

Title of Research Subject	A cross-cultural study on health-related traffic accidents in Asian countries
Background and objectives	<p>In recent years, driver health has been reported to become a major risk factor causing traffic accidents. In Japan, prevention of traffic accidents due to health reasons is recognized as an important issue to improve traffic safety. These views, however, are not well shared in the Asian region, as indicated in the FY2020 social contribution project, where we found the limited levels of awareness to human factors in general and health-related traffic accidents in particular in China and Thailand.</p> <p>The purpose of this study is to clarify the actual status of awareness regarding health-related traffic accidents in the Asian region, and to conduct promotional and educational activities to foster awareness of those accidents. Specifically, we will perform a questionnaire survey examining attitudes toward the health-related traffic accidents among Chinese and Thai participants who viewed the local language translated versions of the public awareness video (created as part of the FY2020 social contribution project) and make an international comparison.</p> <p>Furthermore, In our previous projects, we developed a screening program of sleep apnea syndrome (SAS) in commercial drivers. In addition, we carried out the screening test (“Clock charts”) for individuals with visual field disorders by glaucoma and other ophthalmic diseases. Based on the findings of the previous studies, the current project will test the feasibility of a Japanese SAS screening model for commercial drivers and screening for visual field disorders using a clock chart in the Asian region.</p>
Expected results	<p>In the present study, data will be available for attitudes toward health-related traffic accidents in Chinese and Thai. Those data, together with Japanese data, are compared each other to identify the characteristics of each country. The results can help in acquiring basic knowledge for considering more effective measures to promote awareness of the prevention of health-related traffic accidents. Also, the development of a Japanese model for SAS screening and screening for visual field disorders using a clock chart in the Asian region are expected to create an international momentum for the prevention of traffic accidents due to impaired health.</p>