

Origins of Radiation Effects Research Community in Postwar Japan: Hiroshima, Nagasaki, and Fukushima

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Just after Fukushima nuclear disaster in March 2011, RERF (Radiation Effects Research Foundation), which was preceded by ABCC (Atomic Bomb Casualty Commission), proposed a long-term epidemiological survey to the Japanese Association of Radiation Effects Research Institutions which consists of six universities or research institutions (thereafter two were added). Eventually, in May 2011 Fukushima Prefecture organized a committee in order to plan and review a project of health survey, then FHMS (Fukushima Health Management Survey) started, which is conducted by Fukushima Medical University (FMU) under the initiative of Fukushima Prefecture, funded by Japanese Government. Members of the Oversight Committee for FHMS included researchers belonging to research institutions above. This paper aims to overview the histories of those research institutions and related projects of radiation effects research from postwar to post-Fukushima era in Japan. At this Workshop, I will especially focus on two periods; firstly, soon after atomic bombings, investigations of *hibakusha* (atomic bomb survivors at Hiroshima and Nagasaki) were conducted by Japanese and/or American scientists, secondly, before and after Bikini incident in 1954, there were several issues over radiation effects research in Japan. On the next opportunity, I would like to study further how the activities of those research institutions relate to international organizations (UNSCEAR, IAEA, ICRP, etc.).