

## About NCGM



NCGM is a national research and development institution operating under the purview of Japan's Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare. It comprises the Center for Clinical Sciences, the center Hospital (43 departments and 719 beds), Kohnodai Hospital (200 general beds and 135 psychiatric beds), the Bureau of International Health Cooperation, Research Institutes, and the National College of Nursing, Japan.

Established in 1871 as an annex to the Army Medical Corps and formally became the fourth National Center in Japan in 1993. NCGM spearheads pioneering research and development in the field of infectious diseases treatment.

In April 2025, the NCGM will merge with the National Institute of Infectious Diseases to form the Japan Institute for Health Security (JIHS). This merger aims to strengthen the institute's capacity to provide comprehensive scientific evidence, from epidemiological investigation to clinical research, during the emergence and spread of infectious diseases.

## Department of International Trials (DIT)

Established in 2016, the DIT within the Center for Clinical Sciences, aims to support the design and conduct of international clinical trials for both industry and academia. To pursue this aim, the NCGM launched the ARISE network and DIT serves as its Secretariat.

It has supported several clinical trials of medicines, diagnostic devices, pharmaceuticals, diagnostic equipment, and other medical interventions.

In 2023, in collaboration with the National University of Colombia, DIT conducted a clinical trial for a smallpox vaccine against mpox in Colombia. Primary focus areas are infectious diseases.



### **Koji Wada**

MD MSc PhD Prof (Hiroshima),  
Director of DIT General Secretary of the ARISE

Dr. Wada has an extensive background in healthcare, research, and academia. He was Senior Director for medical affairs at a global pharmaceutical company. Professor in the Department of Public Health at the Faculty of Medicine, International University of Health and Welfare.



### **Muchanga Sifa Marie Joelle**

MD. PhD, DIT's International Liaison  
ARISE Secretariat Contact Person

Dr. Sifa is a certified Clinical Research Coordinator with more than 5 years experience at NCGM as a Project Manager liaising with researchers from Japan and overseas.

*"We are committed to implementing a sustainable and resilient clinical trials platform, ready to respond in a timely manner to the emergence of a global infectious threat and to provide solutions to patients' needs. We value your partnership."*

## About ARISE

The ARO Alliance for Southeast & East Asia (ARISE) is a network of academic research organizations (AROs) in Southeast and East Asian countries dedicated to fostering collaboration and facilitating the clinical trials of therapeutics, vaccines, and diagnostics for infectious diseases that has benefits to human health.

Asia is recognized as the epicenter of emerging and re-emerging infectious diseases. However, the majority of Asian countries lack the human and infrastructural capacity to conduct trials of essential medical products for pandemic preparedness. There is an urgent need for a robust and resilient cross-border medical product development system for infectious diseases.

NCGM established the ARISE with funding from the AMED (Japan Agency for Medical Research and Development) in 2021. This is an international network of AROs dedicated to building pandemic preparedness in Asia, mainly in Southeast Asia, by developing an epidemic-ready clinical trial operations platform. ARISE plays a key role in promoting global pandemic preparedness through international collaboration with other clinical trial networks.

### Goals of ARISE (2024-2025)

- Promote participation in and conduct of clinical trials in collaboration with industries
- Ensure the integrity, safety, ethics, and quality of investigator-initiated clinical trials
- Enhance the resources and capacity for clinical trial implementation

## ARISE Network



### ■ Japan

- ① National Center for Global Health and Medicine
- ② Nagasaki University
- ③ Kyushu University
- ④ International University of Health and Welfare
- ⑤ Osaka University

### ■ Indonesia

- ⑥ Faculty of Medicine, University of Indonesia
- ⑦ Mochtar Riady Institute for Nanotechnology

### ■ Malaysia

- ⑧ Clinical Research Malaysia
- ⑨ University of Malaya Medical Center

### ■ Thailand

- ⑩ Faculty of Medicine, Siriraj Hospital, Mahidol University

### ■ The Philippines

- ⑪ Corazon Locsin Montelibano Memorial Regional Hospital
- ⑫ University of the Philippines Manila
- ⑬ West Visayas State University

### ■ Vietnam

- ⑭ Bach Mai Hospital



### Contact Us

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