

Long – term Care System Construction in Korea and Taiwan
- Comparison with Japan -

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Summary

Aging has been proceeding both in Korea and Taiwan. Its speed is faster than that of Japan. So, we need rapid policy making to cope with population aging, including long-term care system. Korea has implemented “Long-term care Insurance” (LTCI) in 2008. Taiwan is now planning LTCI for legislation in 2016.

Japan, Korea and Taiwan has adopted (will adopt) social insurance scheme in LTC system. But in detail, there are differences between Japan and Korea, Taiwan.

As for LTC insurance, there are differences in insurer, scope of insured persons, care management and so on. For example, insurer of LTCI is municipality (local government) and independent from health insurance in Japan. It is (will be) health insurance insurer in Korea and Taiwan. Korea and Taiwan have referred to Japan in LTC needs certification. But, Korea has not adopted Japanese style care management only to LTC service use without efficiency. The roles of local government is (will be) limited in Korea and Taiwan with comparison to Japan.

LTC service provision also differs between Japan and Korea, Taiwan. In Korea, there is lack of cooperation with health care, excessive competition between LTC service providers. In Taiwan, LTC service provision is not sufficient and has regional inequality. It is important to increase LTC service with decrease regional inequality. But, LTC service providers are limited to non-profit organizations. Entry by private companies is now under discussion. In addition to this, Taiwan has to decide to deal with foreign born care workers.

In this way, there are similarities and differences in Japan and Korea, Taiwan LTC system. The backgrounds of the latter seem to be history of social security, the extent of LTC service provision and the size of country (region) and population. These will bring the diversity in East Asian LTC system.

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