Health Literacy International Survey Report [Graphs]

July 2024



Survey Overview

Survey Objectives	The survey examined health and medical literacy in Japan, United States of America (USA), United Kingdom (UK), Australia, China, and Finland, and determined the extent to which people in Japan today have the "power" to correctly judge information, make appropriate choices and actions, and make good use of various resources, including digital technologies, in the areas of health and medical care.					
Survey Method	Internet Research					
Survey Area	Japan, United States of America (USA), United Kingdom (UK), Australia, China, Finland					
Survey Target	Male and female aged 20~69, from each market.					
Implementation schedule	Thursday, October 26 - Tuesday, November 7, 2023					
Sample size allocation	Japan, United States of America (USA), United Kingdom (UK), Australia, China, Finland: 500ss for each market. For each market, a total of 500 sample (ss) of residents of the top 2 cities were collected. * For Australia and Finland, the collection areas were expanded to the top 3 cities in order to collect the sufficient sample size. Japan: Tokyo, Osaka USA: New York, Los Angeles UK: London, Manchester Australia: Sydney, Melbourne, Brisbane China: Shanghai, Beijing Finland: Uusimaa, Pirkanmaa, Varsinais-Suomi * For Japan, a national survey was additionally collected (Number collected: total 11,750ss (250ss for each prefecture, 25ss of each gender age group (20s-60s) were collected in each of the 47 prefectures) * For Tottori, Shimane, and Saga, the deficit number of the age group of 20-29 male was complemented by 30-39 male.					
No. of questions	Japan : Screeing questions : 3 questions; Main survey : 49 questions Other 5 Countries : Screening questions : 2 questions; Main survey : 47 questions					

Notation in this report

Key terms in the report

In this report, the following terms in the text and graphs are used with the following meanings.

Terms	Descriptions					
SA	A single answer question					
MA	A multi-answer question					
Health checkups	Health checkups, including complete medical checkups					

Composition ratio (%) in the report

In this report, composition ratios (%) are rounded to the second decimal place. The total value may not add up to 100%.

Orders and Q numbers in the report

The numbers displayed at the beginning of questions on each page of this report indicate the question numbers in the questionnaire of "Health Literacy International Survey in the 100-Year Life Era x Digital Society," and differ from the order in which they appear in this report.

Contents

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2.	Actions	: P.26
3.	Digital Utilization	: P.46
4.	Communication	: P.55
5.	Respondent demographics	: P.65

Information collection and decision making

Information collection and decision making

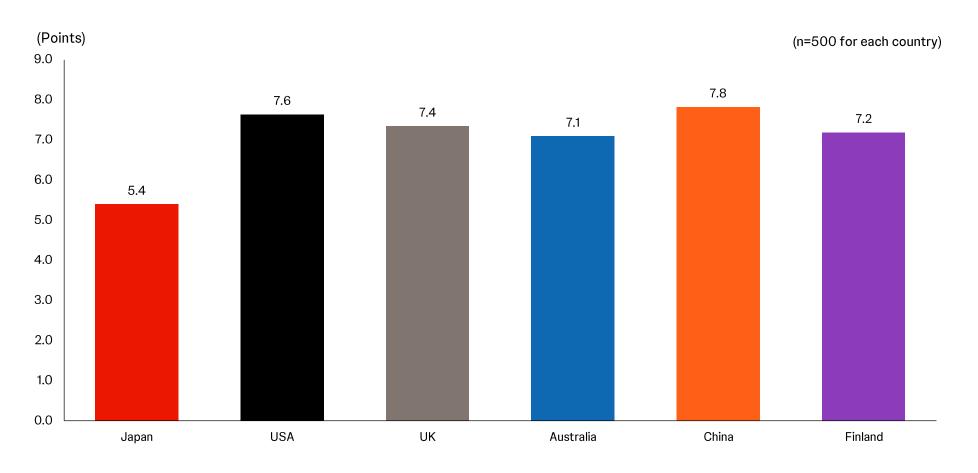
- Self-assessment of health literacy
- Collection of information on health and medical care, and its sources
 - Collection of information on health
 - Sources of information on health
 - Collection of information on medical care
 - Sources of medical information
- Judgment of information on health and medical care
 - Judgment of information on health
 - Judgment of information on medical care
- Criteria for judging health and medical care information
- Challenges experienced regarding health and medical care information
 - Health information
 - Medical care information
- Perception toward "health"
 - Thoughts on the definition of "health"
 - One's own "health" status
- Life expectancy and healthy life expectancy
 - Knowledge about life expectancy and healthy life expectancy
 - Thoughts on life expectancy and healthy life expectancy
 - The gap between life expectancy and healthy life expectancy

Self-assessment of health literacy

Q1: On a 10 point scale, how would you rate your own health literacy (knowledge, motivation, and ability to obtain, understand, evaluate, and use health information)?

(SA Question target: All)

Self-assessment of health literacy (average)



Self-assessment of health literacy

Q1: On a 10 point scale, how would you rate your own health literacy (knowledge, motivation, and ability to obtain, understand, evaluate, and use health information)?

(SA Question target: All)

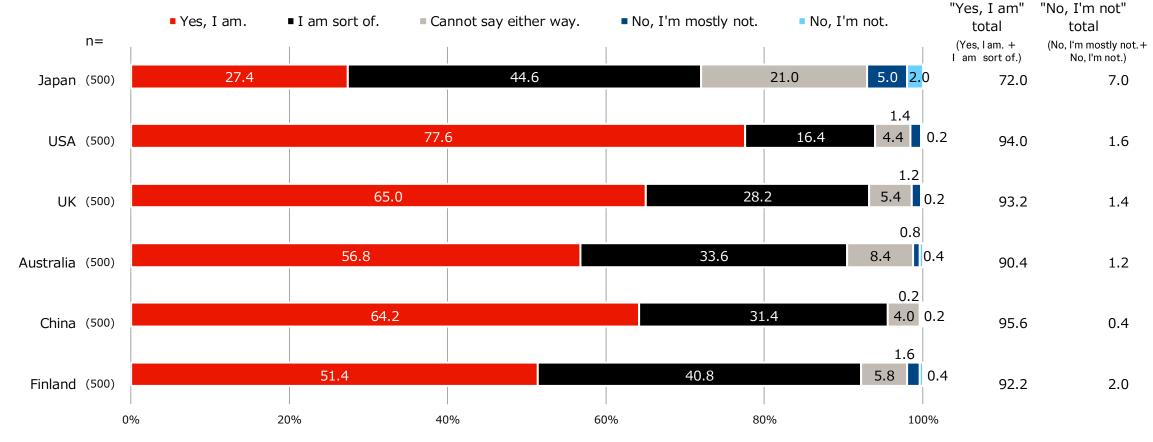
Self-assessment of health literacy

	(%)											
	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	point
	points	point	points	average								
n=												
Japan (500)	2.8	1.4	4.8	9.2	8.6	28.6	15.0	12.2	10.4	4.2	2.8	5.40
USA (500)	1.6	0.2	0.2	1.6	2.8	7.6	8.4	16.4	25.6	16.8	18.8	7.64
UK (500)	0.8	0.6	1.0	2.6	2.2	8.4	9.4	21.0	26.0	17.6	10.4	7.35
Australia (500)	0.6	0.2	1.4	1.4	3.6	9.0	14.6	23.8	26.4	12.0	7.0	7.10
China (500)	0.2	0.0	0.2	0.4	0.8	3.8	7.6	18.6	38.0	24.6	5.8	7.83
Finland (500)	0.4	0.2	0.2	2.4	4.2	10.8	8.4	21.6	32.8	13.2	5.8	7.19

Q2 : Are you able to find information on health*? (SA Question target : All)

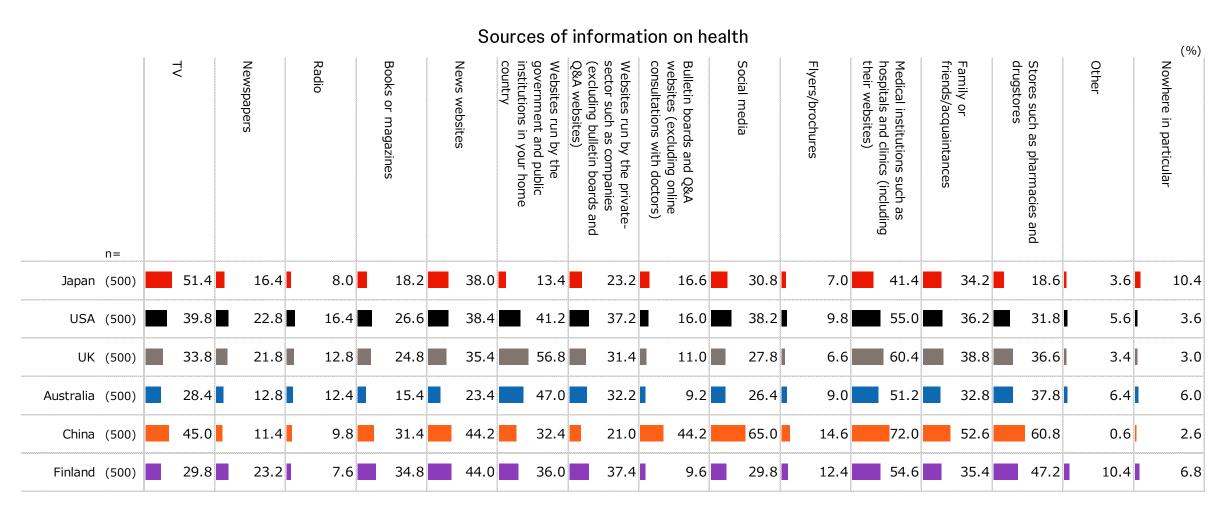
Sources of information on health

Self-evaluation of the ability to collect information on health



Q3: Where do you collect information about health*? (MA Question target: All)

Sources of information on health

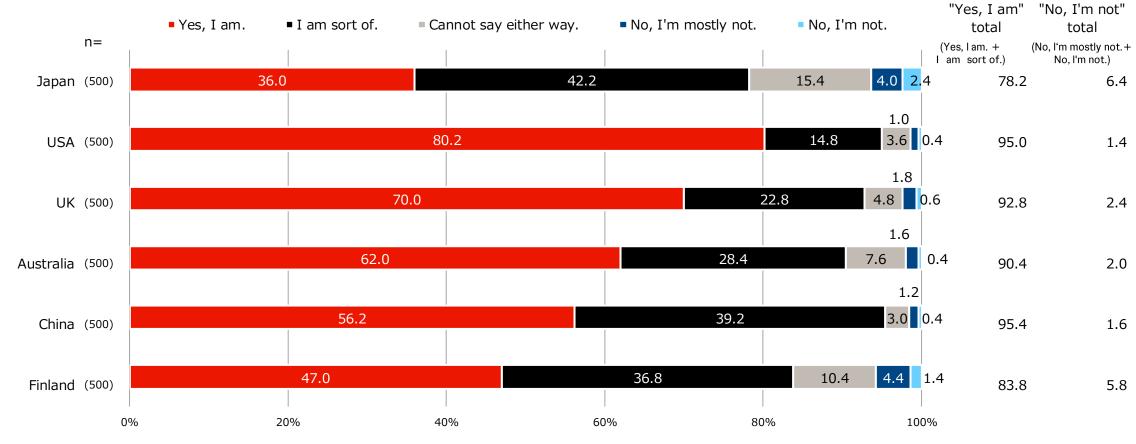


Q4 : Are you able to find information on vaccinations, health checkups and screenings that you should take?

(SA Question target : All)

Collection of information on medical care

Self-assessment of the ability to collect information on immunizations and health and medical checkups

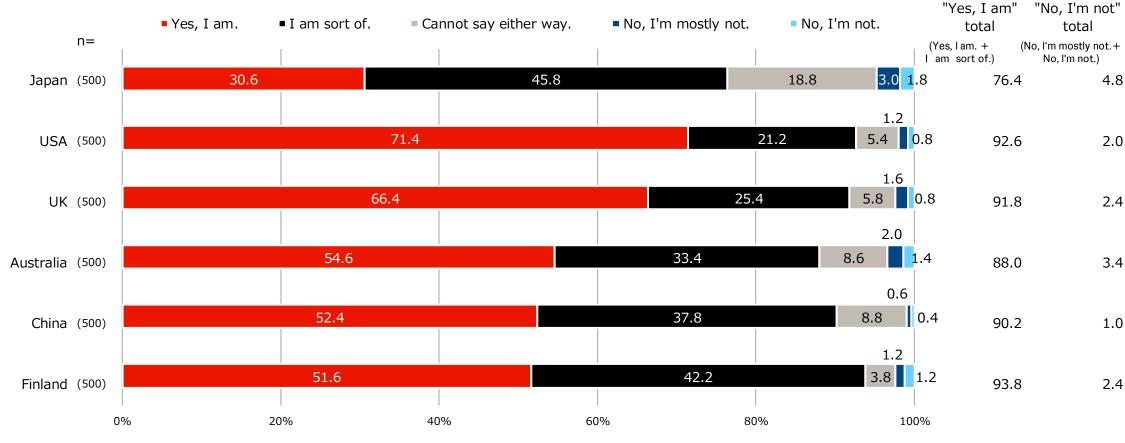


Q5 : Are you able to find information on symptoms of diseases?

