




**April 24th, 2025**



**University of Tsukuba  
Tokyo-Campus**  
3-29-1 Otsuka, Bunkyo-ku, Tokyo  
Lecture Room 134

# Conference on Global Health Innovations

## Introducing Germany's Smart Health Hub Bochum in North Rhine-Westphalia (NRW)

Smart Health heralds the digital transformation in Global Health and combines technology and medicine to improve the lives of patients. It refers to the use of advanced technologies such as telemedicine, mobile health, artificial intelligence (AI), Internet of Things (IoT), big data and robotics to improve disease prevention, diagnosis, treatment and health monitoring. The goal is to develop and provide truly personalized and predictive healthcare in terms of diversity and individualized medicine. This will have impact in different dimensions of social and mental health as well, which present arenas with major challenges for our increasing aging societies.

Our conference aims to provide insights into the innovative healthcare ecosystem of Germany and Japan with a focus on North Rhine-Westphalia (NRW) and the city of Bochum (twin city of Tsukuba) as well as Tokyo and Tsukuba. Bochum offers a Health Campus that is a leading hub for healthcare, digital health and medical technology in Europe with a holistic, human-centered approach. The networking activities within the Health Campus community are managed by the HealthCampus Agency Bochum ([www.gc-bo.de](http://www.gc-bo.de)), a special task unit. The campus is embedded in the academic landscape of the Ruhr University Bochum (RUB) with its pre-clinical and clinical-theoretical facilities and university hospitals combining "research-based learning" with the most innovative patient-oriented cutting-edge medicine. Health professionals in science, the care sector as well as industry find a network of experts in NRW and Bochum to collaborate in solving current and future challenges in healthcare using a comprehensive, transdisciplinary approach.

Speakers from industry and research will provide insights into translational research, applied healthcare, health technologies and Global Health challenges. The event aims to connect German and Japanese entrepreneurs, industry representatives and researchers in health and healthcare by providing 1-on-1 meetings and networking opportunities next to insightful discussions and poster presentation sessions.

## The conference is supported by



## Organized by



## Program Conference **Language english**

### Moderation

**Dr. Carolina Kawakubo** President, NRW Global Business Japan

JPT	Subjects
14:00	<b>Opening – Video Messages from the Mayors</b> <b>Dr. Tatsuo Igarashi</b> Mayor of City of Tsukuba <b>Thomas Eiskirch</b> Lord Mayor of City of Bochum
14:10	<b>Keynote “Cybernetics Medical and Healthcare Innovation for Society5.0”</b> <b>Prof. Dr. Yoshiyuki Sankai</b> CEO of CYBERDYNE Inc.; Professor, University of Tsukuba; Program Director of SIP, Cabinet Office, Japan
14:40	<b>Smart Health in NRW and Japan</b> <b>Dr. Carolina Kawakubo</b> President, NRW Global Business Japan
15:00	<b>The Smart Health Ecosystem in Bochum</b> <b>Prof. Dr. Martin Paul</b> Rector of Ruhr University Bochum <b>Dr. Thomas Wollinger</b> Head of Bochum Economic Development
15:20	<b>Loneliness as public health problem: Challenges and solutions</b> <b>Prof. Dr. Maike Luhmann</b> Faculty of Psychology, Ruhr University Bochum
15:40	<b>Coffee Break</b>
15:50	<b>Walk &amp; Talk (5 minutes each)</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>medmehr GmbH, Bochum</b>  <b>Dr. Mandana Banedj-Schafii</b> Founder and CEO</li> <li>• <b>meerkat GmbH /Quhr – Smart Health Hub Ruhr, Bochum</b>  <b>Jörg Holstein</b> Founder and CEO</li> <li>• <b>Faculty of Medicine, Ruhr University Bochum</b>  <b>Prof. Dr. Marie von Lilienfeld-Toal</b> Institute for Diversity Medicine</li> <li>• <b>Faculty of Psychology, Ruhr University Bochum</b>  <b>Prof. Dr. Maike Luhmann</b> Faculty of Psychology, RUB</li> <li>• <b>University of Applied Science / Health care Professionals, Bochum</b>  <b>Prof. Dr. Heike Köckler</b> Professor for Place and Health at the Department of Community Health</li> <li>• <b>University of Tsukuba / DeepEyeVision Inc.</b>  <b>Prof. Dr. Hidenori Takahashi</b> Professor, Institute of Medicine, Founder and CEO</li> <li>• <b>University of Tsukuba / CrestecBio Inc.</b>  <b>Prof. Dr. Aiki Marushima</b> Associate Professor, Institute of Medicine, CEO and Representative director</li> <li>• <b>University of Tsukuba</b>  <b>Prof. Dr. Daichi Sugawara</b> Associate Professor, Institute of Human Sciences</li> <li>• <b>Any-Edge Inc.</b>  <b>Daisuke Tanaka</b> Founder and CEO</li> </ul> <p><b>And other</b></p>

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**Dr. Carolina Kawakubo** President, NRW Global Business Japan

JPT	Subjects
16:40	<b>Global Health - Connecting Germany and Japan</b> <b>Axel Karpenstein</b> Director of DWIH Tokyo
17:00	<b>„Developing a center of innovation in the biotechnology field through industry-academia collaboration in Tsukuba“</b> <b>Prof. Dr. Hiroyuki Nishiyama</b> Professor, Institute of Medicine, Project Leader, Tsukuba Digital-Bio International Center, Director, Cybermedicine Research Center; University of Tsukuba
17:20	<b>Panel Discussion – “Challenges of digitalization in healthcare and impact for patients and society”</b> <b>Jörg Holstein</b> CEO meerkat Holding GmbH <b>Prof. Dr. Maïke Luhmann</b> Faculty of Psychology, RUB <b>Prof. Dr. Nanako Tamiya</b> Professor, Department of Health Services Research, Institute of Medicine, Director, Research and Development Center for Health Services; University of Tsukuba
18:00	<b>Questions &amp; Answers</b>
18:30	<b>Dinner at nearby restaurant „Hana no Mai“</b>
20:00	<b>End</b>

[www.gc-bo.de/en](http://www.gc-bo.de/en)  
[www.nrwglobalbusiness.com](http://www.nrwglobalbusiness.com)  
[www.dwih-tokyo.org](http://www.dwih-tokyo.org)

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