



RESEARCH PROJECT: ORAL HEALTH IN ELDERLY JAPANESE

SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM
JICA

ELLIZA AKEMY NAKATA

São Paulo
2007

ORAL HEALTH IN ELDERLY JAPANESE INTRODUCTION

In Brazil, the elderly population is growing fast. In 1950 there was about 2,1 million people over 60 years old. Projections estimate that in 2025, Brazil will have the 6th bigger old population in the world, representing 15% of total population of the country.

The main characteristic of this process in Brazil is the speed that is happening and the lack absolute public politics.

The World Health Organization (WHO) have as a aim that people with 60 years old have, at least, 20 functional teeth on mouth. Otherwise, according to Oral Health Project (Projeto Saúde Bucal) 2003, in Brazil, about 10% of old people had this characteristics, what means that in Brazil we still don't have a program of oral health preventive specific for this age group.

In Japan it was developed a program, by the Ministry of Health, called 80-20, which objective is to extend to 80 years with 20 teeth on mouth, at least, through preventives procedures, contributing, that way, to promote quality of life for this people.

OBJECTIVE

Considering all reasons cited before, I would like to study about oral health politics and programs in Japan and evaluate the viability of adaptation in Brazil.

I believe when I come back to Brazil, it will be possible to contribute with quality of life for the old people, creating oral health programs level with community.