(SA Question target : All)

Collection of information on medical care

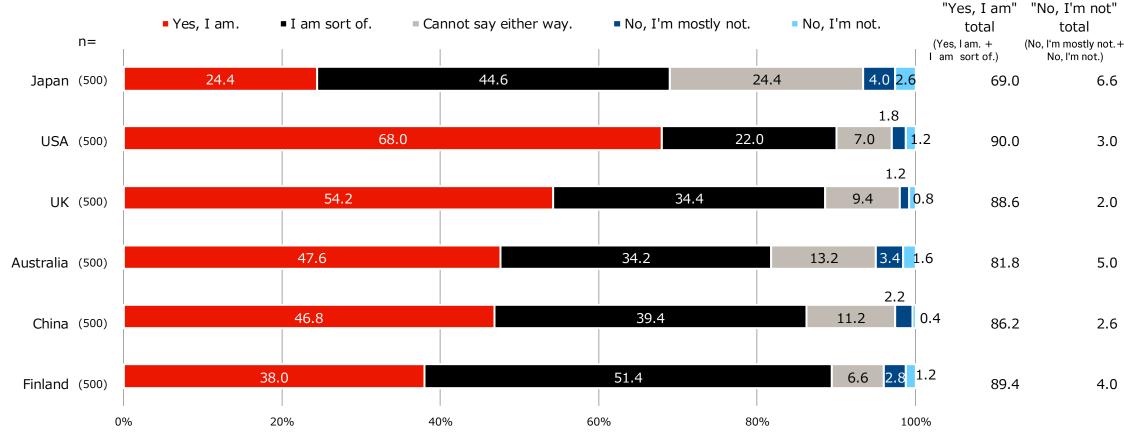
Self-assessment of the ability to collect information on disease symptoms



Q6: Are you able to find information on methods of treatment of diseases?
(SA Question target: All)

Collection of information on medical care

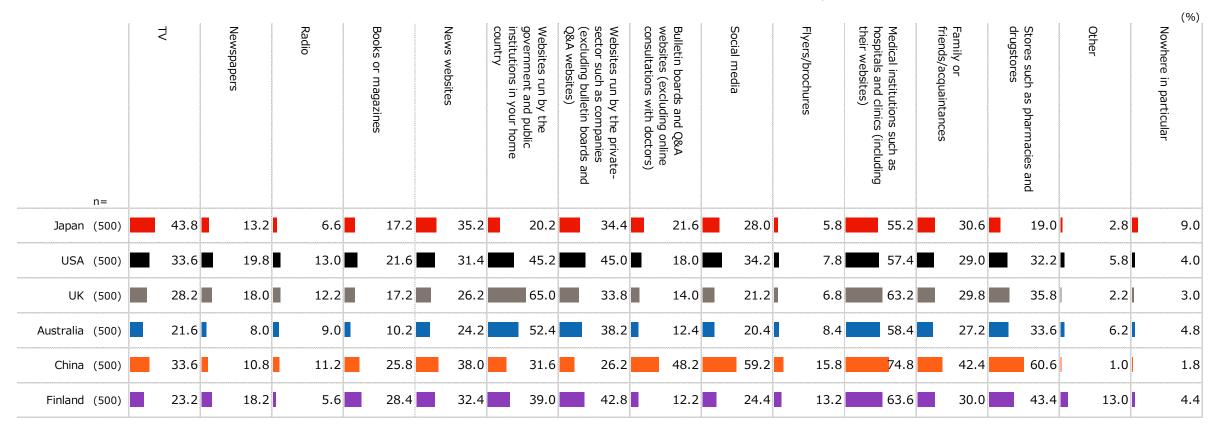
Self-assessment of the ability to collect information on methods of treatment of diseases



Q7: Where do you find medical information on topics such as diseases and treatments?
(MA Question target: All)

Collection of information on medical care

Sources of information on medical information such as diseases, treatments

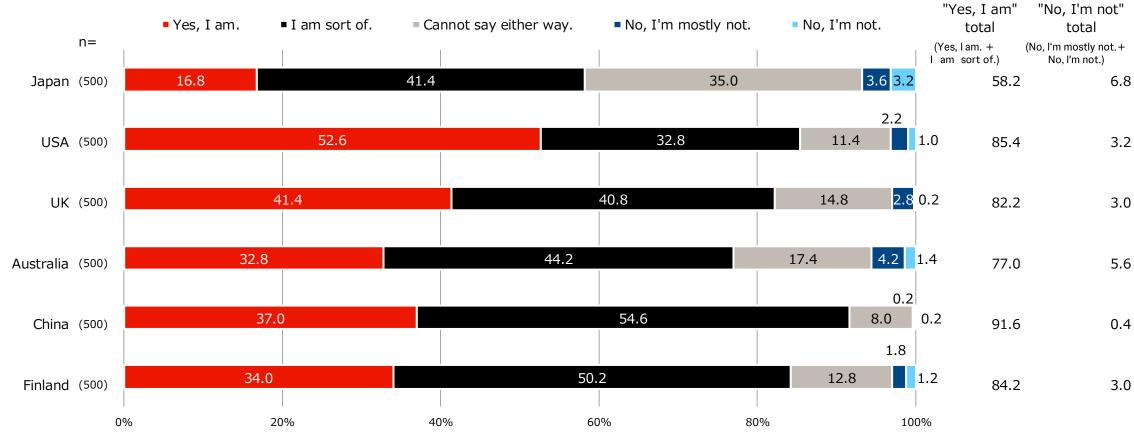




Q8 : Are you able to judge whether the information on health* you find are correct? (SA Question target : All)

Judgment of information on health

Judgement of information on health

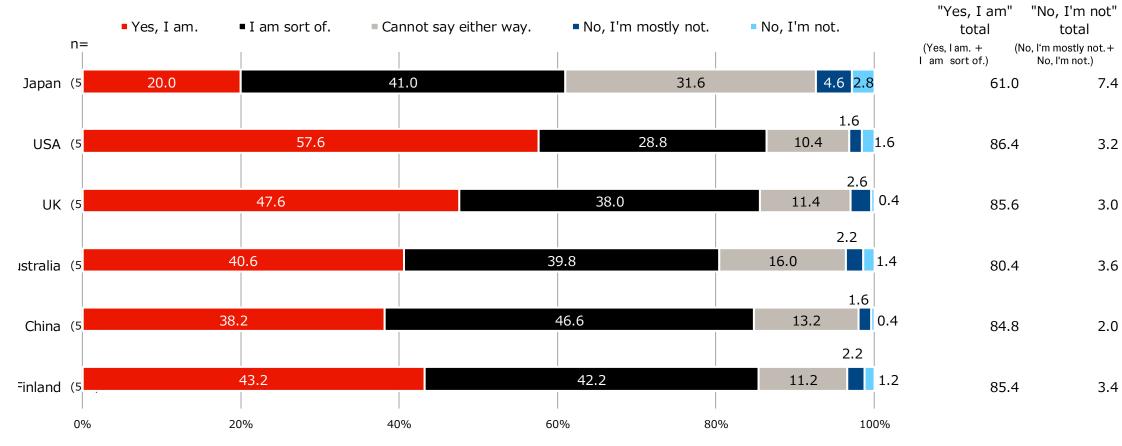


Q9: Are you able to judge whether the information you find on vaccinations and health checkups/screenings that you should take is correct?

(SA Question target: All)

Judgment of information on medical care

Judgment of information on immunizations and health screenings

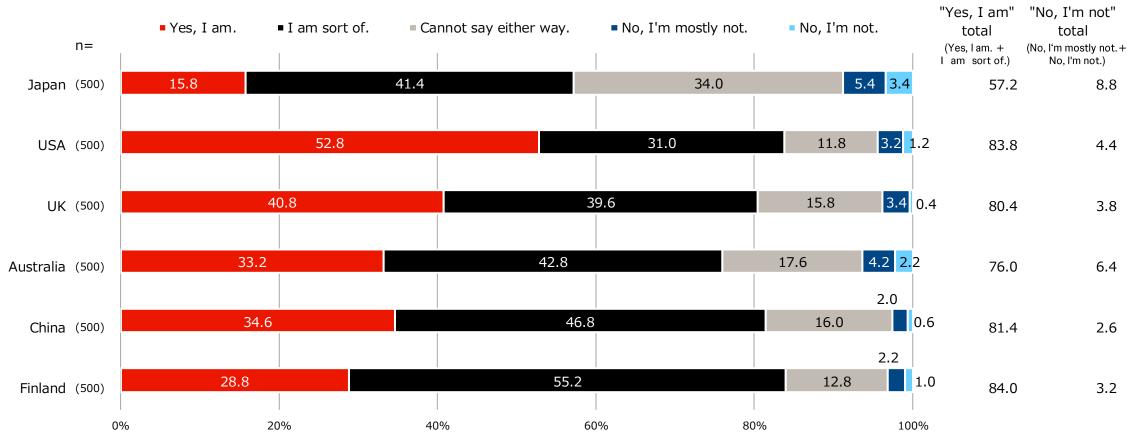


Q10 : Are you able to judge whether the information you find on symptoms of diseases are correct?

(SA Question target : All)

Judgment of information on medical care

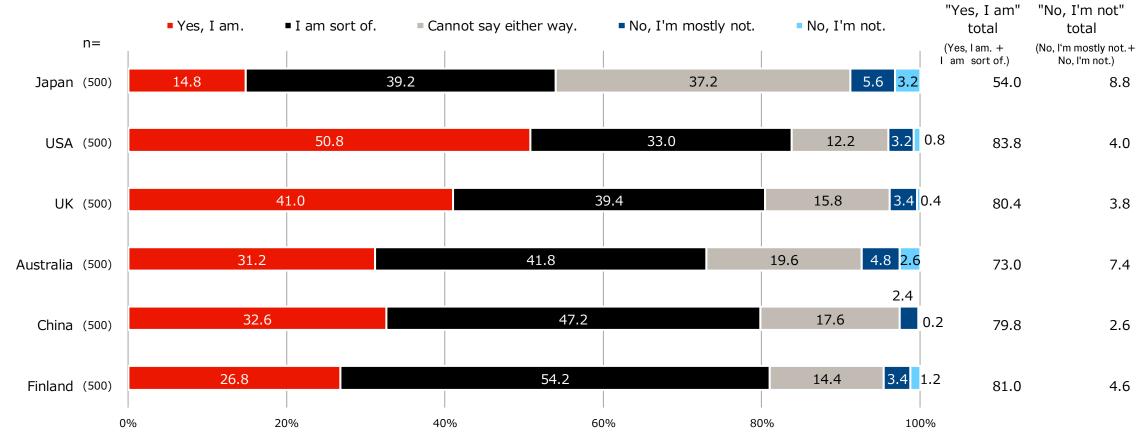
Judgment of information on disease symptoms



Q11: Are you able to judge whether the information you find on methods of treatments of diseases are correct? (SA Question target: All)

Judgment of information on medical care

Judgement of information on methods of treatments of diseases

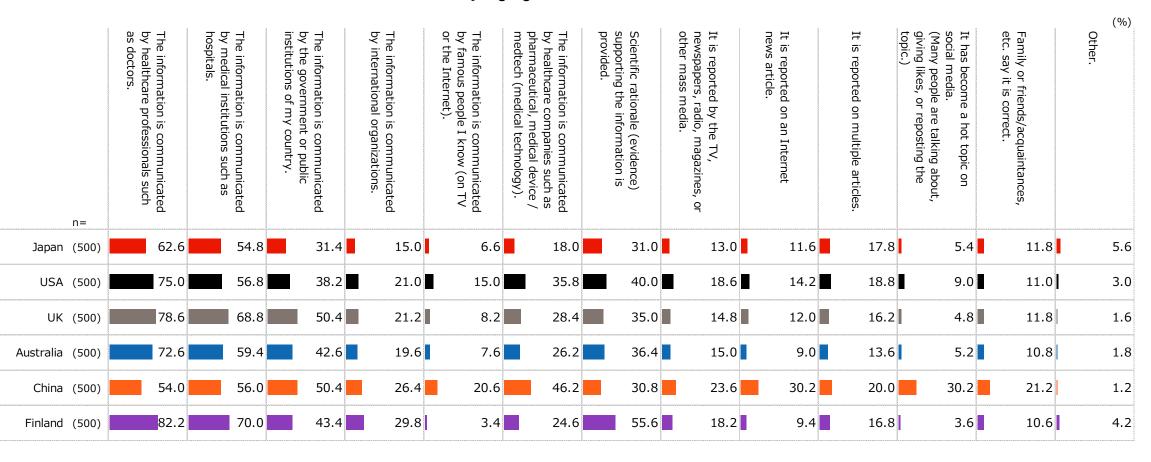


Criteria for judging health and medical care information

Q13 : What criteria do you use to judge whether the health and medical information you find is reliable?

