Social participation and contribution of older people in Japan

Katsunori KONDO, M. D., Ph. D.
Center for Preventive Medical Sciences,
Chiba University





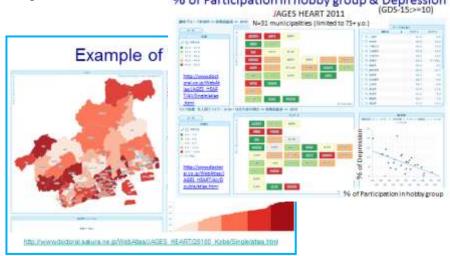


日本老年学的評価研究

Japan Gerontological Evaluation Study

Purposes/Contents

- (1) To report the lessons learned from the Japanese experience of Prevention Policy for Active Aging
 - Limitations of high-risk strategies
- (2) To demonstrate another strategy "community approach" which the Japanese
 - government has decided to introduce



Limitations of High-risk Strategies



It is difficult to screen frail older people in health check-up.

Rate of screened frail people

- expected: 5% of older people
- actual: 0.14~0.8%

Lesson

- High-risk strategies by screening during health check-up seem to be ineffective
- Older people from lower socioeconomic backgrounds at high risk tend to be absent from health examinations
- Social factors are determinants of the effectiveness of prevention policies for active aging
- We need other strategies focusing on social environment of communities.



Japan Gerontological Evaluation Study (JAGES)

One of the few population-based gerontological surveys in Japan

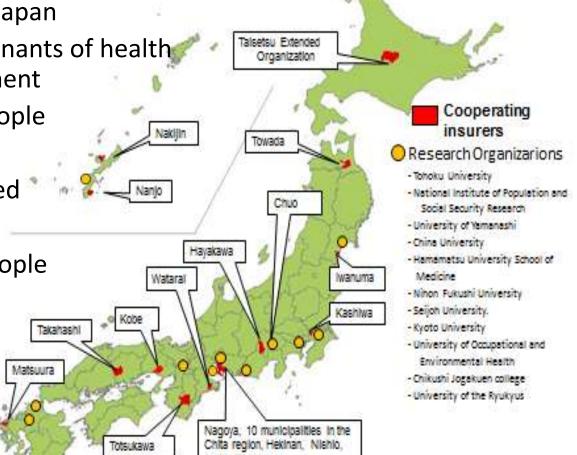
 Focused on social determinants of health (SDH) and social environment

 In 2010, 112,123 older people across 31 municipalities in 12 prefectures responded (response rate: 66.3%)

In 2013, 138,000 older people

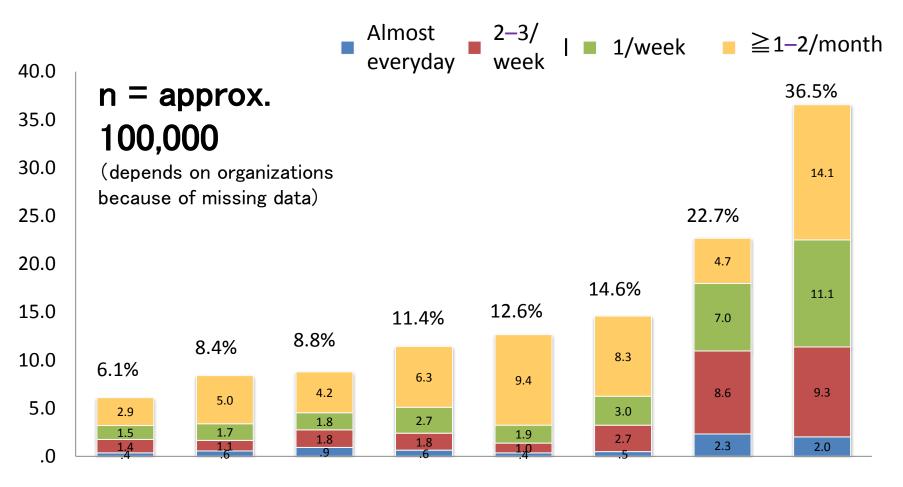
responded. (RR: 70.3%)

