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### March 4, 2023

**International Symposium on the Fukushima Health Management Survey** 

# Health literacy as a driving force of community resilience in crisis



### **GOTO** Aya

Center for Integrated Science and Humanities & Office of Pregnancy and Birth Survey, Radiation Medical Science Center for the Fukushima Health Management Survey, Fukushima Medical University

Based on presentations at IAEA meetings in 2022, ICRP 2021+1, and Science Council of Japan's International Conference

# Health literacy initiative from Fukushima

# **Health literacy**

Individual and organizational capacity

# **Professional capacity building**

Health literacy workshop for health professionals

# **Community capacity building**

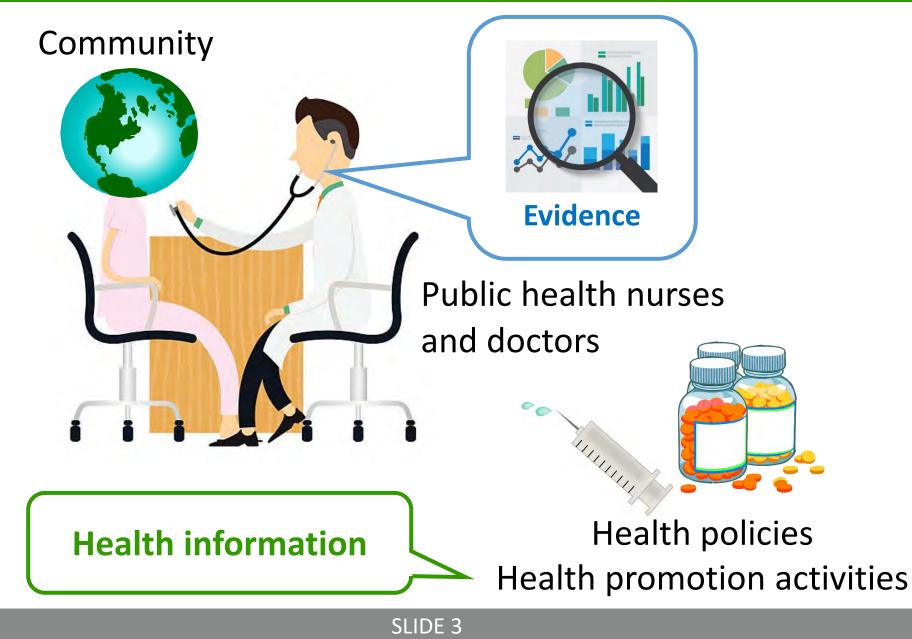
"Creative Health" project for school children

# New crisis

Developing health information with school teachers



# **Public health doctors and nurses in Japan**



# Mothers' concern

2012 <b>Fukushima City</b> Child health check data	% of mothers with depressive symptoms At 18 months (n=274)
Concerned about differences in risk perception about radiation among family members	
No	8%
Yes	20%

p=0.02 (Chi-square test)
Two-item depression screen was used.

\*\*

Journal of Communication in Healthcare 2014; 7: 106-116.

Public health nurses attending workshops to learn about health effects of radiation



They recognized their...

- Role as a community information channel
- Need for communication skills development

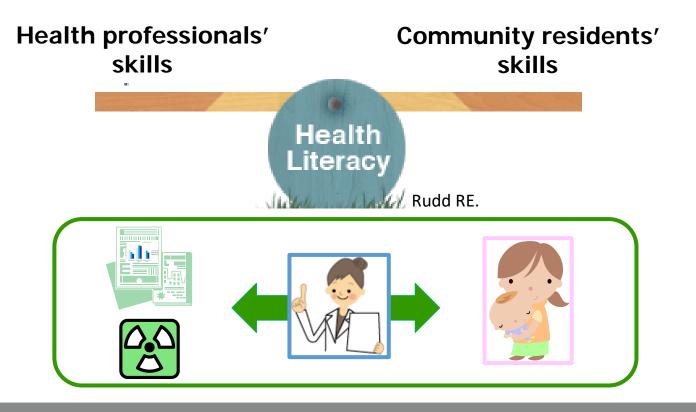
"We must say what we think about what we have learned; not just what the government says."

