IBARAKI
PREFECTURAL
UNIVERSITY OF
HEALTH SCIENCES
茨城県立医療大学
From the President's Office

Society has entered an age of phenomenal advances in medical knowledge and skills, and the system within which medical services are provided is changing at a dizzying pace. In such circumstances it is necessary for a medical professional to constantly renew the knowledge and skills acquired at university. The workplace demands self-development and problem-solving abilities. Furthermore, it requires the ability to understand and communicate with other medical disciplines and an open-minded humanity to care for the ill and disabled. The curriculum of Ibaraki Prefectural University of Health Sciences is designed to foster professionals with these capabilities.

The undergraduate course is organized so that together with the professional knowledge and skills taught in each of the four Departments, students can study a wide variety of liberal arts and scientific subjects which form the basis medical knowledge at the two Centers.

Furthermore, subjects focusing on inter-professional education and international cooperation taken over the four years of undergraduate studies support students in developing a global perspective together with the abilities to meet the needs of the local community.

The Graduate School, with its two-year master course and 3-year doctoral course, provides an opportunity for students with experience in the medical workplace to continue studies and research in a broad range of fields aided by their tutors. Additionally, the Graduate School of Midwifery completes the lineup which forms a truly comprehensive health sciences university.

Hiroshi Nagata President

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**Department of Nursing**

To help people realize their universal desire to live healthily at each stage of life, nursing specialists need to provide the best possible healthcare, health improvement and peaceful terminal care for people of all ages in every state of health. In addition to practicing their professional skills, they play an important role in helping people maintain and improve their health using methods that people have found in their own lives, as well as supporting them in preventing the occurrence of diseases and health disorders and deterioration of their health as a result of these.

The Department of Nursing aims to foster nursing practitioners having a deep understanding of human beings based on the dignity of life, a rich human nature and creative spirit, who can make full use of an advanced knowledge of nursing science together with sophisticated medical technology. At graduation, students are eligible to take the national examinations for Registered Nurse and Public Health Nurse.

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**Department of Physical Therapy**

The Department of Physical Therapy offers a systematic course through which students can study the basics of physical therapy, understand the characteristics of and provide support for disabilities. They are supported by a faculty with a wide variety of specialties such as pediatrics, geriatrics, orthopedics, cardiovascular & pulmonary, neurology, and sports. In addition to conventional subject based learning the department has introduced problem based learning, and as a basis of learning we have adopted self-learning in which the students actively study both fundamental and advanced issues of physical therapy under guidance of faculty members as tutors.

In accordance with the current demands in the medical field, we conduct interprofessional education under whole university, and encourage students to develop a mutual understanding of each profession and to have a wider view of their roles. To cultivate their professional identity as a physical therapist, various forms of clinical internship start in the freshman year at the university hospital. In the 3rd grade, students take the Objective Structured Clinical Examination (OSCE) to ensure adequate competency in clinical settings before being allowed to embark on external clinical internships.

We expect students to develop a passion for life-long learning and to become physical therapists actively involved in many fields of healthcare, medical care, and welfare.
Department of Occupational Therapy

All people are involved in occupations from learning, playing and/or working to managing activities of their daily lives. Occupation in Occupational Therapy are those things that a person wants to do and needs to do. Occupational therapists help people (both with and without disabilities) across the lifespan to participate in occupations by helping regain, develop, build, and maintain these skills that are important for independent functioning, health, well-being and happiness. The Department of Occupational Therapy cultivates students’ knowledge and professional skills (assessment, treatment and intervention with using occupations therapeutically and/or adjusting environment for enabling occupations) by offering a variety of courses.

Department of Radiological Sciences

The Department of Radiological Sciences offers courses on diagnostic imaging technology, nuclear medicine technology, radiation therapy technology, and radiation control. Our educational philosophy emphasizes experiments and practical training. Equipment and programs play an important role in education, and diagnostic imaging systems commonly found in hospitals such as MRI, MDCT, and ultrasound are available to support the students in their studies. In addition, a linear accelerator for radiation therapy and a SPECT system have been set up for education, and are used for experiments and practical training.