 Funded by the Ministry of Health, Labor and Welfare (MHLW)



% of participation ($\geq 1/\text{month}$)

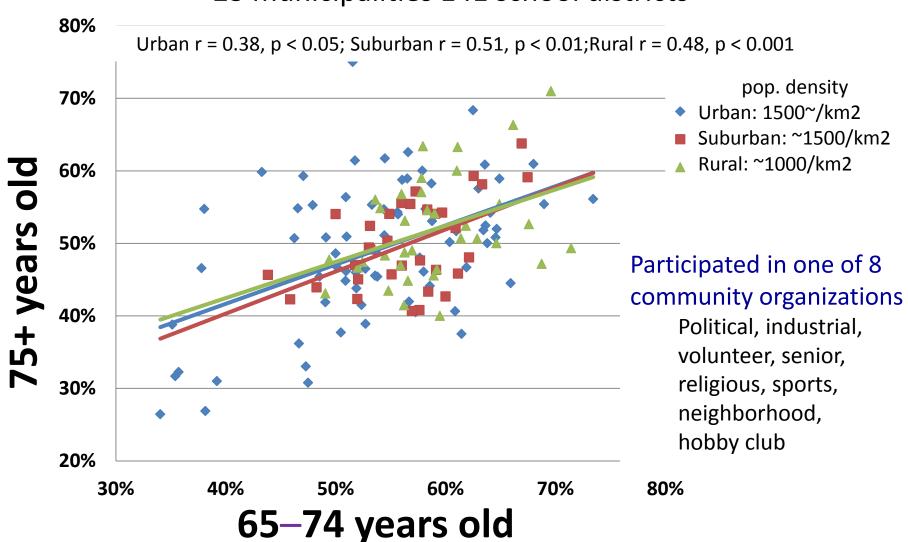
JAGES 2010/11, 31 municipalities



Political Religious Industrial Volunteer Neighbors Senior Sports Hobby

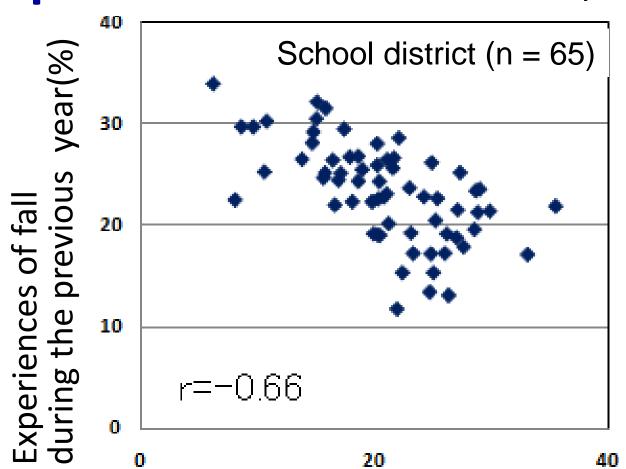
Rate of Participation in community group by age group JAGES2010-11

23 municipalities 141 school districts



Rate of falling down & participation in

sports clubs limited to 65–74 y. o. N = 29,072



Rate of falling down: % of people who fell down during the previous year =11.8-33.9%

Participation in sports clubs seems to be helpful for preventing falls

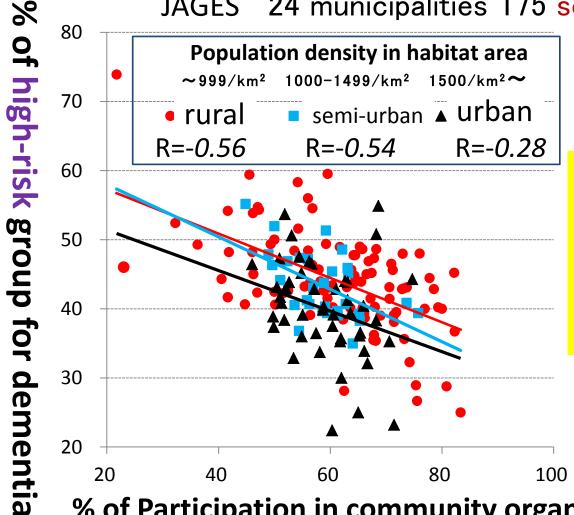
Participation in sports clubs

A multi-variable analysis showed a significant relationship



Dementia risk and Participation in community organization

JAGES 24 municipalities 175 school districts



Older \geq =75y.o.

