
Abstract

**Perspective of dignity of man's life:
looking through the history and current state of social welfare
for the people with mental disability**

Ayako Tamura

Psychiatric care in Japan has the history of isolating and confining the mentally ill people into closed wards meant for social defense. As the result, human rights were neglected. Consequently, many scandals concerning mental hospitals occurred and were criticized from countries abroad. This led to legal revision and since then rehabilitation into society is recommended. But still many aged long hospitalized patients remain in hospitals facing death. These dying patients are estimated around twenty thousands per year but the real figure is unknown. One example from the interview to social worker is presented and the end of life care in mental hospitals is discussed.