

240            **The Survey of A-bomb Experience and Mental Health among  
A-bomb Survivors in Nagasaki**

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Fifty-two years have passed since the explosion of the atomic bomb in Nagasaki. The mean age of A-bomb survivors is now 67 years. The health management programs for their somatic symptoms have been conducted, but the mental effects of A-bombing is still little known. The survey was conducted for 3,831 persons using General Health Questionnaire 30 items version (GHQ30). High score group was defined 8 scores over. We compared frequency of survivors of high GHQ score on A-bomb experience. The group of survivors who have recalled A-bomb experience showed significantly higher GHQ score than that of controls. The group of survivors who have dead family showed significantly higher GHQ score than that of controls.

241            **A-Bomb Survivors' Mental Effects from Suffering Experiences at the Time of  
Bombing**

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We conducted an epidemiologic study of mental effects among Nagasaki A-bomb survivors. The mental health status was assessed by GHQ-12 item questionnaire. The information of exposed condition at the time of bombing and suffering experiences about atomic bombing was examined by mailed questionnaire in August 1997. A total of 4,890 survivors responded to our survey. The mean GHQ-12 score was significantly higher among the proximally (2.0 km or less) exposed A-bomb survivors, those who lost their family member by atomic bombing, those who lost their friend or acquaintance by atomic bombing, those who had more early somatic symptoms caused by radiation exposure, those whose living house was more severely damaged, and those who think some sequale of atomic bombing had appeared. These findings suggest the suffering experiences had some effect on A-bomb survivors' mental health.