第2部 わが国の動物看護職の養成 Part 2: Cultivating Veterinary Nursing Professionals in Japan

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[Slide 1] Thank you for having me here today. I am Professor Ikemoto of Nippon Veterinary and Life Science University. Today, I would like to discuss a strategy for establishing professional veterinary nursing as a public qualification.

The Director of the Research Institute for Higher Education at Hiroshima University says that, to generate a new development "we should learn from the history of our predecessors and draw comparisons." So, following this concept, I would like to make a proposal for establishing a law for the veterinary nursing profession with comparative reference to the job roles of professional nurses and dental hygienists and, likewise, with comparative reference to the present and future projections for the veterinary nursing profession.

The basic needs for the veterinary nursing profession are: improvements to the unequal gender-based situation, an active promotion of women's participation in professions, a smooth development for veterinary medical care, and an improvement in the services provided to pet owners, etc. Due to poor recognition of the veterinary profession by the general public, there is a huge gap in the social status afforded to medical professionals and veterinary nurses. I consider it imperative to redress that disparity.

[Slide 2] Florence Nightingale was known for her short temper, but she was never angry with her nursing colleagues. She was angry at the doctors and administrators who lacked an understanding of nursing. I would like there to be another Nightingale to be angry on behalf of veterinary nursing professionals.

[Slide 3 and 4] The needs for a prompt establishment of the veterinary nursing system relate to: 1. guaranteeing

the quality of veterinary nurses, 2. securing and improving their status, 3. their contribution to society, and 4. their internationalization (to be more equitable with nurses in other countries).

[Slide 5] In Japanese medical circles where nurses treat people, there are 280,000 doctors at the top of the hierarchy with 2.8 million medical personnel working in 30 different medical fields. They care for 127 million citizens with medical budgets of 34 trillion yen. [Slide 6] On the other hand, in veterinary medical circles there are a total of 31,000 veterinary personnel including veterinarians, pharmacists (who are counted among them because they process the prescriptions issued by veterinarians), artificial insemination professionals, farriers, and veterinary nurses who care for 300 million animals and birds of various kinds.

Veterinary medical budgets are presumed to be about 400 billion yen and, in terms of manpower, hardware and expenses, show an obvious gap compared to the medical care that treats people.

[Slide 7 and 8] The disparity between medical nurse and veterinary nurse compensation is especially significant with the starting salary for medical nurses (those who treat people) being even higher than that of a firstgrade national government employee.

[Slide 9] The history of the medical nursing profession is quite old. In 1897, we had the first midwives in Japan and they contributed to delivering births in local areas. Since then the numbers of health nurses, midwives and nurses have increased according to the social needs. A nursing gualification based on regulations and government ordinances was used up until 1947, after which it was upgraded to the status of official law in 1948. Then in 2001, the term "kangofu" [which means female nurse] was changed to "kangoshi," [a nongender description] which resulted in remarkable improvements for the social status of nurses.

[Slide 10] Medical nurses and dental hygienists become qualified by passing a national exam and receive their license from the Health Ministry. Any disciplinary actions are conducted by the relevant committee section (health, midwife, nurse) within the Medical Ethics Council. However, the exams and registrations are conducted by a commissioned company. Vocational nurses are qualified by exam and receive their license from a prefectural government. Unfortunately, veterinary nurses can only obtain non-official certification and there is no plan to establish a more official license.

[Slide 11] A medical nurse's duties include looking after patients and women in postnatal care and supporting medical treatment. Dental hygienists work in the prevention of tooth and oral disease, supporting dental procedures and providing dental health guidance under instruction of a doctor or dentist. Veterinary nurses are mainly engaged in the care and support of treatments for sick animals. However, we have no clinical laboratory technicians and radiology technologists specialized in veterinary practice and therefore need a substitute for these services. Since treatments administered to farm animals are different to those for pet animals, more appropriate training is also needed. Doctors and veterinarians are entitled to hold exclusive rights to names and operations while midwives and nurses are entitled to hold exclusive rights to operations.