BMC Health Services Research. 2014; 14: 129.

# **Health literacy**

"The cognitive and social skills which determine the motivation and ability of individuals to gain access to understand and use information in ways which promote and maintain good health"

WHO, 1998





### **Organizational Health Literacy**

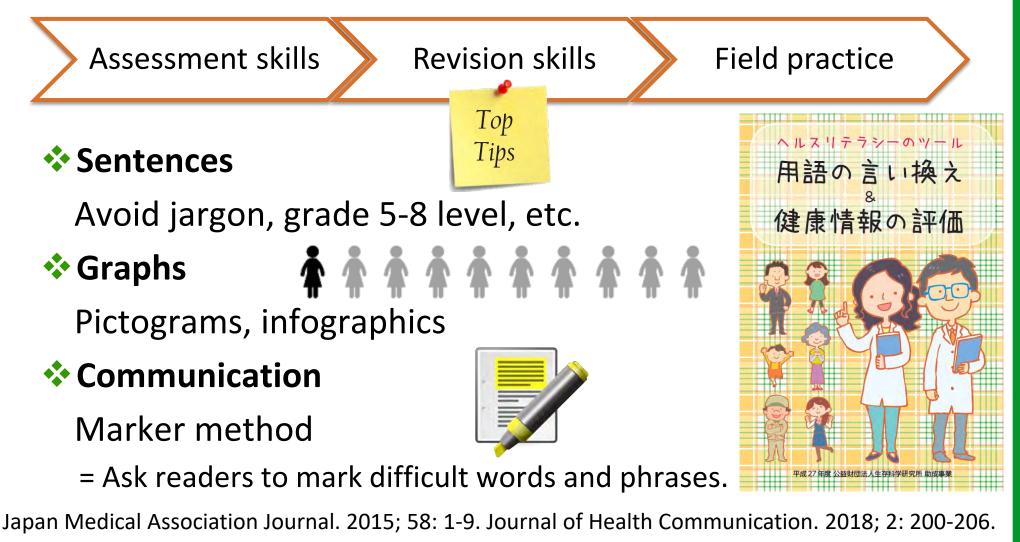
"Organizational health literacy is the degree to which organizations equitably enable individuals to find, understand, and use information and services to inform health-related decisions and actions for themselves and others." (Healthy People 2030)





# Health literacy training

Rudd RE. Assessing health materials: Eliminating barriers – increasing access. 2010. http://www.hsph.harvard.edu/healthliteracy/



### **Training evaluation: Attendance and application**

- From 2011 to 2019, about 25% of public health nurses in Fukushima had been trained.
- Nearly half of the participants had reported using their new skills in practice at the one-year follow-up.

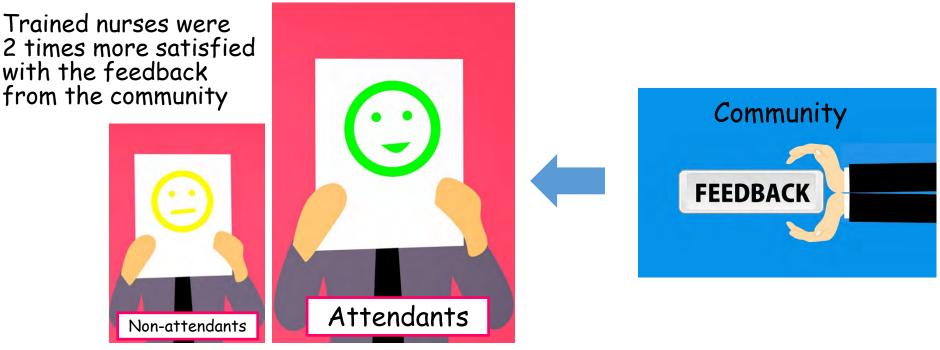
"When I gave a talk about exercise and practiced at an elderly club, I used topic sentences and SAM (assessment tool) to make a leaflet. I was able to clearly communicate my points and facilitate [the session] smoothly."