n=29,876

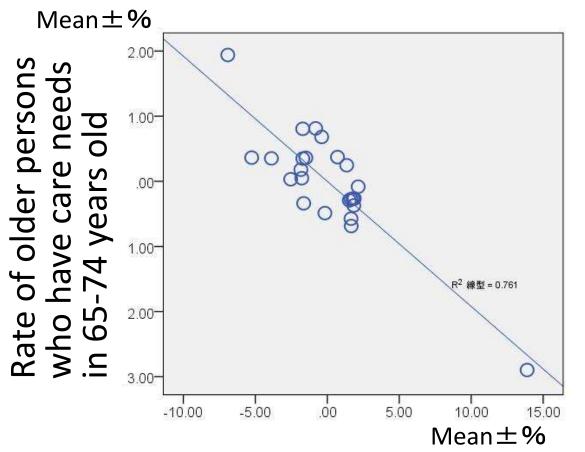
Districts with higher rate of participation tend to show lower prevalence of high risk group for dementia

8 community organizations (political, industrial, volunteer, senior, religious, sports, hobby, 100 neighborhood)

% of Participation in community organization

A multi-variable analysis showed a significant relationship

Rate of functional declined & participation in sports clubs 伊藤, 近藤, 2013



JAGES 2010 (24 municipalities)

After adjustment the following rate:

- 1 Having job,
- 2 Living alone,
- 3 Educational Attainment (<9 years),</p>
- 4 Taxable income

- \bigcirc 3: rate in 65-74 y.o.
- 4 rate of all older persons

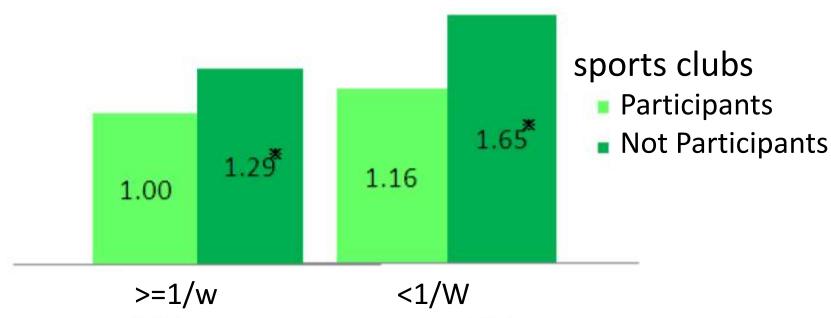
Rate of Participation in Sports Clubs (>1/month)

Participation in sports clubs prevent functional decline

Kanamori 2013

•Subject: 11,581 older persons (4 years followed up from 2003)

*(は、p<.05



Frequency of sports

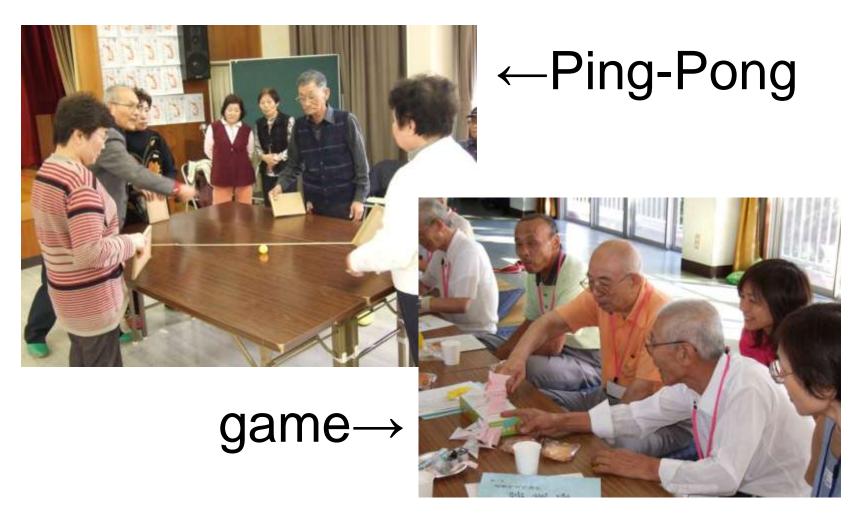
Adjusting age, sex, income, Educational attainment, marital status, working, health status depression, smoking, drinking