[Slide 12] In addition to the veterinarian support function provided by the nurses, this being a new occupation within the modern era, new occupational skills are needed such as medical facility management, general office administration, drugs maintenance, and veterinary medicine financial management.

[Slide 13] The mutual relationship between a veterinarian and his/her veterinary nurse would be that the veterinarian is focused on veterinary medical practice as a whole, relative to the scope of veterinary nursing, while the nurse is focused on veterinary

nursing as a whole, relative to veterinary medical practice.

[Slide 14] Let me give you an overview of the current education system in Japan. Nursing education started in 1885 at a hospital nurse training institution (two-year course) followed in 1887 by a nurse training school (one-year course) at Tokyo University. In the present day, it is reported that there are now 179 colleges for nursing, 707 three-year colleges and vocational colleges, 249 two-year colleges, 68 high schools for practical nursing and 1203 training institutions with a total of 182, 185 students, (according to Journal of Health and Welfare Statistics 2009).

[Slide 15] In 1946, a plan for developing and promoting a profession to support dental treatment was made under GHQ instruction and, in 1948 the Dental Hygienists Act was promulgated. By 1950, the first generation of dental hygienist graduates had completed training school. In 1983, the required number of years for dental hygienist training was set at two years and above, and the total number of students reported at 8,622 enrolled in 162 two-year colleges, vocational colleges and schools.

[Slide 16] As for the veterinary nursing profession (medical support professionals), in 1912, a one-year farrier course began at Nippon Veterinary School (the present-day Nippon Veterinary and Life Science University). In 1983 Yamazaki Nursing College and, in 1984, Nagoya Animal Health and Technician College were established, respectively. At present, there are reportedly 6 veterinary nursing colleges, 1 two-year college with 80 to 120 students in each school and 344 animal nursing and beauty schools (including approved and non-approved schools, (according to Gakkou Soran, 2006).

[Slide 17] However, it is difficult to stay competitive and survive in the school business so the exact number of schools is unknown. It can be said that this unclear situation is a consequence of the nursing license status being so 'abstract'. [Slide 18] In the report, the employment status of medical nurses (treating people) is considered to be around 1 million in work, out of an estimated 2 million license-holders. For dental hygienists the comparative figures are 76,986 (about 36%) out of 222,417 license-holders.

[Slide 19] As for veterinary nurses, the real number of certified nurses, (using figures of the Japan Small Animal Veterinary Association, Japanese Society of Animal Nursing, Japanese Animal Hospital Association, Japan Pet Care Association, All-Japan Animal Specialist Training Association, and Yamazaki Gakuen, etc.) is unknown. An estimate of the number in employment is between 18,000 to 20,000 individuals. But the real number is uncertain.

[Slide 20] Now, I would like to talk about the future of veterinary nurses. I consider the following to be the important and urgent issues that need to be addressed:

[Slide 21]

1) Securing nurse training institutions and standardizing the curricula.

2) Legalization of the license (to the level of a national license)

3) Acquiring social recognition, securing occupational field, and improving employment conditions.

4) Developing associations for the nursing profession, evaluating current status, planning improvements and an evaluation system for the nursing profession.

[Slide 22] The vocational schools that currently function as veterinary nurse training institutions need to continue being ready for the official certification exams that will come into practice within the not-so-distant future. The colleges should remember to adjust their curriculum for three-year course and make plans aimed at irradiation, ME, clinical testing, farm animals, service animals, animal-assisted therapy. They must not forget the added value they gain as a result of covering these.

[Slide 23] I would also ask a favor of the Japan Veterinary Medical Association. The need for veterinary nursing professionals was already raised in 1965 and in 2001 a committee for re-considering the veterinary nursing profession was established. In 2003 the committee presented a detailed report on the current situation. Within this report, there were a number of respondent comments on how the profession should be, such as: -It needs to involve universities (72.7%) -It needs to unify the curricula (92.8%) -It needs to unify certification systems (83.4%)

In 2006, a veterinary medical profession research committee was set up to review the issues. However, in order to establish an official certification it is imperative to prepare an appropriate administrative infrastructure. The setting up of a consultative body within the Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries is desirable too.