Japan Medical Association Journal. 2015; 58: 1-9. Journal of Seizon and Life Sciences. 2016; 27: 191-207. International Journal of Disaster Risk Reduction. 2022; 67: 102694.

# **Training evaluation: Skills improvement**

- Nurses showed more positive attitudes toward feedback from the community residents.
- Their self-evaluation of risk communication competencies improved.



Health Communication. 2020; 35: 1274-1282. International Journal of Disaster Risk Reduction. 2022; 67: 102694.

# Training evaluation: Audience's evaluation

 Older residents and those not seeing doctors regularly were more likely to notice improvements in health information from the trained nurses.

Annals of ICRP. 2021; 50: 167-173.

Health literacy capacity building contributes to...
1. Promoting communication between professionals and the public
2. Preventing inequity in access to health information

# New target groups

- Professionals: Nutritionists, school administrators, disaster prevention officers, radiation consultants, court investigators, etc.
- Students: Medical and nursing schools

**Science Laboratory for medical students at FMU** 

Read assigned articles about health literacy

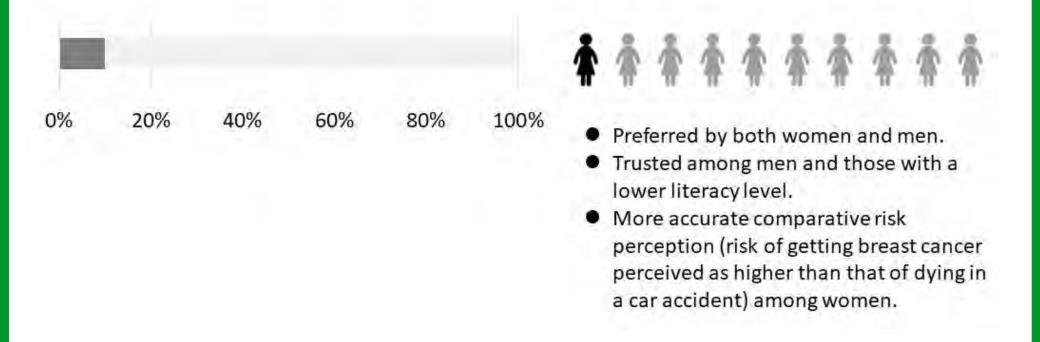
Conduct a survey among their peers about the graphic presentation of data and risk perception

Analyze data and interpret results

Present to other students, and write a report

Fukushima Medical Journal. 2019; 69: 77-83.

Students compared a graph and a pictogram presenting the lifetime probability of breast cancer incidence for a 50-year-old woman.



International Journal of Environmental Research and Public Health. 2022; 19: 4690.

### Professionals from overseas: International students, JICA trainees, etc.



# Online health literacy training for public health nurses outside Fukushima



- Organized by the prefectural health & welfare office
- December 2021
- 42 participants (public health nurses, administrators, etc.)
- > 80% answered (in a post-participation questionnaire) that learned skills could be applied immediately.
- Participants also wrote that:

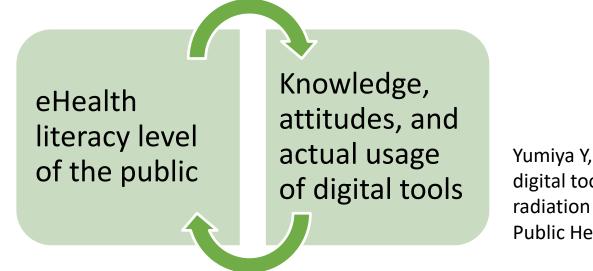
They could apply their learned skills to support COVID-19 patients. They want to share their learned skills with colleagues. They renewed their commitment to taking account of residents' perspectives.

