

Lifting The Burden

Global Campaign to Reduce the Burden of Headache Worldwide

Kyoto Declaration on Headache

(October 9th, 2005)

Whereas:

- headache disorders are neurological and affect the brain;
- amongst these, migraine is in the top 20 causes of disability worldwide, 12th in women, and is estimated to:
 - affect 8 million people in Japan
 - cause pain and disability in migraine attacks suffered by 600,000 Japanese people every day
 - cost the Japanese economy, in lost productivity, 288 billion yen every year
 - similarly burden people and societies throughout the Western Pacific Region; and
- other headache disorders collectively impose additional humanitarian and socioeconomic burdens of at least similar magnitude;

and whereas:

- a range of effective treatments exist for most headache disorders;
- the financial cost of providing these treatments would be offset by the value of recovered productivity;
- persistence of these burdens represents a failure of health services to reach people affected by headache disorders in order to provide these treatments to those who need them;

and whereas:

- the World Health Organization, World Headache Alliance, International Headache Society and European Headache Federation, having joined in a Global Campaign to Reduce the Burden of Headache Worldwide known as *Lifting The Burden*, wish to work with agencies and individuals locally to address these public-health priorities in each Region of the world including the Western Pacific Region;

We declare our intention to:

- embrace and support the activities of *Lifting The Burden* in the Region, recognising and demonstrating to others the priority that headache disorders deserve there; and

- as a first step, work with the relevant medical, scientific and lay organizations of Japan, to:
 - raise awareness amongst the general public of Japan in order to create recognition of the need for treatment;
 - implement educational programmes for health-care providers in Japan in order to improve their ability to diagnose and treat headache disorders;
 - produce and disseminate diagnostic aids, management guidelines and instruments for outcome evaluation;
 - bring these messages to the attention of the health-policy makers and legislative bodies of Japan , seeking their understanding in order to achieve the health service delivery and organization in Japan that will translate these initiatives into better care for Japanese people whose lives are damaged by headache disorders; and
 - monitor the effect of these initiatives in order to demonstrate beneficial change.

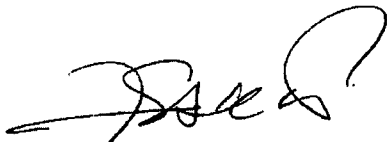
This declaration represents a starting point for action towards our objective of reducing the burden of headache throughout the Western Pacific Region.



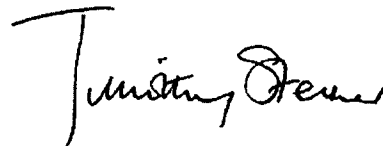
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Lifting The Burden:
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