Instruction is also given on medical data processing and attending to patients, so as to foster radiological technologists who can provide safe and high-quality diagnosis and therapy in this continually advancing field. The department’s information technology system includes an image network connecting the various devices and software for image processing is also in place. Experienced professional staff support the students in their studies, and using these facilities and educational programs students are able to perform extensive experiments and receive practical training.

In order to nurture radiological technicians that combine knowledge, skillful use of technology and personality as a good medical staff, the department conducts seminar style small-group education and clinical training at the university hospital and nearby medical facilities.
Center for Humanities and Sciences

The Center for Humanities and Sciences is responsible for education in basic subjects. These basic subjects form the necessary educational foundation for their future activities as allied health professionals, as well as being important in providing a rounded education and character development that, after graduation, will enable them to make a valuable contribution as members of society.

These subjects are taken in the first and second years of study at the university and are grouped into the following three courses: the Basic Science Course, comprising subjects such as biology, chemistry and information science; the Communication Course, which in addition to foreign languages such as English and French, includes sociology, psychology, philosophy, Braille, sign language, and structured group encounter; and the Human Development Course, which includes sociology, economics, pedagogy, philosophy, psychology, and sports sciences.

The compass of the above courses can be said to be unusual in a university the size of Ibaraki Prefectural University of Health Sciences, but benefits students by giving them opportunity as future health professionals to contribute with a rich sensitivity and imagination to society.

Center for Medical Sciences

Healthcare professionals must be able to respond to diversifying healthcare medicine in line with changes in society, and future progress of medicine and medical technologies. The Center for Medical Sciences provides education in a wide range of fundamental medical sciences and medicine, from which students progress to more advanced studies. Well-equipped laboratories for physiology, cell biology, anatomy, pathology, microbiology and neurosciences have been established to assist research as well as education.

In particular, we provide a clinical skills training course during preclinical years in the university ‘AiLabo’ skill laboratory where students can receive clinical simulation education and acquire essential practical skills.

We also provide our senior students with health science research courses, some examples of which are:

Microcirculation abnormalities and organ failure in lifestyle-disease
Effectiveness of gait training with hybrid assistive limb in the field of neuro-rehabilitation
Clinical and experimental studies on calcium phosphate-hybridized tendon grafts
Autonomic nerve system abnormalities in septic condition
MRI findings in patients with epilepsy
Community gardens as health promoters in patient with mental disabilities
Chlamydia pneumonia infection and atherosclerosis
Clinical and experimental studies on neuroscience and rehabilitation

These advanced research courses play an important role in cultivating an in-depth understanding of the significance of medical sciences in healthcare professionals.
Graduate Program in Midwifery

The Graduate Program in Midwifery is a one-year post-baccalaureate program open to applicants holding a BSc in nursing, and is required to obtain national certification to practice as a midwife.

The needs of a society with a low birth rate requires midwives with the knowledge and skills to support families at the birth of a new life and possess the problem-solving skills and aspiration to bring change to the community. Through a study program based on academic and practical learning, the program trains midwives who will become community leaders in caring for families during pregnancy, childbirth and early infancy.

A feature of the program are the twin pillars of Active learning and Simulation-based learning which support the development and refining of students’ midwifery skills. Through study methods such as Clinical Reasoning and Team-based Learning students learn about approaches to midwifery diagnosis, while concurrently practicing techniques for managing a variety of situations through Simulation Practice. A state-of-the-art Simulation Room equipped with a wide range of facilities allows students to practice skills in real-life settings, and is also available for students to use outside of class hours.

The curriculum also offers opportunities to develop inter-professional skills through cooperation with the university’s four departments and two centers and also health and administrative professionals, so realizing a broad learning environment.

Graduate School of Health Sciences

The Graduate School of health sciences has the basic philosophy of contributing to health sciences through its research and education.

The master program was established in April 2001 and strives to nurture professionals of advanced healthcare who have the skills needed to research technologies related to nursing, physical therapy, occupational therapy, and radiological sciences, and to respond to the demands of various types of health care and medical treatment in an aging society with a declining birthrate. Students are advised to conduct research for these clinical demands.

