

33rd Int. Home Care & Rehabilitation Exhibition 2006



NEWS No. 1

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Greetings Moving Towards H.C.R. 2006

H.C.R. 2005 was held with 630 exhibitors from 16 countries and 1 territory and was attended by over 130,000 visitors. We sincerely express our gratitude to all exhibitors, organizations and related persons.

Last year there were several movements toward major revisions in the future social welfare and long-term care insurance systems. Last spring, the Long-Term Care Insurance law was revised and was transformed to a prevention-oriented system for "self-sufficiency support." In the fall of 2005, a law to support the independence of the physically challenged was enacted that unified social welfare services for the physically challenged. Additionally, due to the Trinity reforms, the management of the social welfare system has been transferred to the respective local municipalities.

This year will be a turning point in our country's social welfare and long-term care insurance systems, as many of these changes will be realized during the year. These trends in reforms are in response to the effects of an aging society with fewer children in this 21st century.

Such reforms should aim towards restructuring a social system that would enable anyone to lead an independent life in the residence and community one is accustomed to. It is necessary to continue working to attain a user centered system.

One of the hopes for this 21st century is for advancement of new technology. As we are seeing in IT technology, we are in an era where one can freely use information. Similarly, home care and rehabilitation equipment which expands possibilities for users to lead independent lives is now an essential part of everyday living for the elderly with reduced physical functions and the physically challenged. In addition, there is growing interest in home care and rehabilitation equipment that provides support to care givers.

In order to be able to effectively utilize home care and rehabilitation equipment, it is indispensable for specialists and other staff to possess a vast knowledge and experience, and to receive guidance and advice in using such equipment. It is necessary to ensure a sufficient number of services providers, as well as having such staff improve in their skills and qualifications.



Moreover, it is vital to constantly reflect the opinions of users for the further development of home care and rehabilitation equipment.

Through our Int. Home Care & Rehabilitation Exhibition, we will disseminate information on the world's home care and rehabilitation equipment, in addition, spread pertinent knowledge on how to select and use such equipment, and foster international exchanges among users, manufacturers, and services providers.

This year, we will endeavor all the more to promote the making of an environment for the independence of the elderly and physically challenged.

We thank everyone for their continued support and cooperation.

Health and Welfare Information Association
Akira Suetsugu, President

Next 33rd Int. Home Care & Rehabilitation Exhibition 2006

H.C.R. 2005 drew a crowd of 135,825 visitors. We sincerely express our gratitude to all exhibitors, organizations and related persons.

This year's H.C.R. 2006 will be held at Tokyo Big Sight from Wednesday, September 27 to Friday, September 29, 2006.

We will continue in our efforts to further the development and distribution of home care and rehabilitation equipment and look forward to everyone's continued support and participation.

DATE

September 27 (Wednesday) - September 29 (Friday), 2006

VENUE

Tokyo Big Sight, East Exhibition Halls
3-21-1, Ariake, Koto-ku, Tokyo 135-0063 Japan

APPLICATION PERIOD

February 1 (Wednesday) - March 31 (Friday), 2006

