

# Positioning of Clinical Research in Japan and Fukuoka University

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**Abstract :** The positioning of clinical research in the field of medicine in Japan was assessed based on data regarding papers published in scientific journals. We used the JDream system provided by the Japan Science and Technology Agency, and the MEDLINE and JMEDPlus databases. We found that among total number of papers published on MEDLINE was 35,000, clinical research accounted for 1,500 from 2003 to 2007, and there was no discernable trend. During this period, researchers at Fukuoka University published approximately 180 papers/year in MEDLINE. However, there were only 10 papers/year on clinical research and no papers were published in top journals with high impact scores (New England Journal of Medicine, Lancet, and Journal of American Medical Association). From 2005–2007, papers on clinical research comprised 64–74% of the total published in the Medical Bulletin of Fukuoka University, the official journal of Fukuoka University School of Medicine. Thus, while reports on clinical research are popular at Fukuoka University, these papers are not published in high-quality, high-impact factor journals. These findings suggest that high-quality clinical research is needed to promote Fukuoka University in the field of evidence-based medicine. Risk analysis and appropriate management for clinical research may help to accelerate clinical research.

**Key words :** Clinical research, JDream, JMEDPlus, MEDLINE