An intervention trial promoting social participation among older people

Taketoyo project & JAGES project

Katsunori KONDO, Hiroshi HIRAI, Tokunori TAKEDA

Enjoyable Social Programs



Just chatting is very popular

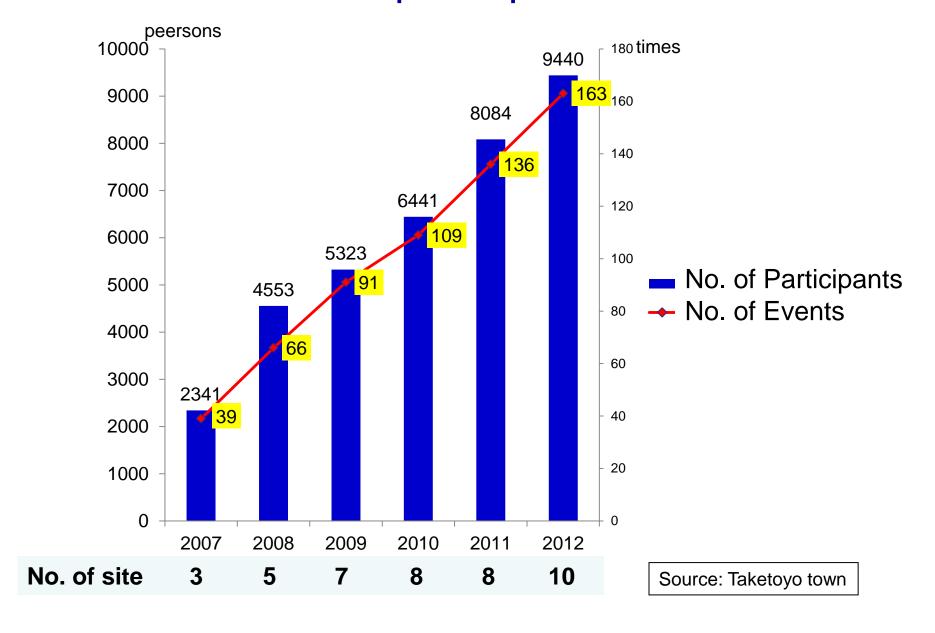
Various programs

Making short poem instructed by volunteers



Physical exercise instructed by volunteers

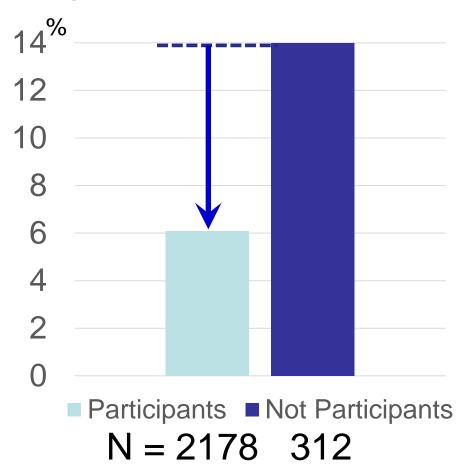
Trend in number of participants & events



Participants keep functions

Taketoyo project, 2014

% of persons function declined



Comparison between Participants and Not-participants in Taketoyo project

8% point reduction during 5 years followed up

Conclusions

- High-risk strategies by screening during health check-up seem to be ineffective.
- Another strategy focusing on social participation has been pursued.
- Communities with higher participation rate tend to show better health among older people.
- As the reduction of the rate of functional decline were observed in an intervention study, to promote social participation seem to be effective.