(MA Question target : All)

Criteria for judging health and medical information to be correct



Challenges experienced regarding health and medical care information

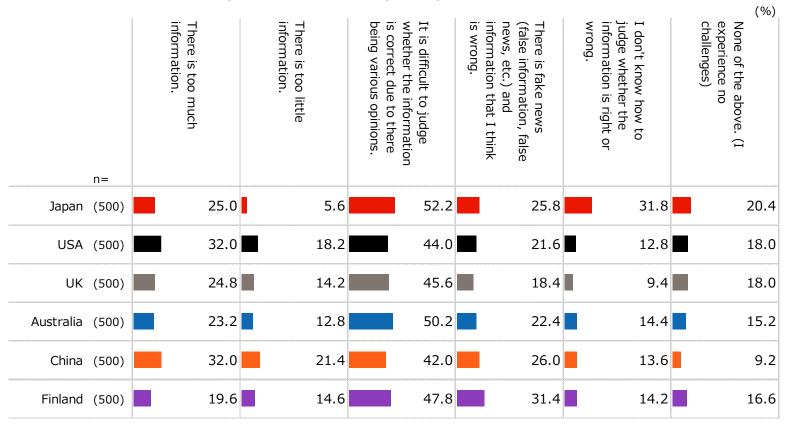
Health information

Q12-1: What challenges, if any, do you experience when looking for information about health and medical information? Please select all that apply from the following for both topics.

'Information on health' = information for managing your feeling and your health.

(MA Question target : All)

Challenges experienced regarding information on health





Challenges experienced regarding health and medical care information

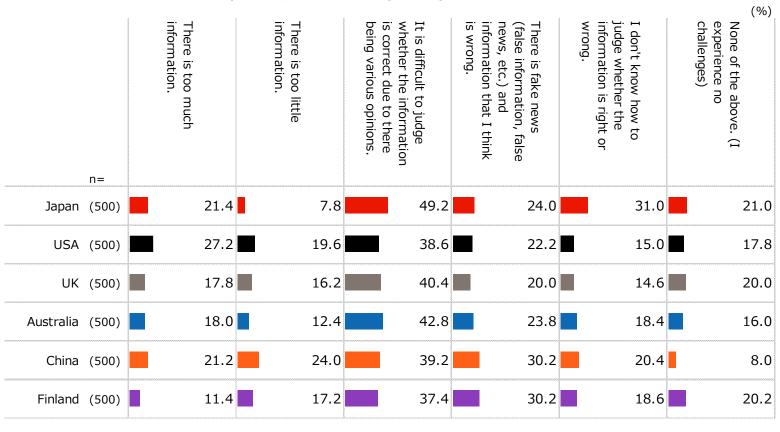
Medical care information

Q12-2: What challenges, if any, do you experience when looking for information about health and medical information? Please select all that apply from the following for both topics.

'Medical information' = information on disease prevention, early detection, disease treatment, post-treatment care, and medical consultations.

(MA Question target : All)

Challenges experienced regarding medical information





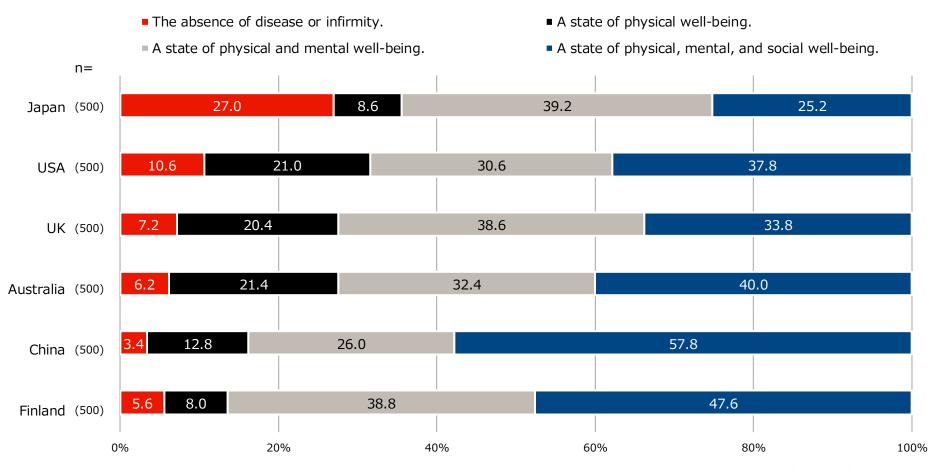
Perception toward "health"

Thoughts on the definition of "health"

Q14: Which of the following statements best describes your definition of being in a state of "Health"?

(SA Question target: All)

Thoughts on the definition of "health"

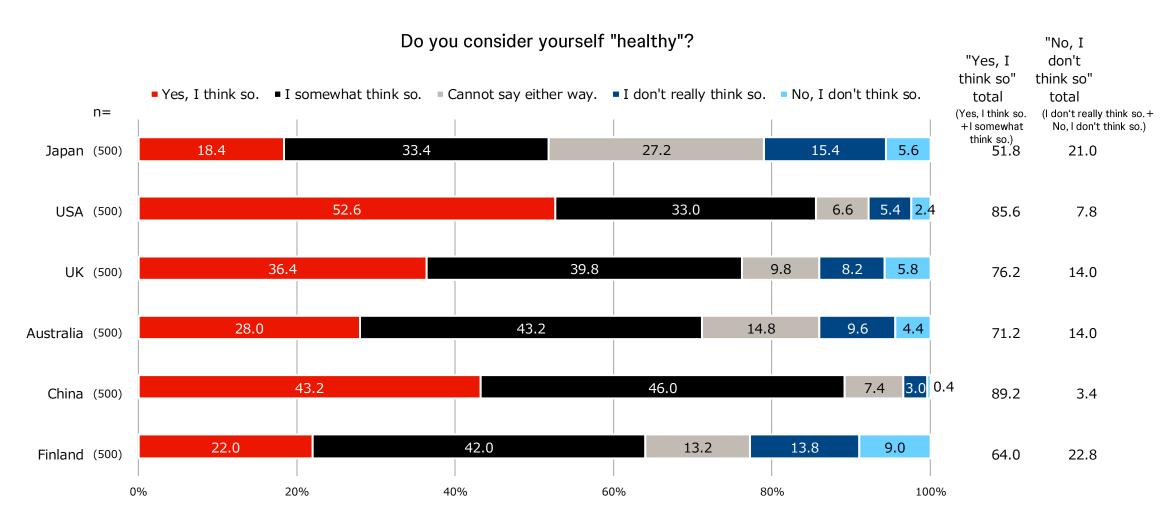


Perception toward "health"

One's own "health" status

Q15: The World Health Organization (WHO) states that
"Health is a state of complete physical, mental and
social well-being and not merely the absence of
disease or infirmity. " Do you consider yourself in a
state of "Health"?

(SA Question target: All)



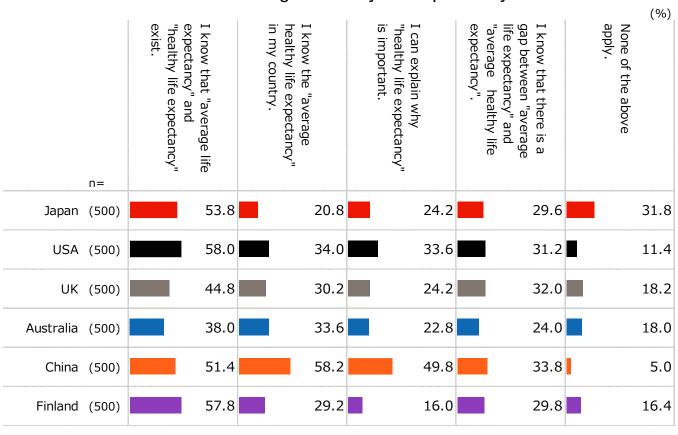
Life expectancy and healthy life expectancy

Knowledge about life expectancy and healthy life expectancy

Q41: Regarding "healthy life expectancy" (The average number of years that a person can expect to live in full health without being hampered by disabling illnesses or injuries), please select all that apply.

(MA Question target: All)

Understanding of healthy life expectancy



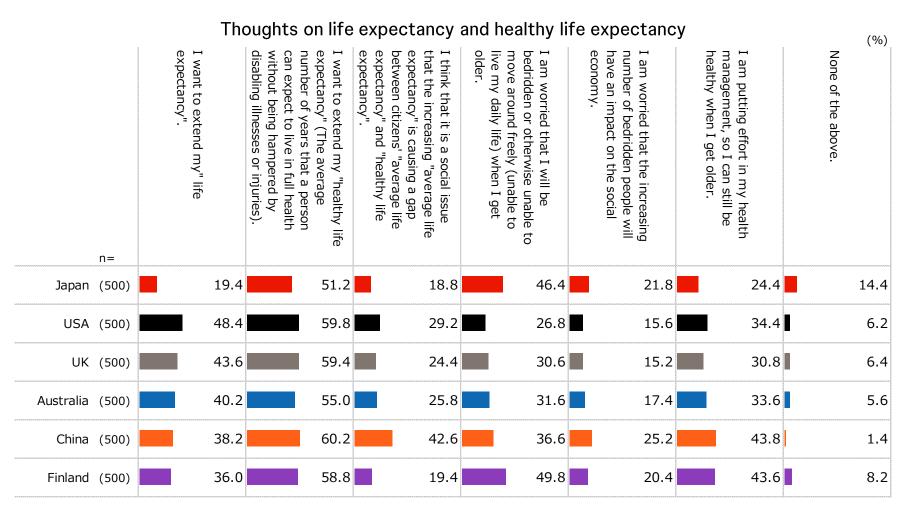


Life expectancy and healthy life expectancy

Thoughts on life expectancy and healthy life expectancy

Q42: Please select all from the following that apply to you regarding "life expectancy" and "healthy life expectancy" (The average number of years that a person can expect to live in full health without being hampered by disabling illnesses or injuries).

(MA Question target: All)



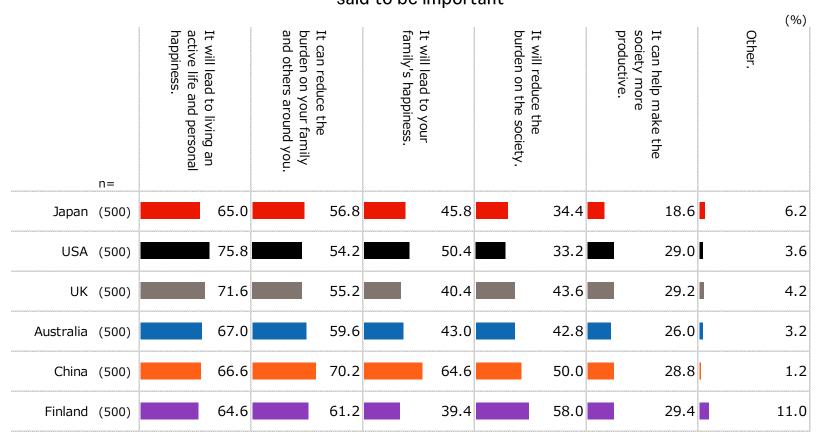
Life expectancy and healthy life expectancy

The gap between life expectancy and healthy life expectancy

Q43 : Eliminating the gap between "average life expectancy" and "healthy life expectancy" is said to be an important goal. Please select the reasons that apply.

(MA Question target : All)

Reasons why "eliminating the gap between average life expectancy and healthy life expectancy" is said to be important





Actions



Actions

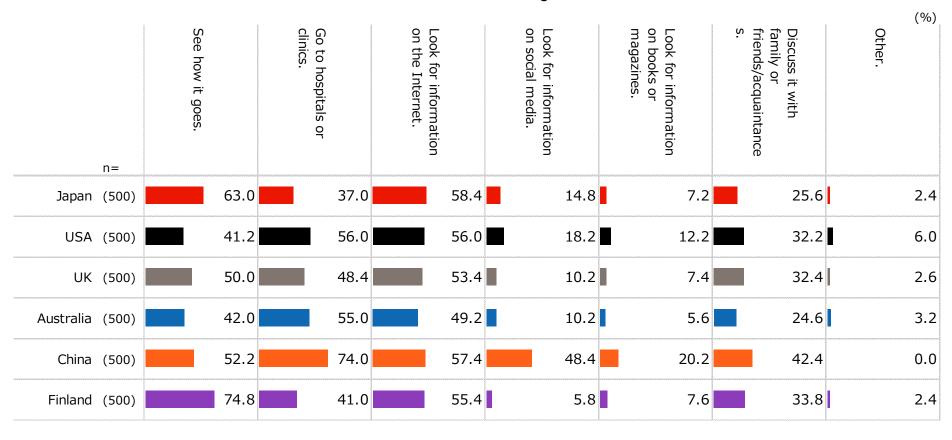
- Actions taken when feeling unwell
- Reasons for seeking medical care when feeling unwell
- Seeking appropriate medical attention and communicating symptoms
 - Seeking appropriate medical attention
 - Communication of symptoms
- Appropriate action to first signs of major diseases and other situations
- Availability of quick medical assistance
- Pain and suffering
 - Thoughts and attitudes of dealing with pain and suffering
 - Dealing with chronic pain and suffering
 - Reasons for enduring pain and suffering
- Health checks and cancer screenings
 - Knowledge of health checks and cancer screenings
 - Status of health checks and cancer screenings
 - Reasons for not receiving health checks and cancer screenings
 - Appropriate action for follow-up tests
- Disease prevention and health maintenance
 - Thoughts and actions for disease prevention and health maintenance
 - Reasons for not taking action to prevent disease or maintain health
- Changes in attitudes and behaviors toward seeking medical care before and after the COVID-19 pandemic

Actions taken when feeling unwell

Q16: What actions do you take when you feel unwell for an unknown reason?