[Slide 24] Our ultimate goal is to establish veterinary nursing legislation. Some say that this can be achieved in the private sector. However, because veterinary medical care is a factor that relates to and involves individual property, it is more likely that protection will be provided by officially sanctioned legislation. Malpractice issues are also increasing within veterinary medical care and the responsibility of the veterinarians and nurses cannot be neglected. In this sense, it is better for the nursing qualification to be an official one, as with the veterinarian license. In other words, we need to also demarcate that veterinarians and nurses are professions that work together and share the same responsibility in medical practice.

The strategies for establishing a system for the veterinary nurse profession are:

-to establish a veterinary nursing law, suitable for establishing veterinary nurse regulations in the same way as those for health nurses, midwives and nurses were established.

-to interpolate the system within the Veterinary Practice Act, or something equivalent to the case of the Act for Improvement and Increased Production of Livestock in relation to artificial insemination professionals.

As you know, in order to establish this system as law, the government will have to deliberate the matter at Diet level. Some official qualifications established by the Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries of Japan can also be used as reference. They are equivalent to the regulations on nursing profession before 1948. It was established by committing veterinary nurse legislation to Veterinary Practice Act and they are treated the same way as in the regulatory related to the Pharmaceutical Affairs Law and veterinary medical supplies.

[Slide 25] The Dental Hygienists Act would be a useful reference for the framework of a veterinary nursing law, which covers:

1) Purpose and definition of the law.

2) Qualification (name, license, registration, operation, name listing, criteria for disqualification, etc.)

3) Designation of a registration agency (designated corporation, operation approvals, clerical work, information storage and security, supervision ordinance, authority delegation, etc.)

4) Examinations (Minister of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries, exam candidacy qualifications, examination committee, prohibition of injustice, etc.)

5) Obligations (prohibitions, confidentiality, notifications, etc.)

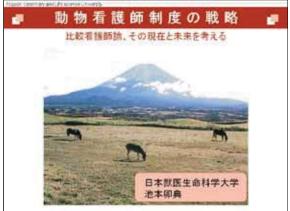
6) Commissions (regulating institutions, etc)

7) Penalties

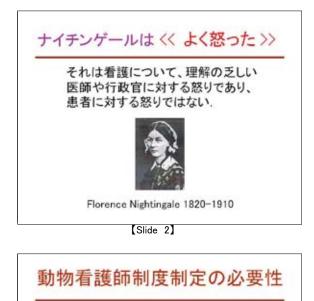
[Slide 26] For your reference, I would like to explain the process for obtaining a qualification within the medical support profession and the history behind the training. Training institutions for health nurses, midwives, nurses and dental hygienists are all certified by either the Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology (for schools) or the Ministry of Health, Labor and Welfare (which gives the right for a training facility to call itself a school). Exam candidacy approval is given so long as the applicant has fulfilled all the relevant and designated subjects at a college, two-year school, vocational school, or special institute. The same ideas can be applied to the veterinary nurse profession. As long as the schools and institutes are equipped with adequate course materials, there should not be any disparities.

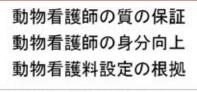
So that a public qualification can be established I want to see, as quickly as possible, the realization of veterinary nursing professionals with qualifications, ability and principles equivalent to those of nurses working in medical practice. Thank you for listening.

[Slide 27] Finally, I should add that it has been over 2 years since I publicized this essay and, this March, a bill for the partial revision of the Act on Domestic Animal Infectious Diseases Control was approved in the Diet with an additional resolution 12. This defines a review of institutionalizing the qualifications for non-veterinarians (such as veterinary nurses) who are engaged in veterinary medical practice. [Slide 28]



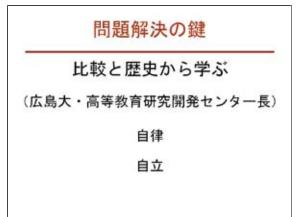
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動物看護師の社会貢献 動物看護の国際化対応

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[Slide 4]



[Slide 5]



