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Manabu Sakuta, Chairperson of the Japan Society for Tobacco Control

I would like to express my gratitude for your ongoing administration of issues in health, labor and welfare.

Because three or four problems have occurred, I would be duly grateful to meet with you and to hear your advice.

1. Illnesses from passive smoking were published in ICD11 from the WHO.

  QD70.5 Various problems caused by tobacco smoke exposure (Illnesses from passive smoking)

  KD37 Perinatal exposure to tobacco smoke

  QD84.Y Passive smoking at the workplace (other specific occupational exposure to risk factors)

In addition, many other tobacco-related diseases were listed.

2. Problems of smoking shops (rooms)

We have been concerned about this for some time, and it has been widely reported in the Toyo Keizai magazine.

  "Loopholes in regulation? The reason why pubs and bars that freely allow smoking exist, the mystery of why restaurants pass as "smoking establishments"" Toyo Keizai Online, August 19

https://news.yahoo.co.jp/articles/665047484a8bd56584e1db0e834bcf4312ba302a

Clearly, many stores are operating illegally.

"The definition and requirements of smoking institutions have raised many doubts. It is necessary to continuously provide technical support from the national government so that uniform and appropriate responses can be made, such as prompt responses to inquiries and the maintenance of Q&A forums, which have not been updated since the start of the system."   Doubts have started in Tokyo and are arising

across the whole country.

3. To prevent passive smoking in apartment buildings

According to the comment from the Ministry of Land, Infrastructure, Transport and Tourism, whether pets are allowed should be stipulated in apartment building management codes.   Likewise, I would like to make the following new comments and to request revision of standard management codes regarding smoking in apartment buildings, where multiple troubles and much damage have occurred across the nation.

Standard management codes in apartment buildings by the Ministry of Land, Infrastructure, Transport and Tourism and revised comments

1. Regarding smoking, provisions that allow or forbid this matter should be stipulated in the building codes. It is possible to stipulate basic matters in the codes and to entrust the provisions of detailed procedures to by-laws on use. Furthermore, if smoking is allowed, it is necessary to stipulate provisions such as no smoking in shared environments like balconies, no littering of cigarette butts, protections against damage from passive smoking for other occupants even in privately owned rooms, responsibilities for damages caused by passive smoking, and measures to be taken against violators.

2. Examples of codes that prohibit and authorize smoking are as follows.

When smoking is prohibited

(Prohibition of smoking)

Article X. Owners of units and occupiers must not smoke, whether in privately owned units or common areas, combustible rolled cigarettes, heated tobacco, or any other nicotine product.

When to authorize smoking

(Smoking)

Article X. Owners of units and occupiers who smoke must comply with the by-laws on use and the by-laws concerning smoking. However, if complaints are reported from other owners of units or occupants and if the suspects do not follow recommendations to correct the situation, the Board of Directors may take measures, including prohibiting smoking.

4. An association of victims of passive smoking in neighborhood housing was established.

Because it was established several years ago and now has about 2000 members, the Japan Society for Tobacco Control has accepted responsibility for this.
We plan to search how to accurately measure PM2.5 and total volatile organic compounds (TVOC), to grasp such circumstances and to improve techniques.

Conclusion