### **eHealth Literacy**



"The ability to seek, find, understand, and appraise health information from electronic sources and apply the knowledge gained to addressing or solving a health problem."

Norman, C.D.; Skinner, H.A. eHealth literacy. J Med Internet Res. 2006; 8: e9.



Yumiya Y, et al. User-guided design of a digital tool for health promotion and radiation protection. Int J Environ Res Public Health 2021; 18: 12007.



# **Children at elementary schools**



J Glob Health Sci. 2020 Jun;2(1):e6. English. Published online May 14, 2020. https://doi.org/10.35500/jghs.2020.2.e6

© 2020 Korean Society of Global Health.

### Communicating health information with the public: lessons learned post disaster

Aya Goto 📵 🖾

To promote health literacy Point 1: Use plain language to explain complex concepts Point 2: Be attentive to numeracy complexity Point 3: Collaborate with the intended audience



The project team is eager to learn about your experience and ideas about health. During the project you will take part in up to three workshops:



International Journal of Environmental Research and Public Health. 2022; 19: 3417.

### **Activity** aims

Facilitate students' scientific and creative thinking, working in teams, expressing their opinions, and presenting.

### **Project evaluation**

At two model schools in Fukushima...

- Children appreciated presenting, measuring, learning connections between nutrition and health, and working collaboratively with peers.
- They perceived their health and the foods in their community more positively after participating.

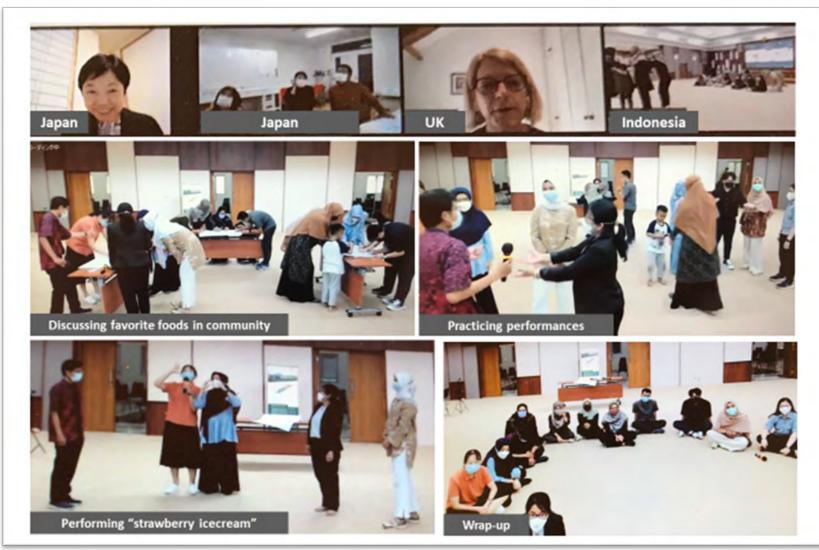




International Journal of Environmental Research and Public Health. 2022; 19: 3417.

### **Creative health online training for facilitators** Will be expanded to Indonesia, Cambodia, and Rwanda.





Igaku no Ayumi. 2022; 282: 1159-1162.

# **Activities in Indonesia**





Introduction



Warm Ups













Main Activity 1

Drawing and presenting favourite foods

#### 5 minutes Sharing about today's event. OnA session. Closing with "chickens"

Review

& Closing

by 122 students from

marang





Main Activity 2

35 minutes



### **Students**

"The activities were fun. We learned about drama and how to make food." **Parents** "My kid was very happy when telling me about this activity in school." **Teachers** *"Learn to accept various"* opinions that students will convey." "Children can know their ability."

Muniroh M, et al. The 36<sup>th</sup> Regional Conference of Japan Association of International Health. 2022.

