What is Fukushima Prefecture's Fukushima Health Management Survey?

Considering the effects of radiation due to the nuclear disaster, Fukushima Prefecture has been conducting the "Fukushima Health Management Survey" since June 2011 in order to monitor and improve the health of residents for the long term into the future.

The Fukushima Health Management Survey consists of the following five components.

(i) Basic Survey (estimation of external doses) (all residents)

(ii) Detailed Surveys

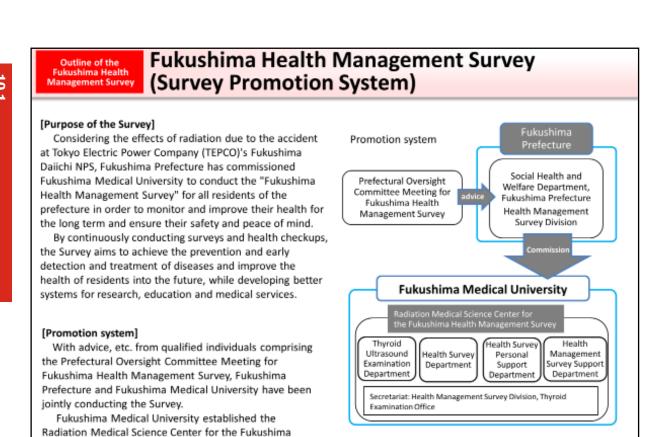
- Thyroid Ultrasound Examination (residents aged around 18 or younger as of March 11, 2011)
- Comprehensive Health Checkup (residents in Evacuation Areas)
- Mental Health and Lifestyle Survey (residents in Evacuation Areas)
- Pregnancy and Birth Survey (pregnant women who have obtained a maternity handbook for each fiscal year)

Prepared based on the website of the Radiation Medical Science Center for the Fukushima Health Management Survey, Fukushima Medical University
(information on the Fukushima Prefecture's Fukushima Health Management Survey)

In the aftermath of the diffusion of radioactive materials from the accident at Tokyo Electric Power Company (TEPCO)'s Fukushima Daiichi NPS, subsequent evacuations and such, the "Fukushima Health Management Survey" was commenced in Fukushima Prefecture, aiming to improve and maintain the health of the residents of the prefecture into the future by means of understanding their health conditions and linking such data to the prevention and early detection and treatment of diseases, while assessing their radiation doses.

Within the Fukushima Health Management Survey, the Basic Survey was offered to all residents of Fukushima Prefecture to ascertain their external doses during the four months following the accident at the NPS, and the Thyroid Ultrasound Examination has been conducted for all residents who were around 18 years old or younger at the time of the accident. The Comprehensive Health Checkup to ascertain physical health conditions and the Mental Health and Lifestyle Survey to ascertain mental health conditions have also been conducted for approximately 210,000 people who were residing in areas designated for evacuation after the accident. Furthermore, the Pregnancy and Birth Survey has been conducted for pregnant women who obtained a maternity handbook within Fukushima Prefecture and those who obtained a maternity handbook somewhere else but gave birth in the prefecture.

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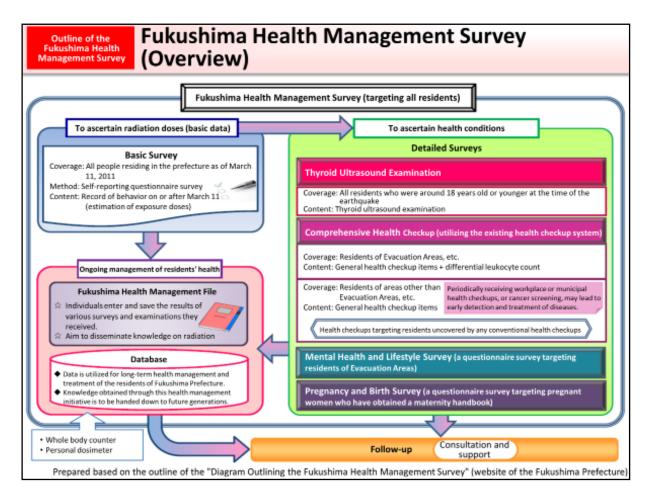
Prepared based on the "Fukushima Health Management Survey, Fukushima Prefecture" (website of the Radiation Medical Science Center for the Fukushima Health Management Survey, Fukushima Medical University)

The Fukushima Health Management Survey is being carried out by Fukushima Medical University under commission from Fukushima Prefecture, which serves as the responsible entity. Fukushima Medical University established the Radiation Medical Science Center for the Fukushima Health Management Survey to carry out the Survey.

Fukushima Prefecture set up the Prefectural Oversight Committee Meeting for Fukushima Health Management Survey with the aim of obtaining advice on the Fukushima Health Management Survey from a broad panel of experts.

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Health Management Survey in September 2011.



The Fukushima Health Management Survey is broadly divided into the Basic Survey and Detailed Surveys.

The Basic Survey was conducted for the purpose of estimating residents' external doses for the four months after the accident at Tokyo Electric Power Company (TEPCO)'s Fukushima Daiichi NPS based on their behavioral records and obtaining data that is to serve as the basis for monitoring and protecting their health into the future.

The Detailed Surveys are to ascertain residents' present health conditions, as follows:

The first is the Thyroid Ultrasound Examination for all residents who were around 18 years old or younger as of March 11, 2011. As cases of thyroid cancer increased among children after the Chornobyl NPS Accident, this examination aims to ascertain children's thyroid status and promote their health for the long term.

The second is the Comprehensive Health Checkup for people who used to reside in Evacuation Areas, being conducted with the aim of achieving the prevention, early detection, and treatment of lifestyle-related diseases that may be caused by changes in their living circumstances.

The third is the Mental Health and Lifestyle Survey, which is also conducted for people from Evacuation Areas. This is for offering support to the affected people to ease anxiety caused by the Great East Japan Earthquake and the accident at the NPS.

The fourth is the Pregnancy and Birth Survey targeting pregnant women who have worries over various things including radiation fears in relation to childbirth and child rearing.

Fukushima Prefecture compiles all data into a centralized database for the long-term utilization of accumulated knowledge.

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