PMAC PRINCE MAHIDOL AWARD CONFERENCE 2026

PS 2.4

PEOPLE-CENTERED LONG-TERM CARE: PROMISING MULTISECTORAL AND COMMUNITY-BASED APPROACHES

| BACKGROUND

As countries across the globe experience demographic transitions marked by longer life expectancies and declining fertility rates, the demand for long-term care (LTC) is growing rapidly. Aging populations are reshaping social structures, family dynamics, and public health priorities. While many health systems remain focused on acute care, the need to strengthen long-term, people-centered, and community-rooted care models is more urgent than ever. The demographic shift also points to the necessity of multisectoral approaches that involve the public and private sectors to deliver sustainable and dignified care across the life course – all with the meaningful engagement of older adults in the planning and implementation of these services.

Communities often serve as the first line of support for older adults and those with chronic conditions. When empowered, community-based actors can play a transformative role in identifying care needs and ensuring continuity of care. At the same time, effective LTC requires governance structures that bridge sectors and scales—from national policy to local implementation. This session will explore how countries can build integrated, resilient LTC systems that are inclusive, community-led, and supported by strong multisectoral collaboration.

| OBJECTIVES

To share LTC strategies and models that link community engagement with national policy and service delivery frameworks.

- To identify enabling factors for effective multisectoral collaboration in LTC.
- To generate practical recommendations for strengthening LTC systems in the context of aging populations.

Speaker

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Prof. Katsuya Iijima is currently coordinator (Principal Investigator) of many projects in regard with prevention of sarcopenia-related frailty. He participated the Third Meeting of the Asia-Pacific Parliamentarian Forum on Global Health, chaired by the Japan Parliamentarian League for the World Health Organization (WHO) in Tokyo, Japan, in Aug 2017. He contributed to develop 'Tokyo declaration' via his presentation regarding a lot of Japan's experiences to address a 'super-ageing society' through multisectoral strategies, and recent efforts towards a more sustainable system as follows: 1) from institution to community, including social engagement, 2) from cure to care, including prevention of multi-faceted (physical, mental, and social) frailty, and 3) from government to multi-stakeholder participation, including for financing and governance.

Others;
- "National Assembly of Dynamic Engagement of All Citizens" (The Cabinet Office): Intellectual private-sector board member
- Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare; "Integral enforcement of healthcare management and the care prevention in older adults": Professional board member
- Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare; "Expert Committee on the safety and health of older workers for the 100-year life era": Professional board member
- Science Council of Japan; Board member in sectional meeting "Aging and Senescence"
- Science Council of Japan; Board member in sectional meeting "Active health in older adults"

Specialties and Interests
Interdisciplinary action research (problem-resolving action research) in Gerontology and Geriatric Medicine; details below 1) Prevention of sarcopenia-related frailty with well-being and Japanese concept 'IKIGAI', 2) Population approach and cultivation of older resident supporters in each local community, 3) Integrated community-based care system (including Patient-centered home medical care and Inter-professional working), 4) Integrated Implementation of Health Services and Care Prevention for the older adults in the new policies of the Ministry of Health, Labor and Welfare, 5) Medical-Engineering collaboration (GeronTechnology)