看護師等と動物看護師の待遇 看護師の初任給は国家公務員 1種の初任給より高額 歯科衛生士と動物看護師の初任 給は最低賃金よりやや高い程度

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看機時	産婆規則 :明治32年(1897) 看腹端規則:大正 4年(1915) 保健婦規則:昭和19年(1944)
	保健婦・助産婦・看護婦令:昭和22年(1947) 保健婦・助産婦・看護婦法:昭和23年(1948) 保健師・助産師・看護師法:平成13年(2001)
菌科嘶生土	歯科衛生士法:昭和23年(1948) (都道府県知事認可) 厚生大臣の認可となる:昭和63年(1988)
動物看護師	農林水産省 :調査費(海外の実情調査) 日本駅医師会:動物診療専門職委員会を設置 平成18年(2006)

[Slide 9]

看護師:保健師・助産師・看護師法				
厚生労働大臣 准者護師 同家追称	医道審議会(行政処分等) (保·助·看護分科会) 厚生科学審議会(養成所指定 学校教育法(学部科設置)			
備科衛生士: 歯科 国家試験 厚生労働大臣	衛生士法 ほぼ前記同様			
動物看護師:未定	認定の取り消しあり 認定の更新制あり (いずれも認定者の権限)			

[Slide 10]

看護師 (第5条)	: 傷病者苦しくは掃婦に対する 療養上の世話又は診療の補助。 (第34条の医療行為は削除された)
菌科術生士 (第2条)	歯科医師(医師)の直接指導の下に 歯牙および口腔疾患の予防を行う。 歯科診療の補助・歯科保健の指導。
動物看護師 (未定)	: 疾病動物に対する診療上の世話および 獣医療の補助。 (獣医療には臨床検査技師・放射線技師 等の職種がなく、その補完も考慮する。
and the second se	科衛生士 : 名称独占権 護師 業務独占権

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明治45年(1912):日 昭和58年(1983):山					•1年期
昭和59年(1983):出					
動物看護系大学 短期大学	122.0	4年制 3年制		校校	学生定員 (約80~150名/年)
動物看護・美容学校	: 1		82 262	校	不詳 (盛衰著しい)
合計			350	校	「現我相にいう

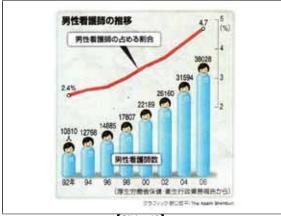
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職種	免許取	得者数		就業人数
看護師	:2,000, (推动	1000000000000	人	1,001,925 人 (約60%)
歯科衛生士	:	222. 417	人	76,986 人 (約36%)
動物看護師: 不詳 (認定は多核複雑) 日本小助物厳態師会、動物看護士学会 山崎学園、日本愛玩動物優談会、動物病 院福祉協会、全日本動物専門教育協会等				約18,000 ~20,000人 といわれている

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動物看護師の近未来考 1

養成教育の確保	:標準化・看護師教育に準ずる
資格の公認方法	国家認定・歯科衛生士に準ずる
社会性の獲得	:職域の確保・待遇改善・PR等
動物看護職協会 の設置	 専門職実態把握・向上設計 試験の実施・名簿管理・評価等

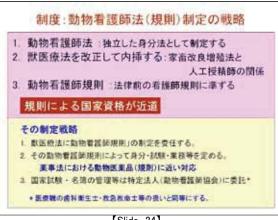
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東門堂	校(3年制):動物看護師の受験資格
大学	(4年制):3年で動物看護師の受験資格
	残1年は専門教育とアカデミック・
	インターンシップ等
	小動物専科・産業動物・野生動物・
	家庭看護・虐待看護・臨床検査・
	放射線・ME・麻酔・補助犬・警察犬 介在療法・等
	ЛЦЖАЧ
学会:	動物看護のための、動物看護師による、
	動物看護学会・研究会等の開催
1 ++ 74	保:霊要計画・教育改善・倫理教育等

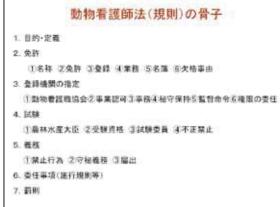
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