|--|--|--|
|         | $\operatorname{Group} A$               | Group B                        |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|         | Participants N=66 (M 7, F 59)          | Participants N=38 (M 4, F 34)  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|         | age range, 28-53 years                 | age range, 32-49 years         |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|         | mean age, 37.4 years                   | mean age, 38 years             |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| PDD     |  |                                |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|         | Children N=65 (M 58, F 7)              | Children N=39 (M 37, F 2)      |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|         | age range, 25-199 months               | age range, 47-172 months       |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|         | mean age, 82.7 months                  | mean age, 95.6 months          |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|         | Group C                                | Group D                        |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|         | Participants N=18 (M 1, F 17)          | Participants N=9 (F 9)         |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|         | age range, 28-47 years                 | age range, 35-54 years         |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Non-    | mean age, 38.5 years                   | mean age, 40.6 years           |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| PDD     |  |                                |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 122     | Children N=17 (M 12, F 5)              | Children N=9 (M 9)             |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|         | age range, 6-204 months                | age range, 93-167 months       |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|         | mean age, 86.4 months                  | mean age, 113.6 months         |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| *Othora | Participants N-10 (M 5 F 5); aga ranga | 21-59 years' mean age 40 years |  |  |  |  |  |  |

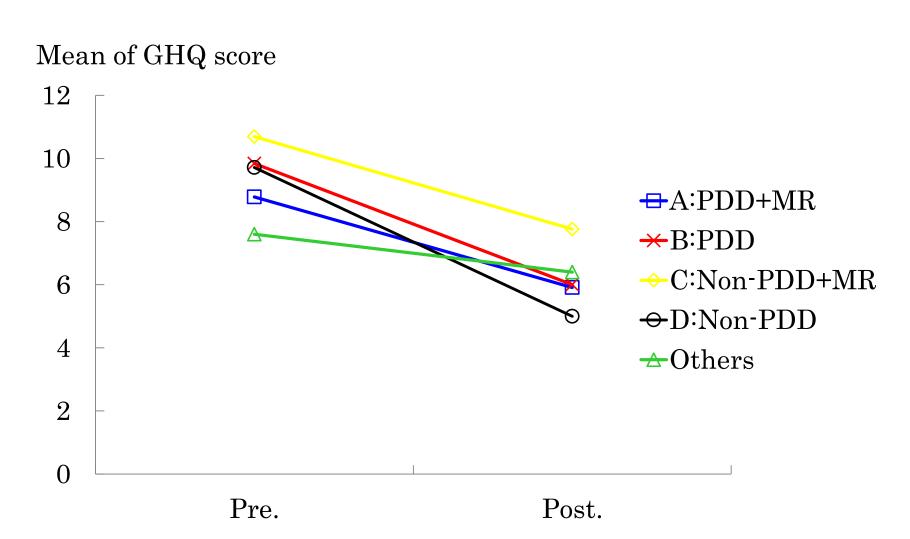
<sup>\*</sup>Others Participants N=10 (M 5, F 5); age range, 31-52 years; mean age, 40 years Children N=8 (M 7, F 1); age range, 3-177 months; mean age, 73.6 months

# Tasks and Achievement Among the Groups

|                    | Group A      |                        |           | Group B      |                        | Group C   |              | Group D                |           |              | Others                 |           |              |                 |           |
|--------------------|--------------|------------------------|-----------|--------------|------------------------|-----------|--------------|------------------------|-----------|--------------|------------------------|-----------|--------------|-----------------|-----------|
|                    | (N=61)       |                        |           | (N=35)       |                        |           | (N=16)       |                        |           | (N=9)        |                        |           | (N=4)        |                 |           |
| Skills             | Tasks<br>(N) | Achieve<br>ment<br>(N) | Ratio (%) | Tasks<br>(N) | Achievement (N) | Ratio (%) |
| Self-care          | 83           | 32                     | 38.6      | 33           | 18                     | 54.5      | 20           | 10                     | 50.0      | 7            | 1                      | 14.3      | 5            | 3               | 60.0      |
| Domestic           | 68           | 32                     | 47.1      | 32           | 24                     | 75.0      | 8            | 5                      | 62.5      | 6            | 5                      | 83.3      | 0            | 0               | _         |
| Academic           | 9            | 4                      | 44.4      | 25           | 17                     | 68.0      | 6            | 6                      | 100       | 9            | 7                      | 77.8      | 1            | 1               | 100       |
| Play               | 5            | 1                      | 20.0      | 2            | 1                      | 50.0      | 0            | 0                      | _         | 1            | 1                      | 100       | 1            | 0               | 0         |
| Communi-<br>cation | 10           | 6                      | 60.0      | 1            | 0                      | 0         | 2            | 0                      | 0         | 0            | 0                      | _         | 0            | 0               | _         |
| Others             | 4            | 3                      | 75.0      | 3            | 2                      | 66.7      | 0            | 0                      | _         | 1            | 1                      | 100       | 0            | 0               | _         |
| Total              | 179          | 78                     | 43.6      | 96           | 62                     | 64.6      | 36           | 21                     | 58.3      | 24           | 15                     | 62.5      | 7            | 4               | 57.1      |

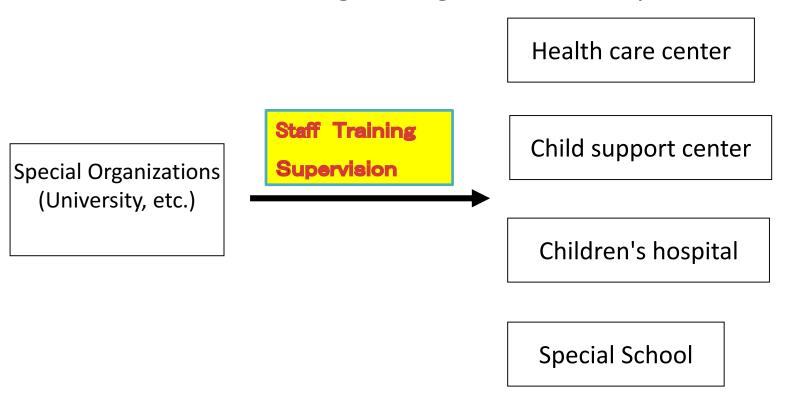
For groups A and C, comprising children with mental retardation, parental request for self-care tasks was high. Achievement rate for these two groups was relatively low due the program's time frame.

## General Health Questionnaire (GHQ30 Japanese version)



### Future Direction of PT in Japan

We hope to extend the reach of the PT program by making it available through a larger number of public entities.



I hope that PM & PT develops as an effective family support system in ASEAN.

#### **THANK YOU**