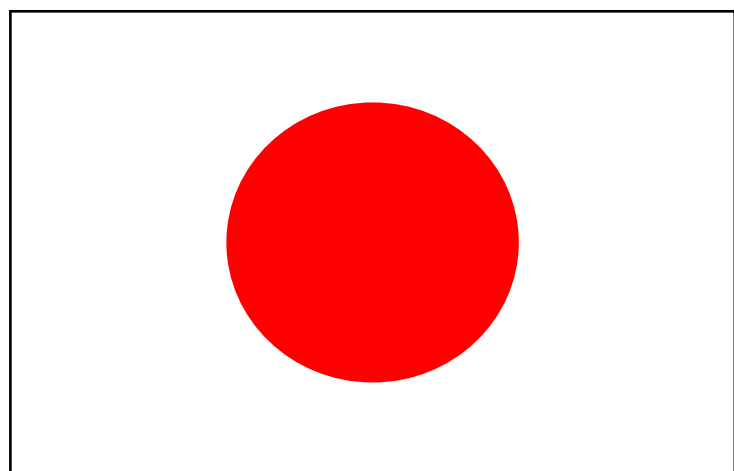




Establishment of the “International Research Collaboration Officer” in Japan

Military Health System Research Symposium (MHSRS) 2026
Aug. 3rd – 6th, 2026 @Kissimmee, FL, USA



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Abstract

Introduction: The National Defense Medical College (NDMC) is a branch of the Ministry of Defense of Japan. On January 1st, 2025, it created a new position, **International Research Collaboration Officer (IntResCO)**, at the National Defense Medical College Research Institute. This initiative aims to encourage international collaboration and exchange in military medical research by connecting researchers worldwide. This will not only promote global health engagement but also help improve military medicine.

Methods and Results: The IntResCO's mission and vision were displayed. The mission is as follows. The IntResCO is the main point of contact (POC) for military medical research at the NDMC. In this role, the IntResCO is responsible for **encouraging international collaboration** in research by working with foreign military research institutions and the planning, coordinating, and implementing research. These activities help develop military medicine, including improving NDMC's combat casualty care capabilities. The goal of IntResCO is for the NDMC to be one of the main hubs for international military medical research. Its vision was also established for the next ten years. In 2025, IntResCO started working with seven foreign organizations in five countries and one associations.

Conclusion: The IntResCO was created to be the **main POC for military medical research exchange in NDMC, Japan**. The goal is to build and maintain productive communication and cooperative relationships with partners around the world.

(Prof. Akiyoshi NAKAYAMA: aknak@ndmc.ac.jp)

Mission

The International Research Collaboration Officer (IntResCO) is a new professorship created in January 2025 at the National Defense Medical College Research Institute. Drawing on his background **as a military medical doctor and researcher**, IntResCO **directly** serves as a point of contact (POC) for international exchanges with military medical research institutions around the world, as well as for international joint research projects. Through these activities, IntResCO will contribute to the development of the field of military medical research, including the improvement of the NDMC's ability to deal with combat casualty care. IntResCO's mission is to make the NDMC one of the **top international centers for military medical research on medical readiness**.

Access me!

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I declare no conflict of interest. The views shown here do not necessarily reflect those of the NDMC and MoD.



Vision

1. Within one year, by the end of 2025 (→ **Almost Achieved!**) & still in progress in 2026:

Focus on **building international networks** and improving **international outreach**.

IntResCO's vision is:

- 1) To set up IntResCO as the POC for the NDMC. → **NOW!**
- 2) To collect information and to start research by helping to connect researchers at the NDMC with researchers at foreign military research institutions. → **Ongoing (MHSRS etc.)**
- 3) To translate the NDMCRI website into English and improve our ability to connect with others through social media and other channels. → **Completed (except for SNS)**
- 4) To help plan and organize the medical conference. → **Completed (IPMHE 2025 in Yokohama etc.)**

Thanks for standing in front of this poster!



2. Within three year, by the end of 2027:

Start working together on research projects

IntResCO's vision is:

- 1) To start working on several new international collaborative research projects. → **Ongoing & seeking**
- 2) To support education (including helping with study abroad and international exchange programs to/from the NDMC, creating educational classes, etc.). → **Ongoing**

If you have an idea, please let me know



3. Within five year, by the end of 2029:

Achieving results from collaborative research

IntResCO's vision is:

- 1) To report on multiple international papers that were arranged by IntResCO. → **Not yet**
- 2) To grow as a research support organization and to transfer the right technology → **Not yet**

All pitch in!



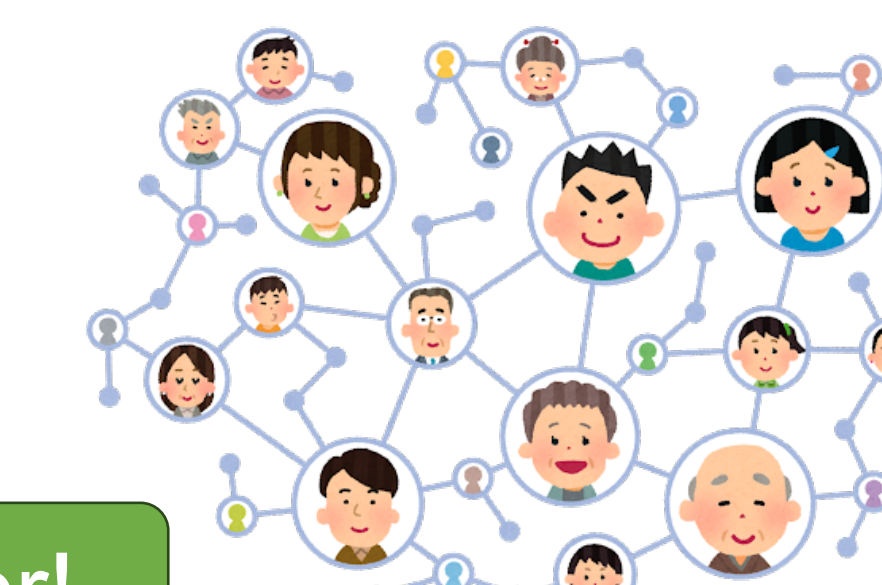
4. Within ten year, by the end of 2034:

Setting up systems as an international hub

IntResCO's vision is:

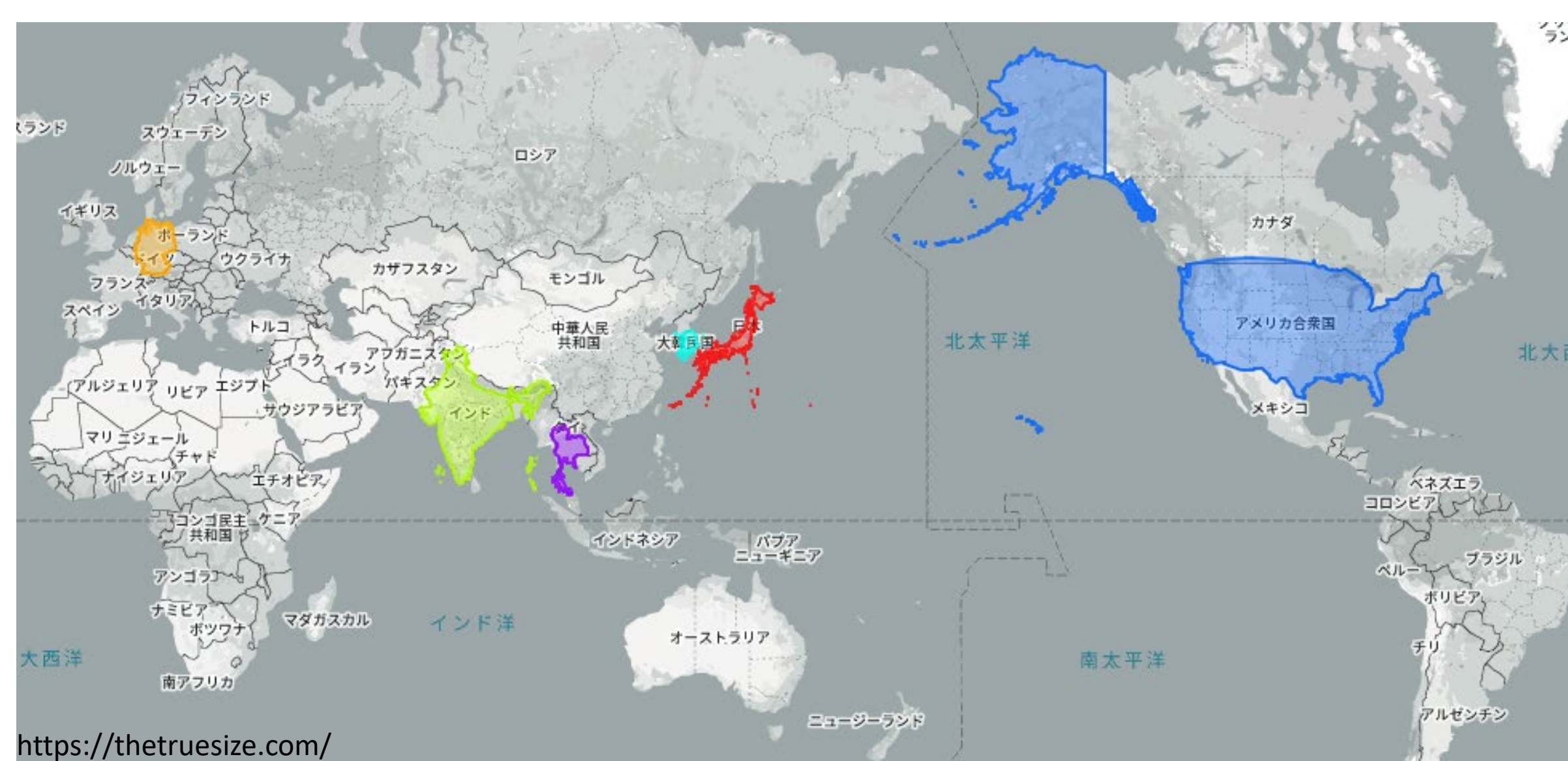
- 1) To double the rate of international papers written together by NDMC members (7.1% in 2023 → to over 15% in a single year)^{Ref.}
- 2) To be involved in creating policy and helping with various administrative tasks.

Let's work together!



Anyway, now you've got a connection with me & Japan ('ω') /

Solutions for Researchers' Challenge on Medical Readiness



In FY2025, IntResCO strengthened its friendship with...

- USA: Dlg, Stu, PhD, Res
- DEU: Dlg, Stu, PhD, Res
- NATO: Res
- THA: Stu (PhD)
- KOR: Stu
- IND: Dlg

Abbreviations

Dlg = Sent/welcome delegations
Stu = Student exchange
PhD = PhD student exchange
Res = Researcher exchange

... and more in FY2026 to support researchers' challenge!

- w/USU etc.
- Welcoming delegations
- PhD students
- w/Jpn. sqns

Exchange
国際交流

- Support events (IFBIC, IPMHE)
- NATO-STO, ASEAN
- Collab. w/USU etc.
- w/Engl. course

Collab.
共同研究

Info.
情報収集

- Conf./meetings etc.
- Exchanges
- w/liaison officer
- Web info. etc.

Commun.
情報発信

- Sharing info w/NDMC&MoD
- HP translation
- Social media (prep.)