(MA Question target: All)

Actions taken when feeling unwell





Reasons for seeking medical care when feeling unwell

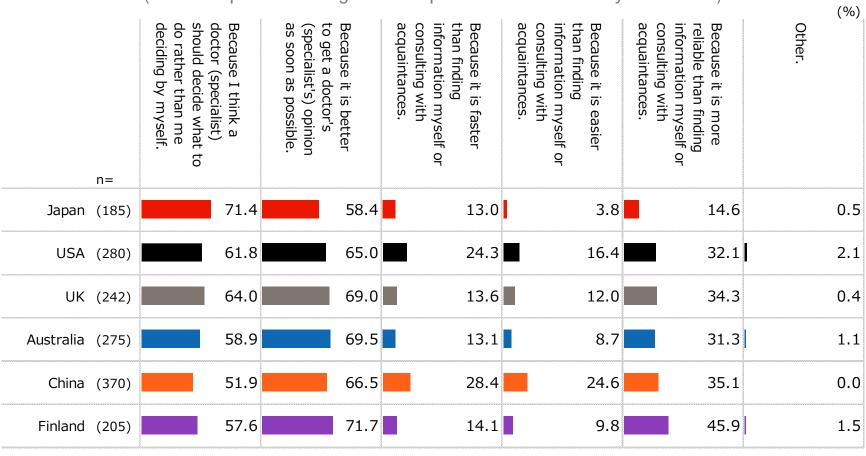
Q17 : Please answer this question if you selected "Go to hospitals or clinics." for the previous question. Why did you answer "Go to hospitals or clinics."?

(MA Question target : Persons who go to a hospital or

clinic when they are unwell)

Reasons for answering "go to a hospital or clinic" when feeling unwell

(Based on persons who go to a hospital or clinic when they feel unwell)



Seeking appropriate medical attention and communicating symptoms

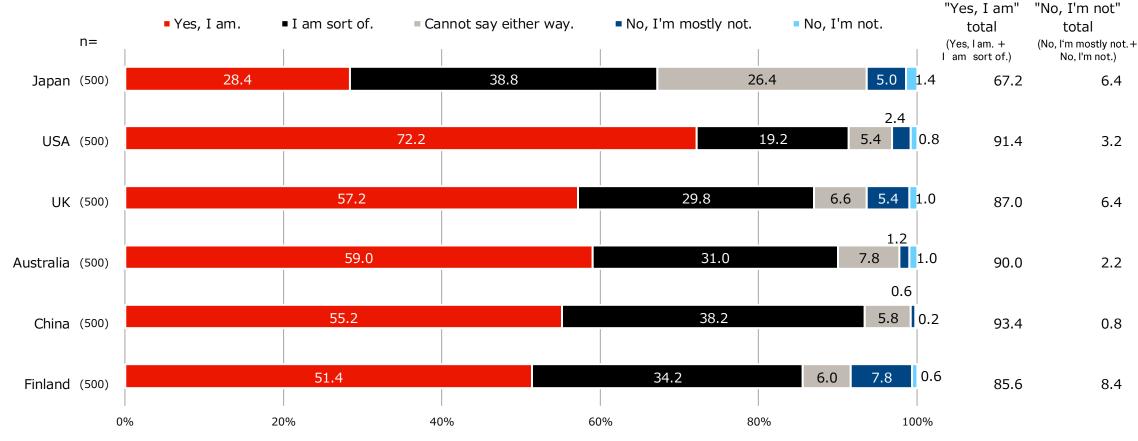
Seeking appropriate medical attention

Q18-1: When you feel unwell, are you able to seek the appropriate medical attention* and communicate your symptoms precisely? *'To seek the appropriate/medical attention' = To consult an appropriate medical institution or treatment department at the appropriate timing according to the symptoms or discomfort.

Seeking appropriate medical attention

(SA Question target: All)

Can you "seek appropriate medical attention" when you feel symptoms or unwellness?



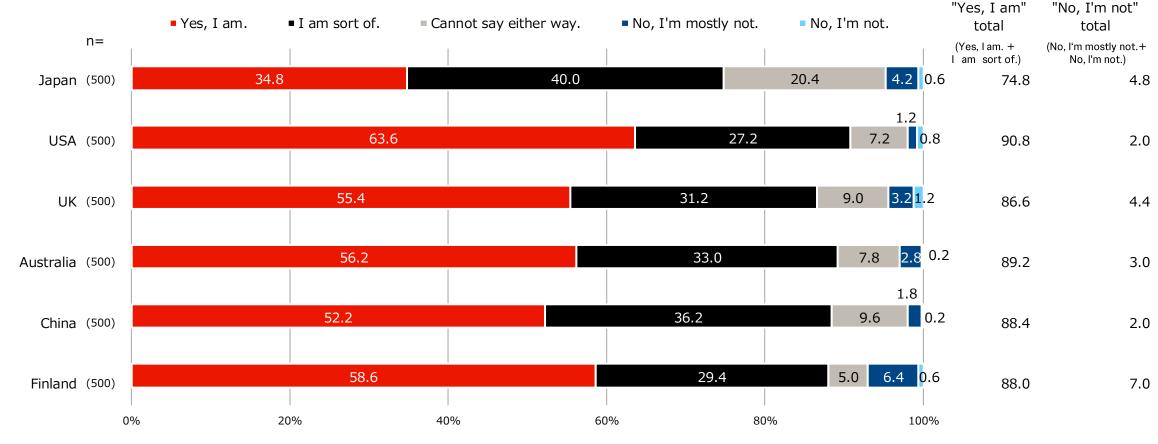
Seeking appropriate medical attention and communicating symptoms

Communication of symptoms to the doctor or specialist

Q18-2: When you feel unwell, are you able to seek the appropriate medical attention* and communicate your symptoms precisely? *'To seek the appropriate medical attention' = To consult an appropriate medical institution or treatment department at the appropriate timing according to the symptoms or discomfort.

Precise communication of symptoms when consulting the doctor or specialist (SA Question target : All)

Can you "precisely communicate your symptoms" when consulting the doctor or specialist?



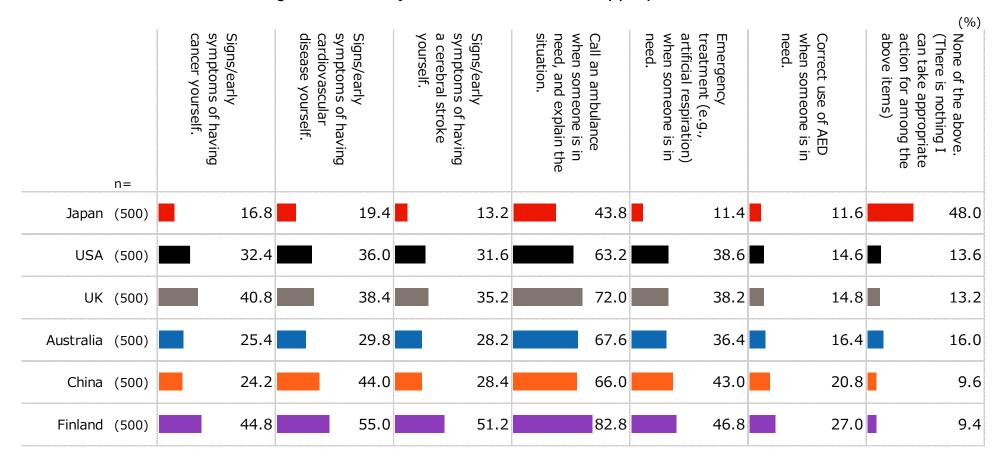
Appropriate action to first signs of major diseases and other situations

Q19: Are you able to take appropriate action to the following signs of disease or in the following situations?

From the following, please select all the signs of disease or situations that you are able to take appropriate action.

(MA Question target: All)

Signs/situations you are able to take the appropriate action to



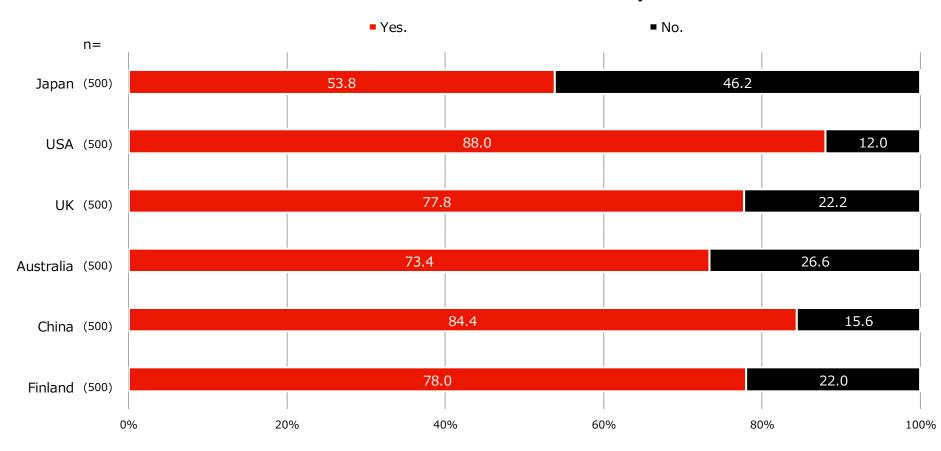
Availability of quick medical assistance

Q22: Do you have a medical institution (including healthcare professionals) to which you can consult immediately if you feel unwell or discomfort?

Please select one answer that applies from the following.

(SA Question target: All)

Existance of medical institutions (including healthcare professionals) which can be consulted immediately



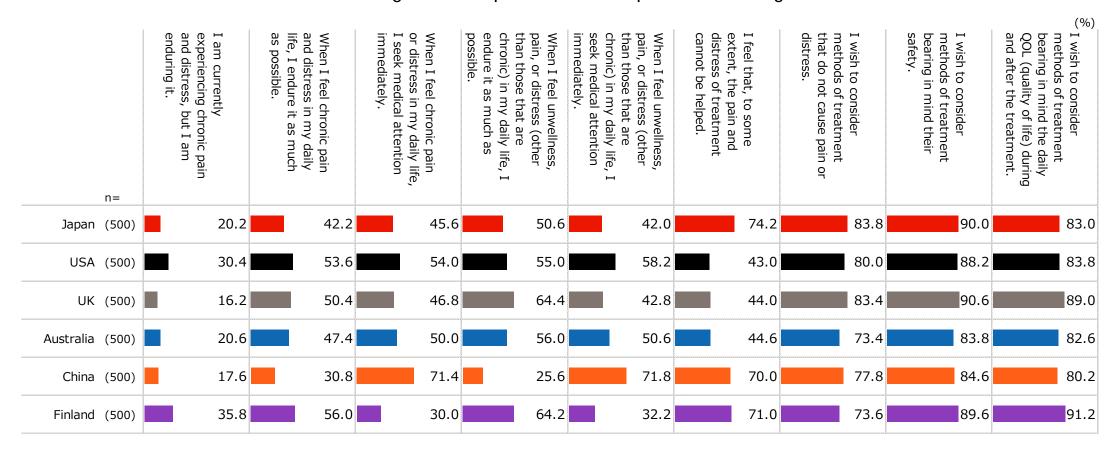
Pain and suffering

Thoughts and attitudes of dealing with pain and suffering

Q20 : Please select an answer that applies to you for the following questions.

(Each SA Question target: All)

Thoughts and response to chronic pain and suffering



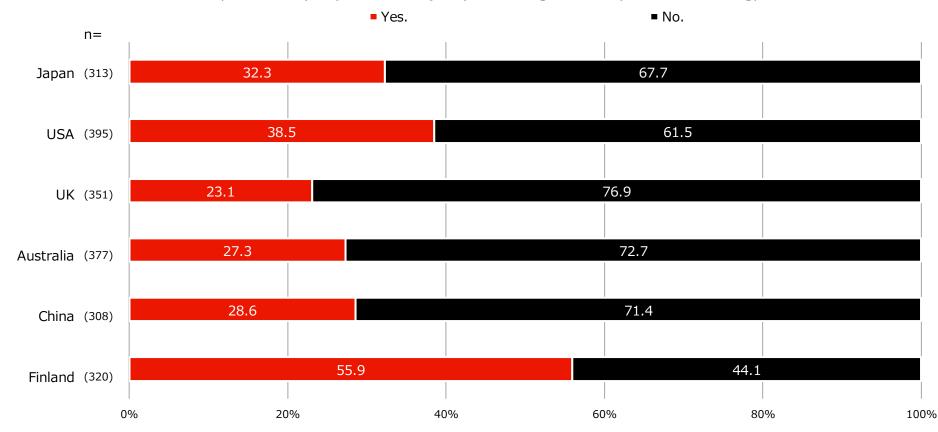
Pain and suffering

Dealing with chronic pain and suffering

Q20-1: Please select an answer that applies to you for the following questions. I am currently experiencing chronic pain and distress, but I am enduring it. (Each SA Question target: All)

Currently experiencing chronic pain or suffering but enduring it

(Based on people currently experiencing chronic pain or suffering)



^{*}Scores are based on the tally for those "currently experiencing chronic pain or suffering."