In the major courses, specialist education builds upon the knowledge gained during the undergraduate courses, to turn students into advanced professionals of nursing, physical therapy, occupational therapy and radiological sciences. Students are also taught the basic skills required for teachers and researchers.

The PhD program was started in April 2010 with the purpose of producing specialists who have the advanced skills for client-centered practice attained through multidisciplinary approaches and research which underpins their scientific validity. The program also cultivates students who have advanced interdisciplinary and integrated knowledge and skills in health sciences able to play an active role internationally both as researchers and administrators at medical or welfare facilities.
University Hospital

The University Hospital was opened in December 1996, the first affiliated rehabilitation hospital of a public university of health sciences in Japan. The hospital also plays an important educational role, providing clinical training to students in an integrated university education system. In this way, the university contributes to educating skilled leaders who will work in local communities practicing medical care and teamwork techniques in the fields of welfare, health and medical care. Clinical researchers that contribute to the development of rehabilitation sciences are actively encouraged in the hospital, which is linked to various medical institutions and welfare facilities through a network. The hospital is also designated by the prefecture as the "Ibaraki Prefecture Regional Rehabilitation Promotion Center".

Objectives and roles of the University Hospital
1) Practice of high-quality clinical training (securing a place for student's clinical training)
2) Promoting education and research (securing a place for clinical research)
3) Contribution to regional medical care (promotion of rehabilitation medicine)

Hospital overview
Number of beds: 120 beds (93 beds for adults, 27 beds for children)
Clinical divisions: rehabilitation medicine, internal medicine, orthopedics, neurology, pediatrics, radiology, psychiatry, anesthesia

International Activities at IPUHS

Student Short-term Exchange Program
Exchanges between the university and Kaohsiung Medical University (KMU), Taiwan, started in June 2015 with a visit from students of the KMU Occupational Therapy department, and since then reciprocal visits have expanded to include the Nursing, Physical Therapy and Radiological Sciences departments. The relationship with KMU was formalized in June 2018 with the signing of the Memorandum of Understanding on Academic Collaboration between the universities, and provides the basis for a flourishing academic partnership.

Invited Overseas Lecturer Program
The Invited Overseas Lecturer Program invites leading researchers and medical practitioners from overseas academic institutions, providing an opportunity for university staff to hear about the latest developments in the medical arena. Invitations are made on rotation by the four Departments and two Centers, with a varied roster of speakers from the United States, China, Singapore and Taiwan. Lecturers also hold seminars for students from the graduate school and take part in more informal academic exchanges such as the Science Café.

Overseas Study Program
The Overseas Study Program provides financial support for young researchers at the university to take part in short-term study programs at overseas centers of academic excellence, or carry out observation of health programs and practices in their local settings. Typically funding is for one staff member for a period of a week to ten days, with visits in recent years to countries such as the United States, Singapore, and Laos.
BY AIR
From Tokyo New International (Narita) Airport
Take the Airport Limousine bus to Tsuchiura station on the Joban Line. Buses leave Terminals 1 & 2 regularly with a journey time to the station of about 90 minutes.

From Ibaraki Airport
Take the bus to Ishioka station on the Joban Line. Buses leave regularly with a journey time to the station of about 30 minutes.

BY TRAIN
From the Joban Line Tsuchiura Station (West exit)
Take the bus for “Ami Chuo Kominkan” and get off at “Kenritsu Iryo Daigaku Iriuchi”(*1). From this stop the campus is about 8 minutes on foot. Buses leave approximately every 20 minutes with a journey time of about 25 minutes.

From the Joban Line Arakawaoki Station (East exit)
Take the bus for “Kenritsu Iryo Daigaku”. Buses leave approximately every hour with a journey time of about 20 minutes. The last stop is in front of the main entrance of the university.(*2)

BY CAR
E6 : Joban Expressway
Take the Sakura Tsuchiura exit, from which the campus is about 20 minutes.

C4 : Ken-o Expressway
Take the Ami Higashi exit, from which the campus is about 20 minutes.