

# Present Situation of Ichushi-Web (Bibliographic database of Japanese biomedical information) in Japanese Public Libraries

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## Objective

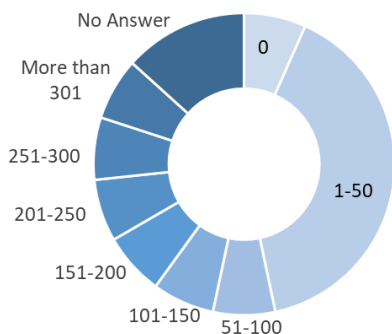
- When we want to obtain medical health information, it is important to obtain not only books, but also the latest articles and conference presentations.
- For the general public, including the older people, who are not affiliated with universities or medical institutions, it would be nice if such information could be accessible through public libraries.
- Thus, each public library are expected to provide access to database of medical literature. But it seems that not much is provided.
- Ichushi-Web is a database that covers Japanese medical articles for medical professionals in Japan. It can be called the PubMed of Japan though It is not free of charge.
- We surveyed the availability of access to Ichushi-Web at prefectural libraries in Japan.

## Method

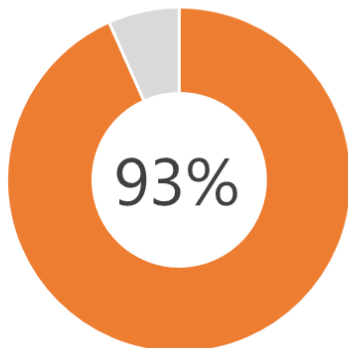
Questionnaire survey was sent to 15 prefectural libraries (13 prefectures) that provide access to Ichushi-Web by email or surface mail in July 2019. Responses were received from all 15 libraries (100% response rate).

## Results

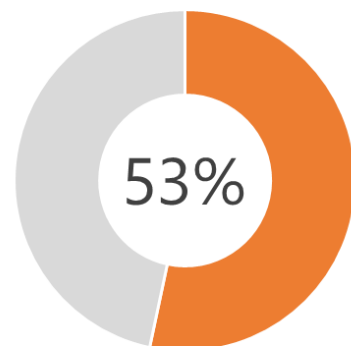
### (1) Number of accesses to Ichushi-Web in 2018



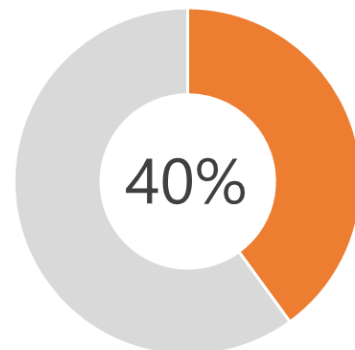
### (2) Providing Printed copies of Ichushi-Web search results to patrons



### (3) Providing patrons access to browsing e-journal text linked from the search results



### (4) Providing patrons printout copies of the full text of e-journals linked from the search results



## Discussion

- Libraries do not often provide links from Ichushi-Web to medical journal Websites with articles and databases. The useful functions of Ichushi-Web are not being utilized.
- Education and in-house training of librarians is necessary for a better use of Ichushi-Web. A pathfinder for patrons should also be created.
- Public libraries are responsible to guarantee access to online data and to provide an environment where patrons can print out the data, but this has not yet been achieved.