Pain and suffering

Reasons for enduring pain and suffering

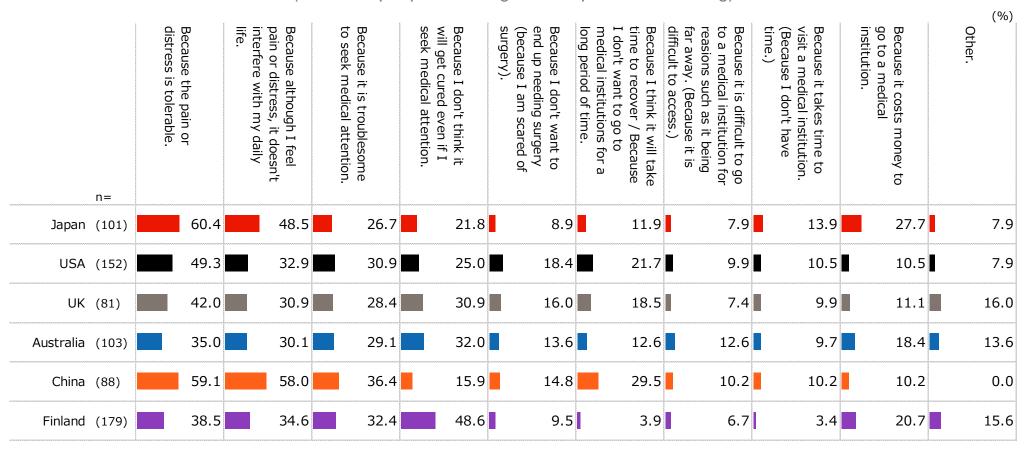
Q21–1: If you selected "Yes" for items "I am currently experiencing chronic pain and distress, but I am enduring it." in the previous question, why do you endure it?

(MA Question target: people who endure chronic

pain and suffering)

Reason for answering "I am currently experiencing chronic pain and suffering, but I am enduring it"

(Based on people enduring chronic pain and suffering)





Pain and suffering

Reasons for enduring pain and suffering

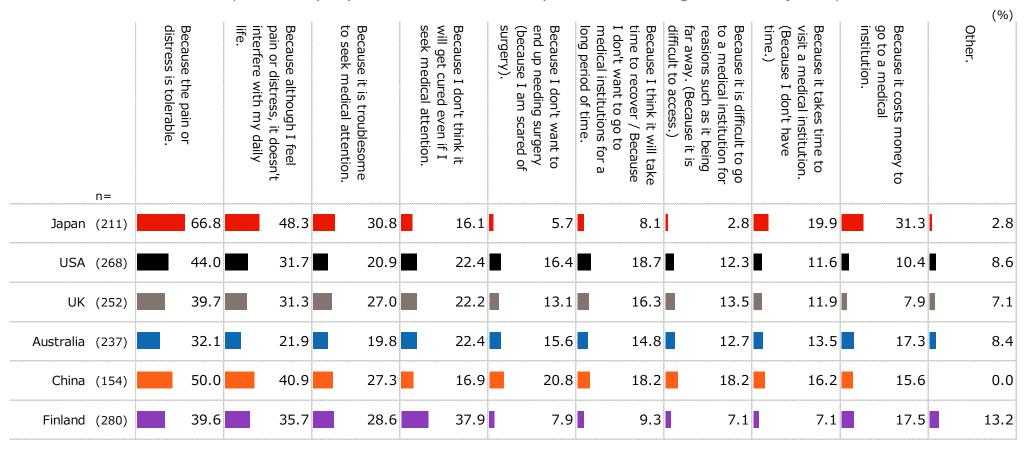
Q21-2: If you selected "When I feel chronic pain and distress in my daily life, I endure it as much as possible." in the previous question, why do you endure it?

(MA Question target: Persons enduring chronic

(MA Question target : Persons enduring chronic pain and suffering in daily life)

Reason for answering "When I feel chronic pain and distress in my daily life, I endure it as much as possible."

(Based on people who endure chronic pain and suffering in their daily lives)





Pain and suffering

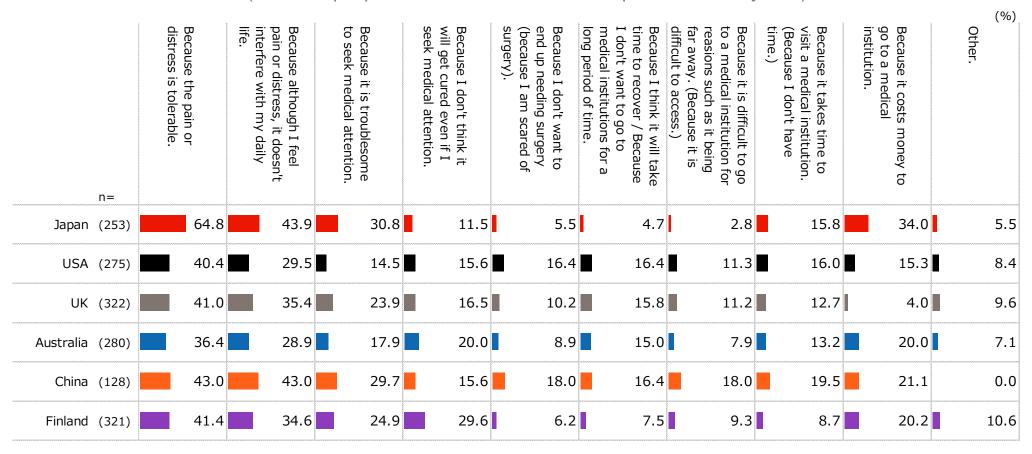
Reasons for enduring pain and suffering

Q21–3: If you selected "When I feel unwellness, pain, or distress (other than those that are chronic) in my daily life, I endure it as much as possible." in the previous question, why do you endure it?

(MA Question target: People who endure unwellness, pain, or distress in their daily lives)

Reason for answering "When I feel unwellness, pain, or distress in my daily life, I endure it as much as possible"

(Based on people who endure unwellness and pain in their daily lives)

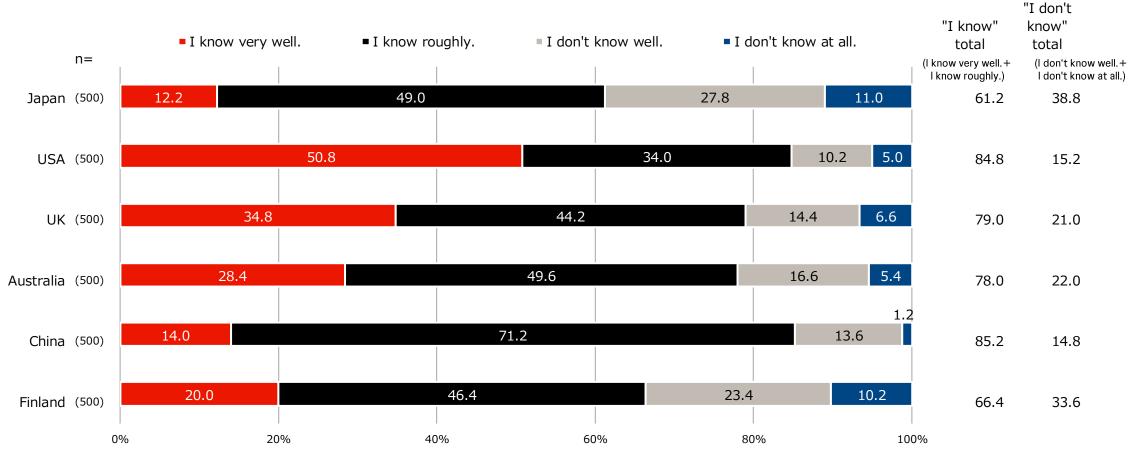




Knowledge of health checks and cancer screenings

Q23-1: Regarding health checkups and cancer screenings that you should take, do you know how to take them / the eligible ages / and the frequency to take them? < How to take them> (SA Question target : All)

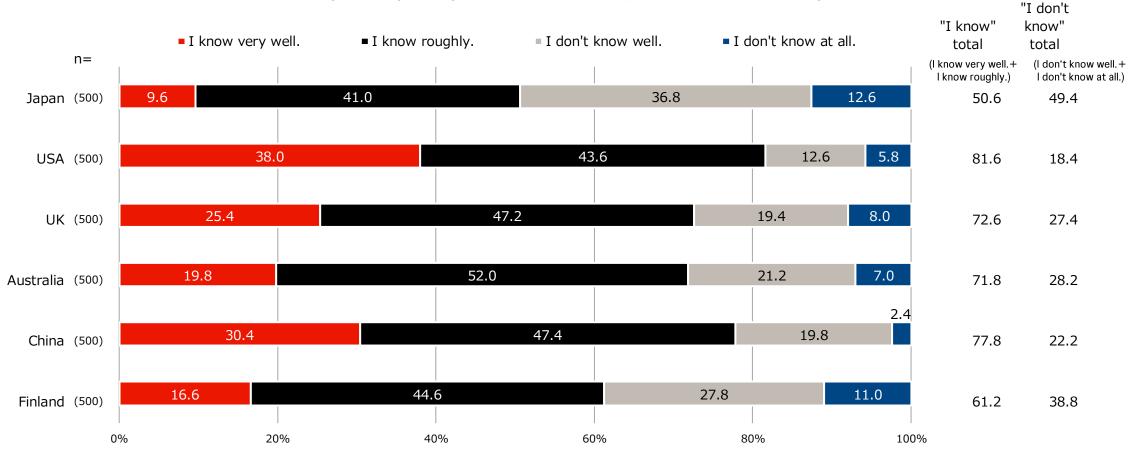
Knowledge of how to receive health checkups and cancer screenings



Knowledge of health checks and cancer screenings

Q23-2: Regarding health checkups and cancer screenings that you should take, do you know how to take them / the eligible ages / and the frequency to take them? Eligible ages (SA Question target: All)

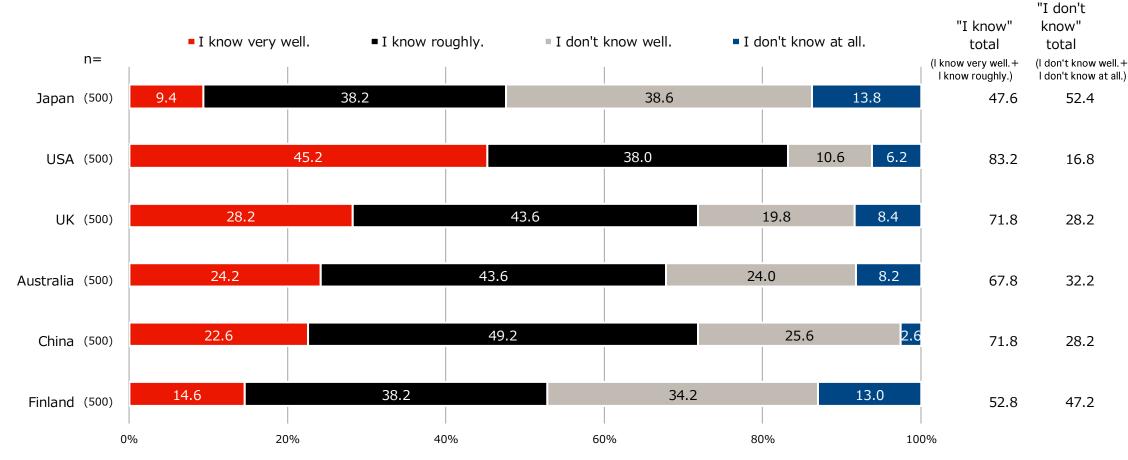




Knowledge of health checks and cancer screenings

Q23-3: Regarding health checkups and cancer screenings that you should take, do you know how to take them / the eligible ages / and the frequency to take them? Frequency to take them (SA Question target: All)

Knowledge of frequency of health checkups and cancer screenings



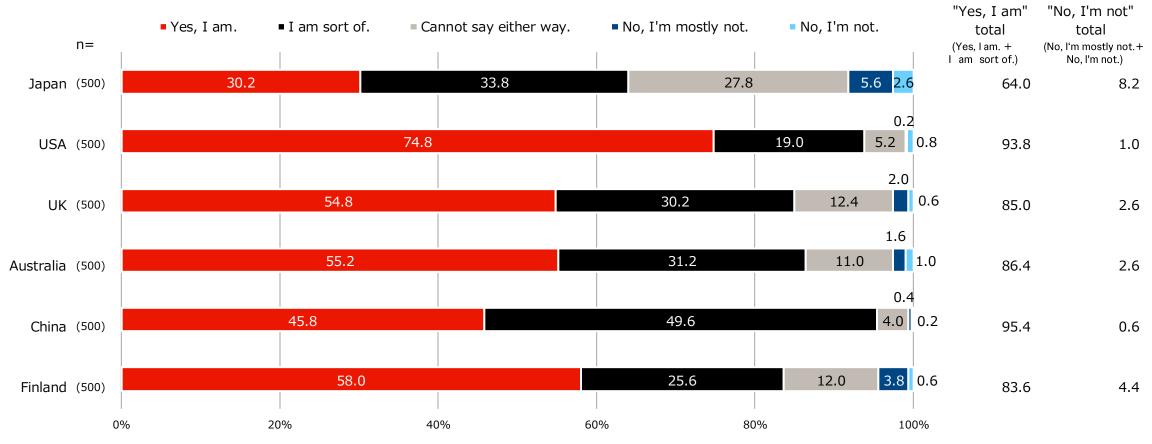
Appropriate action for follow-up tests

Q28: Are you able to take appropriate action* when you need follow-up tests after having a health checkup or cancer screening?

