

the reference materials

- ◆ The Basic Act on Dementia to Promote an Inclusive Society (Outline)
- ◆ Declaration of Hope for Living with Dementia

The Basic Act on Dementia to Promote an Inclusive Society (Outline)

Act No. 65 of 2023 – Approved on 14 June,
Promulgated on 16 June,
Effective as of 1 January 2024

1. Objectives

Comprehensive and systematic promotion of policies to enable those with dementia to live in dignity with a sense of purpose.

=> Promote the realization of a vibrant society in which each person, including those with dementia, can fully realize their individuality and abilities, and live in an inclusive and mutually-supportive social environment with others while respecting each person's character and individuality (an inclusive society).

—The National Government and local authorities will work together to implement measures for dementia based on the basic principles, in promotion of an inclusive society.—

2. Basic Principles

Policies are implemented to enable those with dementia to live in dignity with a sense of purpose on the basic principles from 1. through 7.

1. To enable all persons with dementia to be able to lead their lives as individuals with freedom to make their own choices enjoying their fundamental human rights.
2. To deepen the public's knowledge and understanding of dementia in order to promote a more inclusive society.
3. To enable all people with dementia to live safe, secure, and independent lives equal to that of other members of society, by removing barriers in their lives, and to secure opportunities to express their opinions on matters directly related to themselves and to independently participate in activities in all areas of society, by fully realizing their individuality and abilities.
4. To provide good quality and appropriate healthcare and welfare services seamlessly, while fully respecting the wishes of those with dementia.
5. To provide support not only for people with dementia but also for their families and those around them, so that people with dementia and their families can live their lives in their community with peace of mind.
6. To promote research and other activities that contribute to a more inclusive society, and create an environment in which the public can enjoy the results of research and other activities through scientific knowledge on risk reduction, diagnosis and treatment, rehabilitation, and care for those with dementia and mild cognitive impairment; and promote involvement in society for people with dementia to enable them to live in dignity with a sense of purpose; and promote enabling those with dementia to live in an inclusive and mutually-supportive social environment with others.
7. To carry out comprehensive initiatives in education, community development, employment, health, medicine, welfare, and other relevant areas.

3. Responsibilities of National and Local Authorities

National and local authorities are responsible for formulating and implementing policies on dementia in accordance with the basic principles.

Members of the public are to strive to contribute to the realization of an inclusive society by deepening their knowledge and understanding of dementia to promote the realization of an inclusive society.

The Government shall take the necessary legislative, or financial and other measures to implement dementia policies.

※ Other responsibilities of health and welfare service providers and life infrastructure service providers will be stipulated.

4. Basic Plan for the Promotion of Policies on Dementia

The Government will formulate the Basic Plan for the Promotion of Policies on Dementia (the Government will hear the opinions of the Council of Stakeholders, which is composed of persons with dementia, their families, and others).

Prefectures and municipalities will formulate prefectural and municipal plans respectively (and hear the opinions of people with dementia and their families). (Mandatory)

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5. Basic Policy

1. [Promotion of public understanding of people with dementia]
Measures to deepen the public's knowledge and understanding of dementia in order to promote a more inclusive society.
 2. [Promoting barrier-free lives for people with dementia]
• Measures to promote safe neighborhoods where people with dementia can live independently, and safely with others.
• Measures to enable people with dementia to lead independent lives.
 3. [Ensuring opportunities for involvement in society for people with dementia]
• Measures to enable people with dementia to live in dignity with a sense of purpose.
• Contribute to the continuity of, and smooth employment of persons with early-onset dementia (persons with dementia under 65 years of age) and other persons with dementia taking into account their motivation and abilities.
 4. [Supporting decision-making and protecting the rights and interests of people with dementia]
Measures to ensure appropriate support for decision-making and protection of the rights and interests of people with dementia.
 5. [Development of systems for providing health and medical services and welfare services]
• Measures to ensure that people with dementia can receive appropriate medical care for their condition equally regardless of where they live.
• Measures to ensure the timely and seamless provision of good quality and appropriate healthcare and welfare services to people with dementia.
• Measures to ensure that good quality and appropriate healthcare and welfare services are provided according to the circumstances of each individual with dementia.
 6. [Establishment of a consultation system]
• Establishment of systems necessary to enable comprehensive response to various consultations from persons with dementia and their families, taking into consideration the circumstances of each individual with dementia and their families.
• Measures to ensure that people with dementia or their families and other relevant persons are not isolated.
 7. [Promotion of research]
• Basic and clinical research into the nature of dementia, risk reduction, diagnosis and treatment, rehabilitation and care, and publicizing results.
• Research and studies on the development of a social environment in which people with dementia can live in dignity with a sense of purpose, and the use of those results.
 8. [Risk reduction of dementia]
• Measures to enable those who wish to do so to take preventative measures based on current scientific knowledge.
• Measures to promote early detection and early diagnosis of, and early response to dementia.
- # Conducting other surveys necessary for the formulation of policies on dementia, cooperation between various relevant parties, support for local authorities, international cooperation.

6. Ministerial Council on the Promotion of Dementia Care Policies

The Ministerial Council on the Promotion of Dementia Care Policies is established within the Cabinet, headed by the Prime Minister. It is in charge of drafting the basic plan and promoting its implementation.

In formulating the basic plan, the Council will hold meetings consisting of representative persons with dementia, their family members, and others to hear the opinions of those representatives.

Effective date: Effective as of 1 January 2024, targeting results within five years from the date of enforcement.

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Declaration of Hope for Living with Dementia

1

We will break free from the shell of common sense that has trapped us and go on living facing forward.

2

We will continue to live the lives we want to live, making the most of our abilities, and as members of society, we will take on challenges while enjoying ourselves.

3

We will meet each other, connect with each other, inspire the power of life, and go on living

4

While conveying our thoughts and hopes, we will find people in our local community who will become our allies, and we will walk together with them.

5

Making use of our experiences and ideas regarding living with dementia, we will work together to create a community where it is easy to live.

* The Government's Dementia Policy Promotion Plan, based on the Basic Law, states that this Declaration of Hope is to be disseminated throughout the country.



- ◆ The Declaration of Hope for Living with Dementia was born out of each of us living with dementia putting our experiences and thoughts into words, bringing them together and overlapping them.
- ◆ We hope that as many people as possible will join us in making this declaration in order to live with dementia now and in the future.
- ◆ We sincerely hope that this Declaration of Hope will spread like a ripple and become a great swell towards the days of hope.
- ◆ We hope that you will join us in the towns where you live and across the country.

Kazuko Fujita, Representative Director,
Japan Dementia Working Group

We are developing the Relay of Hope project
throughout Japan based on the Declaration of Hope
for Living with Dementia.

the Japan Dementia Working Group

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JDWG

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the Research Study on Building an International Network for the Participation of People Living with Dementia to Promote an Inclusive Society funded by Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare's subsidy for elderly health promotion project, etc. in FY2024.

Connecting the baton for people with dementia at home and abroad

The 'Relay of Hope' International Forum 2025

～Promoting an inclusive society by valuing the voice, power and connection of people with dementia～

14 February 2025.

Tokyo Center for Dementia Care Research and Practice