

## 50 Years of History

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### Japan

**Name of organisation:** JFOMPT (Japanese Federation of Orthopedic Manipulative Physical Therapy)

**Year organisation started:** 2007

**Member of IFOMPT since:** 2008

#### Key influencers of OMPT through the years

Masao Yamauchi: president of JFOMPT and leader of OMPT in Japan. With many years of experience in OMPT education, he provides valuable guidance to our organization and keeps us updated with the latest information that we incorporate into our education system.

Keiji Asada: chair of the Japanese Society of Musculoskeletal Manipulative Physical Therapy (JSMMPT), director of the Japanese Federation of Orthopedic Manipulative Physical Therapists (JFOMPT).

Hironobu Kuruma: vice president of JFOMPT, involved in external monitoring in Tokyo.

Masae Ikeya: external monitoring of community-based education in Shiga Prefecture.

#### How has it developed over the years:

Our OMPT education system in Japan began with just one community-based program, which developed 100 OMPTs, thus far. In 2017, a master's program was initiated at Tokyo Metropolitan University, marking the establishment of the second OMPT program in the country.

#### Any major changes or challenges in the last 50 years:

It was commonly believed among Japanese physiotherapists that OMPT referred solely to joint mobilization techniques. This perception has since changed. OMPT encompasses all aspects of musculoskeletal disorders, including sports injuries, the peripheral nervous system, and cognition. We have high evidence-based knowledge and techniques to assess and treat patients comprehensively.

#### Current status and challenges:

The Japanese Physical Therapy Association (JPTA) established two subgroups in 2021 – the Japanese Society of Musculoskeletal Manipulative Physical Therapy (JSMMPT) and the Japanese Society of Musculoskeletal Physical Therapy (JSMPPT). Since the same members serve as directors for both groups, JFOMPT works well with JSMMPT. Although we successfully passed the 1<sup>st</sup> monitoring in 2017, we were asked to make improvements during the 2<sup>nd</sup> monitoring. In 2022, Prof Duncan Reid visited Japan and provided valuable advice, which we are now using to further develop our education system.

#### The future of the organisation:

Masao Yamauchi is spearheading Japan's effort of global excellence within the next ten years. Once he reaches the age of 65, Hironobu Kuruma will take over from Mr. Yamauchi as the next president. To achieve our goals, we aim to enhance Japanese OMPT education by working closely with the community-based program developed by JAOMPT and the master's program at Tokyo Metropolitan University. By collaborating with these entities, we believe we can make significant progress in advancing OMPT education in Japan.

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