*'Appropriate action' = consultation with your primary doctor and having follow-up tests appropriately in response to recommendations or instructions.

(SA Question target : All)

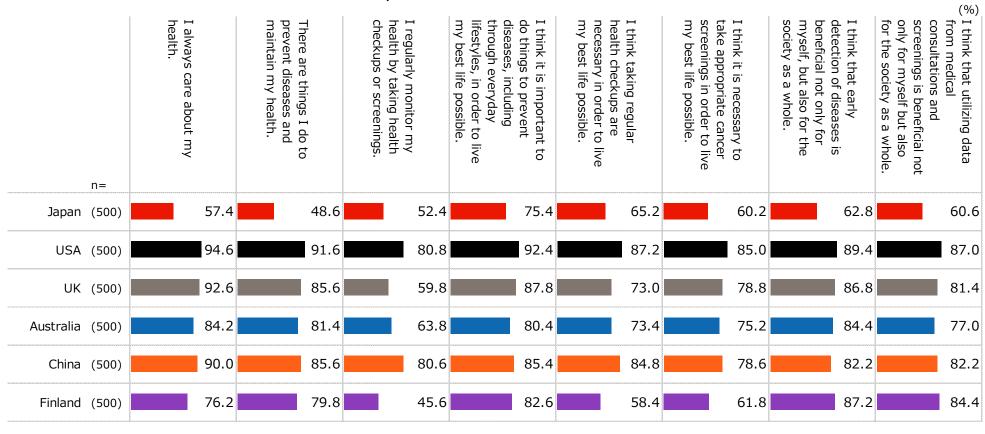
Can you take appropriate action when follow-up tests are required?



Disease prevention and health maintenance

Thoughts and actions for disease prevention and health maintenance

Disease prevention and health maintenance



^{*} Score is the total of "applicable" and "somewhat applicable".

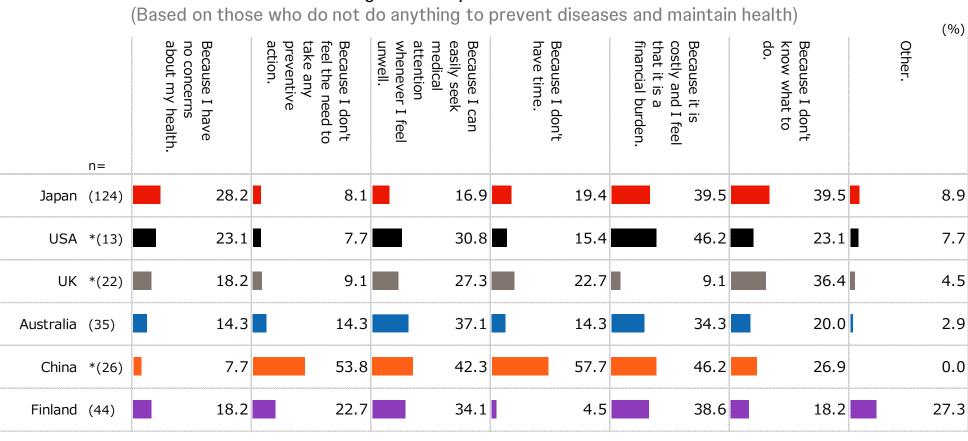
Disease prevention and health maintenance

Reasons for not taking action to prevent disease or maintain health

Q27: Please answer this question if you answered "Not very applicable" or "Not applicable" for item "There are things I do to prevent diseases and maintain my health." in the previous question. Please tell us the reasons for your answer.

(MA Question target: those who do not do anything to prevent diseases and maintain health)

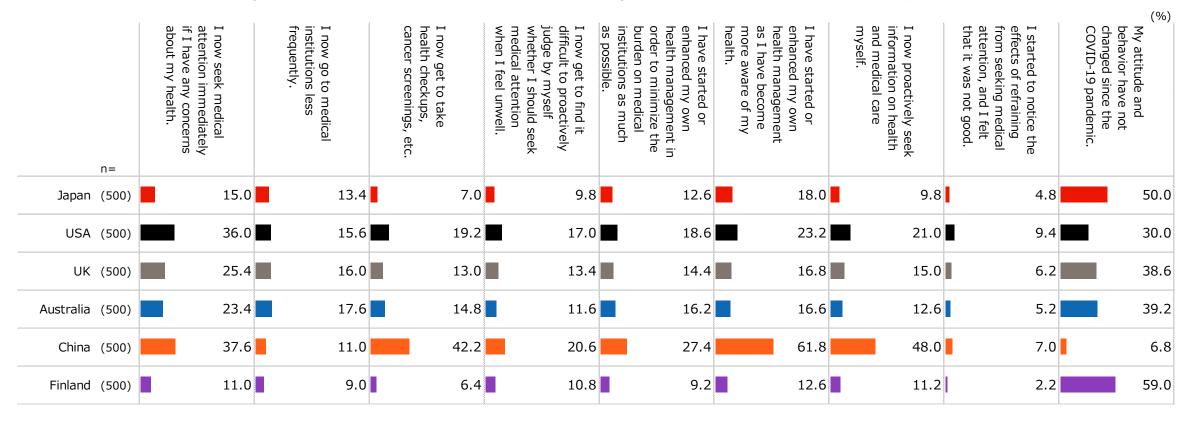
Reasons for not taking action to prevent disease or maintain health



Changes in attitudes and behaviors toward seeking medical care before and after the COVID-19 pandemic

Q29 : Have your attitude and behavior toward seeking medical attention changed since the COVID-19 pandemic? (MA Question target : All)

Changes in attitudes and behavior towards seeking medical care after the COVID-19 pandemic



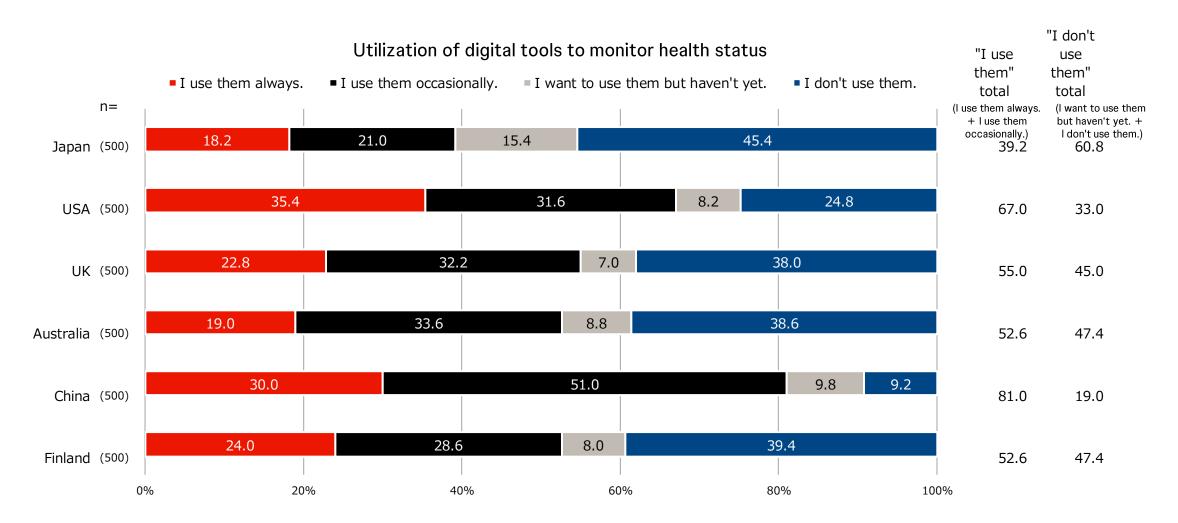
Digital utilization

Digital Utilization

- Use of digital tools in health management
- Reasons for using digital tools
- Thoughts on digitalization and data utilization in daily life and medical care
 - Digitalization and data utilization in daily life
 - Digitalization and data utilization in one's own health management
 - Digitalization and data utilization in medical care
- Expectation toward digitalization in health management
- Expectation toward digitalization in medical care

Use of digital tools in health management

Q36: Do you use any digital tools (such as smart watches, activity monitors, or smartphone health apps) to monitor your health? (SA Question target: All)



Reasons for using digital tools

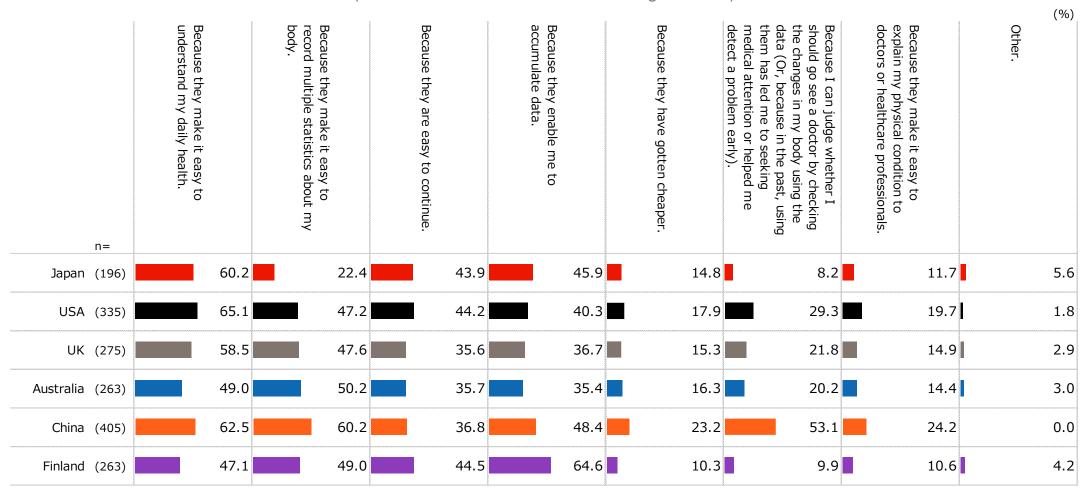
Q37: Please answer this question if you answered "I use them always" or "I use them occasionally" for the previous question.

Please answer why you use them.

(MA Question target: Users of health-related digital tools)

Reason for using digital tools

(Based on users of health-related digital tools)

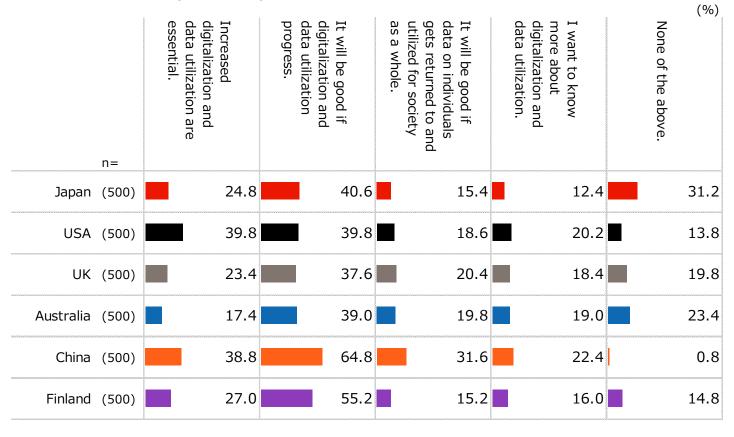


Thoughts on digitalization and data utilization in daily life and medical care

Digitalization and data utilization in daily life

Q38–1: What do you think about digitalization and data utilization in daily life and medical care? (Assuming privacy is protected.)
<Digitalization in daily life (purchase records, cashless payments, etc.)>
(MA Question target: All)





Thoughts on digitalization and data utilization in daily life and medical care

Q38–2: What do you think about digitalization and data utilization in daily life and medical care? (Assuming privacy is protected.)

<Digitalization of your health management (recording physical activity, diet, weight, blood pressure, etc.) in daily life>

(MA Question target : All)

Digitalization and data utilization in one's own health management

Thoughts on digitalization and data utilization in one's own health management



Thoughts on digitalization and data utilization in daily life and medical care

Q38-3: What do you think about digitalization and data utilization in daily life and medical care? (Assuming privacy is protected.)

<Digitalization of medical care (examinations, diagnoses, treatments, etc.)>

(MA Question target: All)

Digitalization and data utilization in medical care

Thoughts on digitalization and data utilization in medical care

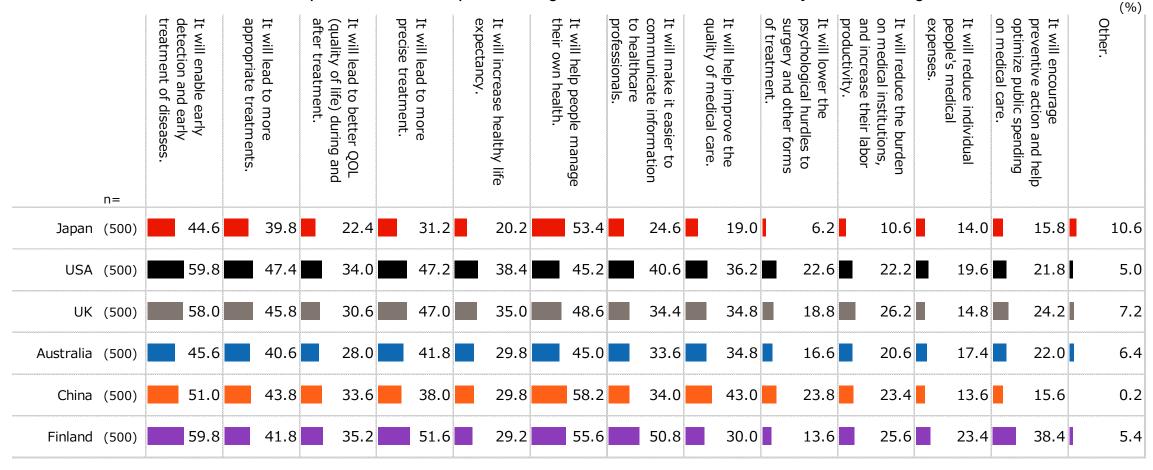


Expectation toward digitalization in health management

Q39: What do you think the spread of digitalization and data utilization in health management in daily life (recording physical activity, diet, weight, blood pressure, etc.) will bring about?