### **Developing information with school teachers**



### みんなでコロナをやっつけろ!





つばを

マスクする

とばさない

せき・くしゃみは

ひまだよね

1.毎日の時間割を作っ

2. 友達と電話で話そう

3. 動画やラインは時間

4. いろいろやってみよ

ご飯、宿見、遊び、

決めると、道ぶ時間

(大人に言ってからな

お絵かき、カードゲ

パズル、音楽、料理 5. 体を動かすと気持ち

公園で走ったり、な

「盆泉車駅留主による休祝・待算

「新型コロナウイルスにつ

ttp://www.cokkoushinnishilip

委委 新国大学数世学部

学校の先生へ

日本心理学会

ウイルスを ながす

手を洗う

心配だよね

この新しい病気はわからないことだらけ。 みんな不安です。 でも「あの人セキしてるからコロナ?」、 「あそこでコロナでたみたい」とか、 うわさを作らないように。 変なうわさを気にしないように、

ウイルスを

つけない

BEL13

心配つくらないで、みんなでやっつけよう!

参考)日本赤十字社「新型コロナウィルスのなつの知ろう!」

#### ご家族へ

ぜひお子さんと一緒に読んでみてください。 「みんなでコロナウイルスをやっつけろ!」 作戦についてわかります。

藤田医科大学感染症科 「コロナウイルスってなんだろう?」 http://www.fujila-hu.oc.jp/-microb/

> 編集、福島県立送科大学・都山文子大学・歴史豊大学合同クリエイテ And the second 助点: 科学研究資田県共同研究理化(8) 19K×2060 ■絶元 福島県立原料大学総合科学教育研究センター 後藤あり book

Adventures at Home, Learning about Life

#### Adventures at Home, Learning about Life



As a student, Isaac Newton had to stay at home during the Great Plague of London (1665-1666). He read a lot, tried to understand how things worked, did experiments, and wrote a lot during this time. You can, too!

#### Let's eat!

1. What household activities were related to your latest meal? 2. What cooking equipment was used to prepare your meal?

Draw a picture with your most recent meal in the middle, surrounded by the people and things that made your meal possible.

Think about: Where was the food grown and processed? Where and how did your family get the food? Who prepared the meal, and how?

3. What else besides rice can be cooked in a rice cooker? (With permission, experiment by adding, for example, pieces of carrot, pumpkin, potato, uncooked beans, etc.)

#### Let's study!

1. Where do you like to study? Is it comfortable? Why or why not? 2. How has studying changed because of coronavirus? 3. What do you like and dislike about how studying has changed?

Write a letter to your school or Board of Education with your ideas about what they can do to better support children when they are working at home.

Creative Health Team Fulsushima Medical University - Konyama Women's University - Kagoshima University - Lancaster Univ (Kenneth E Nollet, Alaon Lloyd Williams, Saturki Katsum) JSPS KAKENHI JP15(KIDED)

Creative Health. https://aya-goto.squarespace.com/creative-health

### **Homework examples**

Thinking ways to measure respiratory volume



### Thinking people involved in preparing foods



### **Comparing a similar case in a different country**

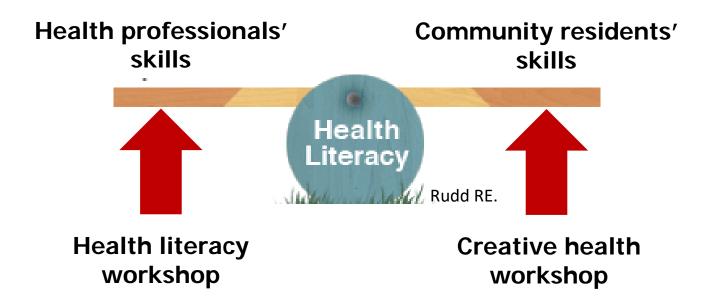




- Focus on culturallyadapted and visuallyappealing materials
   Deliver
  - communication products quickly
- Use existing relationships of collaboration and trust

Benski C, Goto A, Reich MR. Frontiers in Communication. 2020; 5: 603656.

# SUMMARY "BUILD BACK BETTER"



Our health literacy initiatives span two arcs of health literacy, crossing borders, and prepare us to face a new crisis using existing trust relationships and digital tools.

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