Our aim is to educate midwives to be capable of providing woman-centred care with response to the needs of the age.

Objectives:
1. Supporting women and the families to have safe and comfortable birth.
2. Improving the quality of midwifery education
3. Providing education for qualified midwives
4. Cooperate with women giving birth in order to improve their health and education.

The Society has 8 committees and the members' opinions are taken up through the regional leaders meetings which are attended by leaders who come from 7 regions all over Japan.

(1) Activities to improve the quality of midwifery education * to provide environment
(2) Activities to provide study days for people who are in midwifery education.
(3) Networking with institutes which provide midwifery education and international networking with other associated organisations.

How to become a midwife in Japan

High School
- Nursing College/University (4 years)
- Nursing Junior College (3 years)
- Nursing School (3 years)

Graduate School in High School (5 year programme)
- Nursing Junior College (3 years)
- Nursing School (2 years)

Postgraduate course
- Specialist school at colleges/universities (1 individual year after obtaining the nurse license)
- Specialty course at colleges/universities (5 year within the 4 years course)

National Examination for Registered Midwives
- National Examination for Registered Nurses
- Examination for State Enrolled Nurses

Certified Training Courses for Nurses
Certified Training Courses for State Enrolled Nurses

Summary

There are excessively complicated education pathways for would-be midwives in Japan. That is because an applicant for a midwife license is required to have acquired certification as a nurse, which is provided at too many different institutions such as college, university, or training school. This prerequisite deprives midwife applicants of the time they need for more appropriate midwifery education. They are eligible if they have at least a one-year midwife education programme, while the ICM global education standards say the minimum length of a post-nursing programme is eighteen months. JSME is redoubling its effort to create a system in accordance with ICM standards.