(MA Question target : All)

What can be expected from the spread of digitalization and data use in daily health management

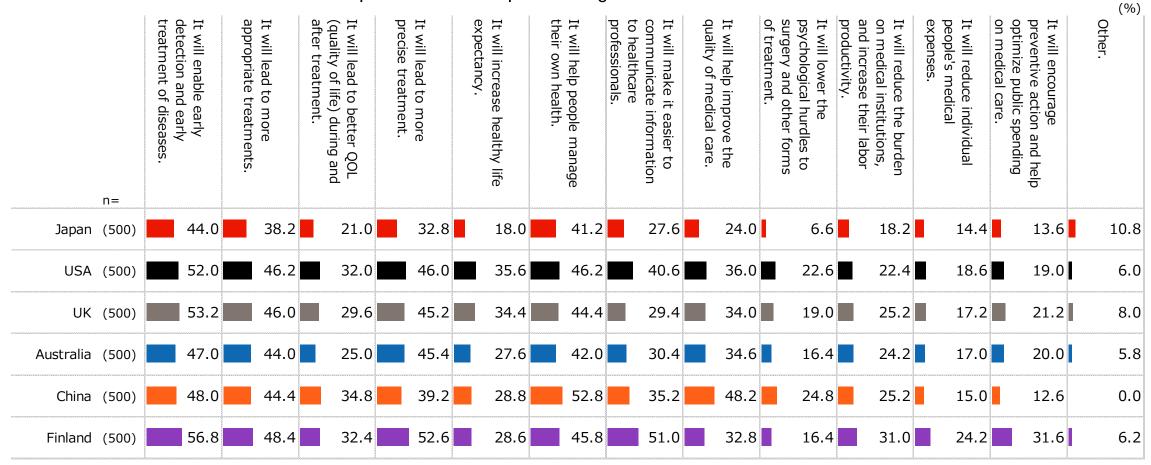


Expectation toward digitalization in medical care

Q40: What do you think the spread of digitalization in medical care (examinations, diagnoses, treatments, etc.) will bring about?

(MA Question target: All)

What can be expected from the spread of digitalization and data use in medical care



Communication

Communication

- Dialogue with health care professionals during medical visits
- Attitudes and actions when communicating with doctors during medical visits
- Proactive involvement in treatment decisions
 - Intention for proactive involvement
 - Self-assessment of proactive involvement
 - Benefits of proactive involvement
- What you need to be proactive
- Acquisition of information and knowledge to proactively make appropriate health and medical care choices
 - Intention to acquire
 - Acquisition reality

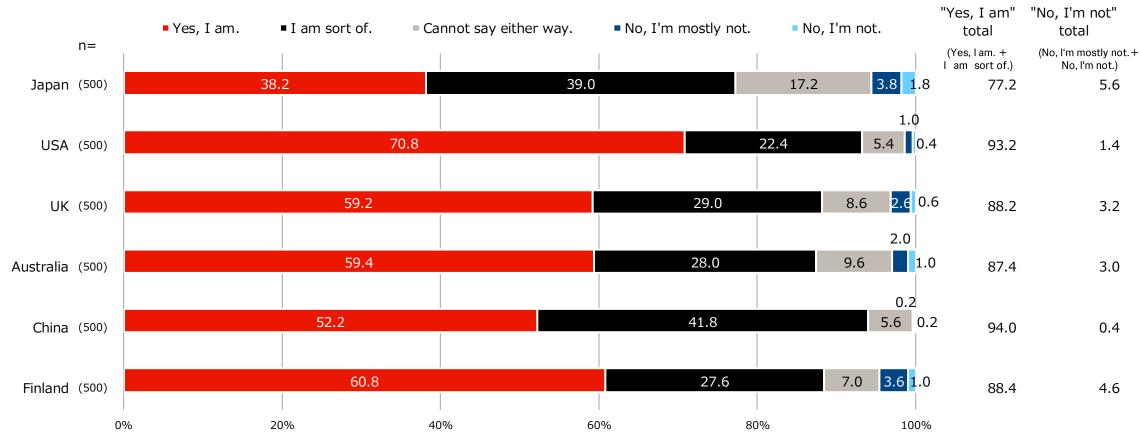
Dialogue with health care professionals during medical visits

Q30: Are you able to converse with* healthcare professionals (doctors, nurses, pharmacist, etc.) when you seek medical attention?

*Converse with = Get deeper understanding of their (HCPs') explanations, ask them questions, and tell them what you think.

(SA Question target : All)

Ability to converse with health care professionals when seeking medical attention



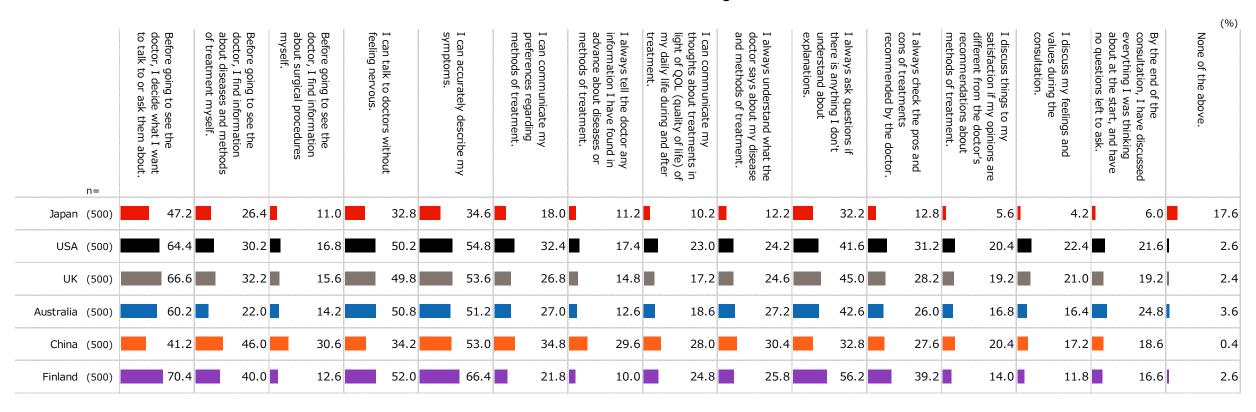
Attitudes and actions when communicating with doctors during medical visits

Q31: Please select what applies to you when communicating with doctors when seeking medical attention. Please choose all that apply from the following.

If you have never experienced the following situations, please imagine and answer.

(MA Question target : All)

Communication with doctors when visiting medical facilities

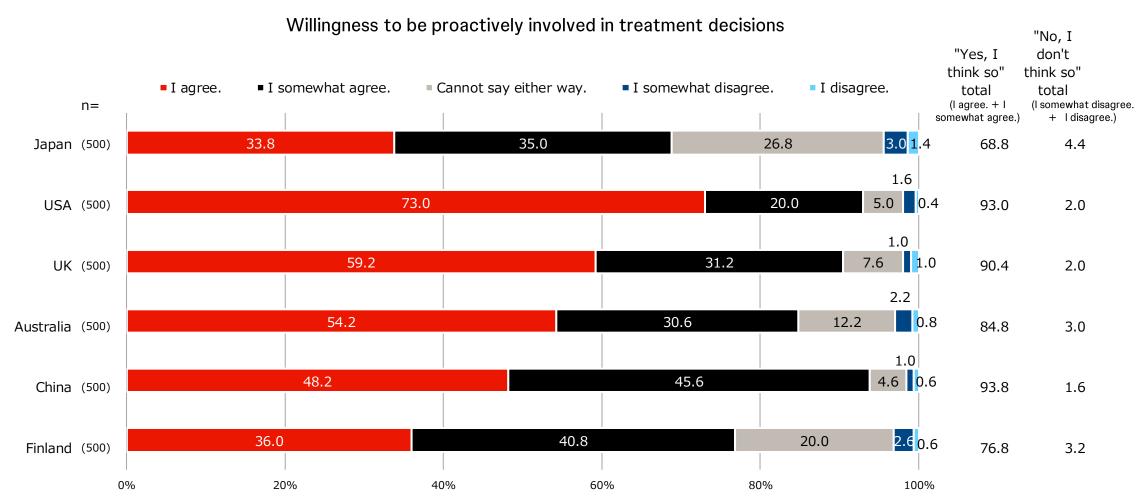


Proactive involvement in treatment decisions

Intention for proactive involvement

Q32: Do you want to be proactively involved in the treatment decisions when you get sick or injured? Being proactively involved means being involved in decisions regarding treatment, after sharing your values and wishes with the healthcare professionals and getting a better understanding of the medical information provided by them.

(SA Question target: All)



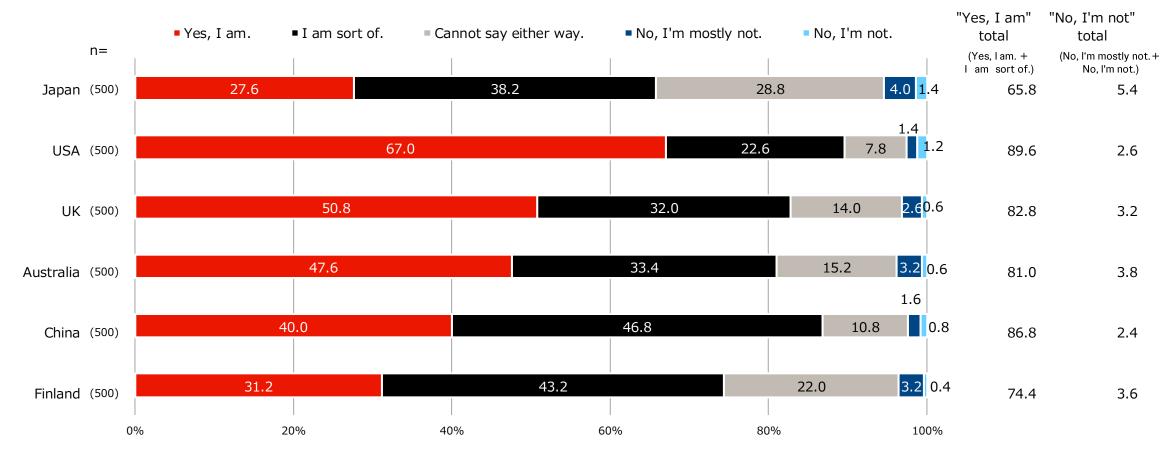
Proactive involvement in treatment decisions

Self-assessment of proactive involvement

Q33: Are you able to be proactively involved in the treatment decisions when you get sick or injured? Being proactively involved means being involved in decisions regarding treatment, after sharing your values and wishes with the healthcare professionals and getting a better understanding of the medical information provided by them.

(SA Question target: All)

Ability to take a proactive role in treatment decisions

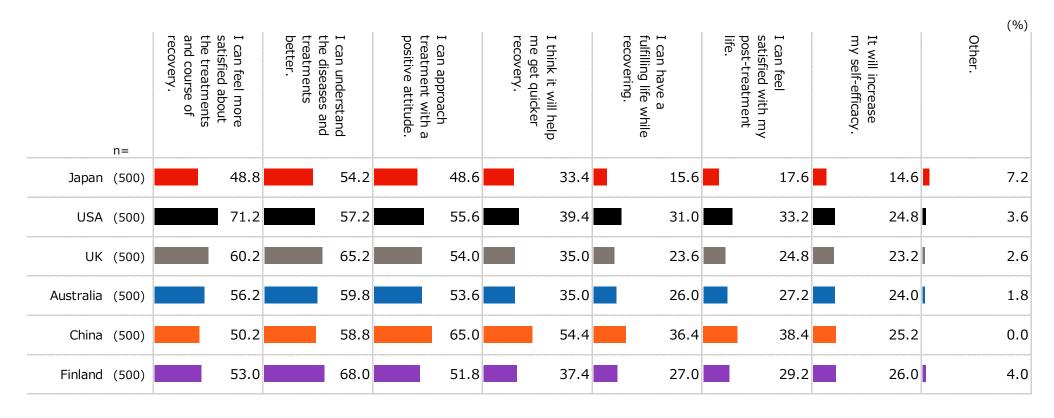


Proactive involvement in treatment decisions

Benefits of proactive involvement

Q34: What do you think are the benefits of being proactively involved in the treatment decisions when you get sick or injured? Being proactively involved means being involved in decisions regarding treatment, after sharing your values and wishes with the healthcare professionals and getting a better understanding of the medical information provided by them. (MA Question target: All)

Benefits of being proactively involved in treatment decisions





What you need to be proactive

Q35: What do you think is necessary in order to be proactively involved in the treatment decisions when you get sick or injured? Being proactively involved means being involved in decisions regarding treatment, after sharing your values and wishes with the healthcare professionals and getting a better understanding of the medical information provided by them. (MA Question target: All)

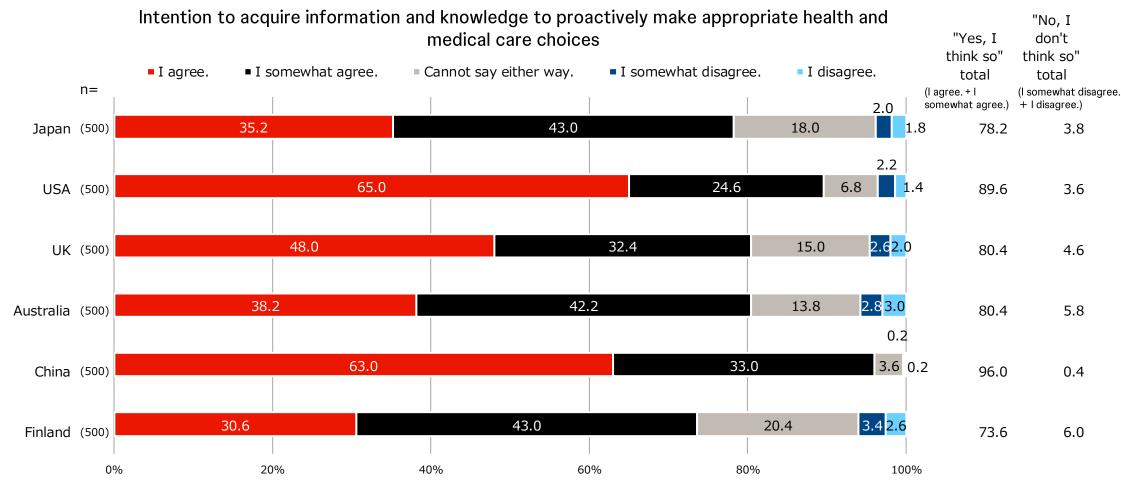
What it takes to be able to be proactively involved in treatment decisions (%) found correct inform such as symptoms a treatment for my di things such as of treatment i things such as s of treatment fo Systems and too with healthcare | The ability to a disease/injury' The ability to (consulting a c The ability to converse with* healtl professionals such as doctors. *Get deeper understanding of their Other. The ability to find information about things such as symptoms and methods of treatment for my disease/injury. The ability to judge whether I have found correct information about this such as symptoms and methods of etc. my disease/injury using the symptoms Systems for discussing things such as questions, (HCPs') explanations, ask multiple treatment options The ability to using digital tools. Widespread utilization of digital technology in medical institutions Having a doctors. The ability to manage my own health primary and tools and or methods of treatment for o converse with* I s such as doctors. s symptoms and methods for my disease/injury. talk to different doctor's opinion) get accurately describe 's symptoms. professionals a second opinion disease/injury. them doctors what you think Internet, t conversing such as healthcare Ψ 40.6 21.2 41.2 32.6 23.4 30.6 11.4 10.2 10.8 47.8 22.6 19.4 7.2 Japan (500) 40.6 39.6 43.6 35.0 22.2 20.2 USA (500) 63.4 28.0 51.4 38.4 10.0 2.6 43.0 42.2 34.2 16.6 15.6 58.2 45.8 27.8 49.6 40.6 39.8 8.4 2.0 UK (500) 34.0 51.6 42.2 36.4 16.6 13.8 42.4 Australia (500) 45.8 41.4 23.6 36.8 7.4 1.8 48.6 44.6 42.0 44.8 42.2 27.0 22.0 46.6 13.6 31.4 28.4 9.4 0.0 China (500) 50.6 37.6 40.2 49.0 46.4 34.0 18.6 16.6 10.8 5.2 Finland (500) 44.4 20.0 49.4

Acquisition of information and knowledge to proactively make appropriate health and medical care choices

Q44: Do you want to acquire new information and knowledge, in order to proactively (intentionally) make appropriate health and medical care choices?

(SA Question target: All)

Intention to acquire



Acquisition of information and knowledge to proactively make appropriate health and medical care choices

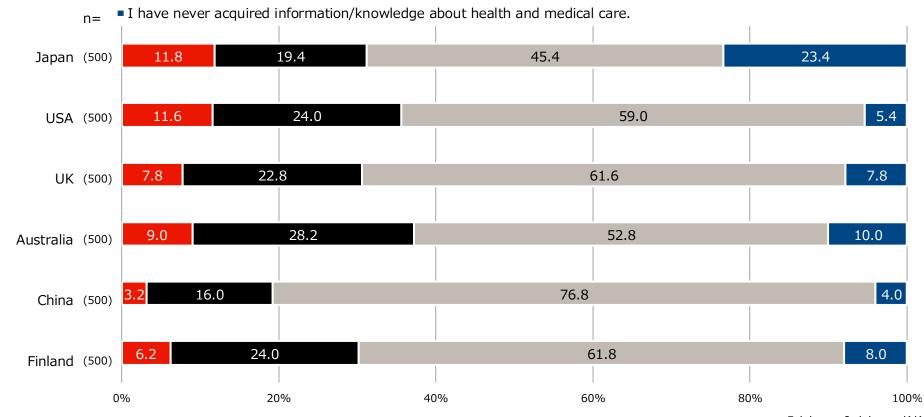
Q45: Are you acquiring new information and knowledge, in order to proactively (intentionally) make appropriate health and medical care choices?

(SA Question target: All)

Acquisition reality

Acquisition reality of information and knowledge to proactively make appropriate health and medical care choices

- I have learned in school (when I was a child), but haven't learned anything new since then.
- I have acquired new information/knowledge about health and medical care in the past, but not in the last 3 years.
- I am continually acquiring new information/knowledge about health and medical care.

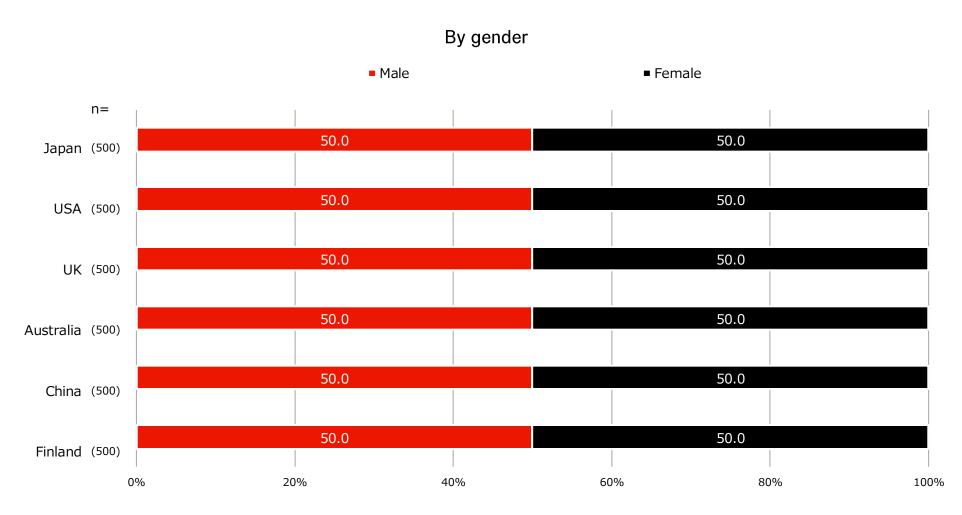


Respondent demographics

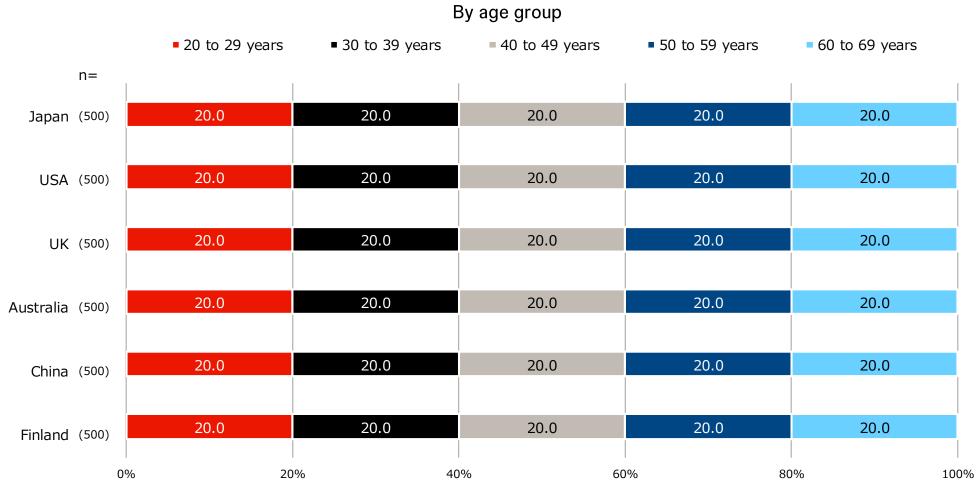
Respondent demographics

- By gender
- By age group
- By gender and age
- Experience of hospitalization and surgery

By gender

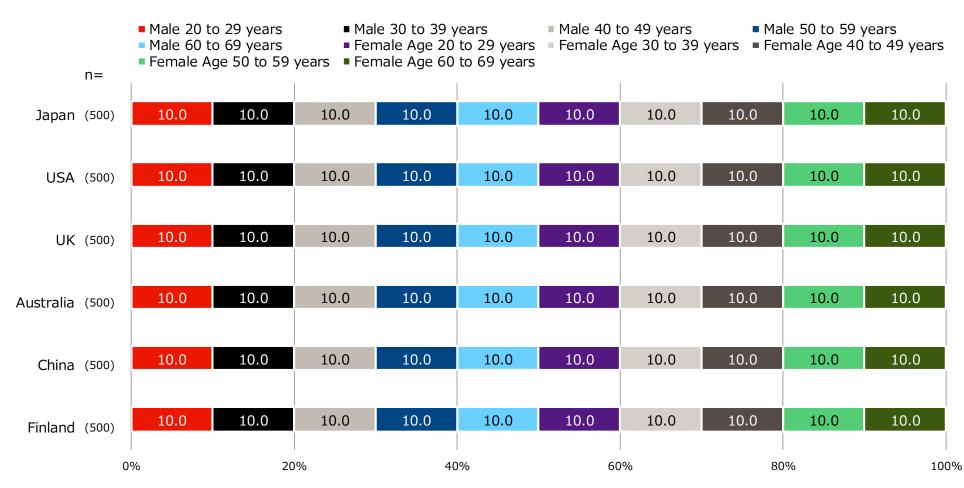


By age group



By gender and age

By gender and age



Experience of hospitalization and surgery (personal)

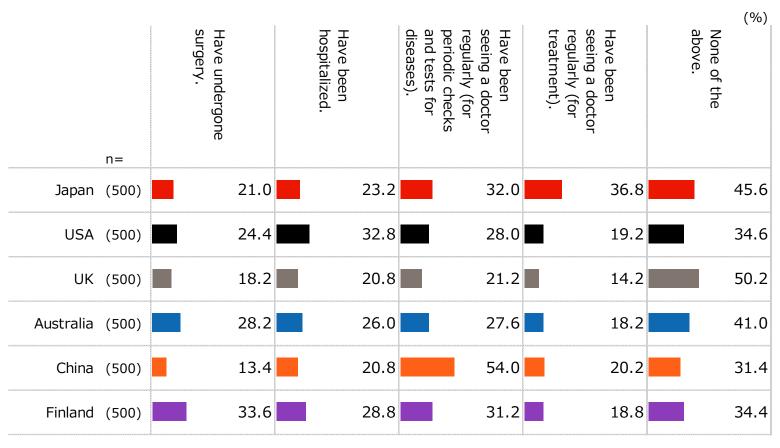
Q47-1: Have you or any members of your family undergone surgery or been hospitalized in the last five years?

Please select all that apply to you and your family.

You yourself.

(MA Question target: All)

Experience of hospitalization and surgery (personal)



Experience of hospitalization and surgery (family)

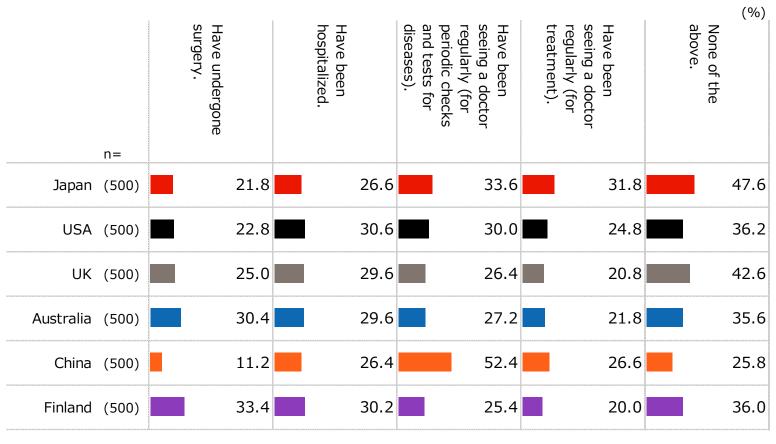
Q47–2: Have you or any members of your family undergone surgery or been hospitalized in the last five years?

Please select all that apply to you and your family.

Members of your family.

(MA Question target: All)

Experience of hospitalization and surgery (family)



Contact

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