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Introduction

◆ Seminar (Presentation)



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Developmental disorders and psychological barriers









Key Words

Developmental disorders

Social model

Attitude

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Susumu Yokota is an associate professor at the Faculty of Arts and Science. After receiving his Ph.D. from Tohoku University in 2013, he has been conducting research on brain function and structure in typically developing children and children with developmental disorders, as well as on the relationship between brain structure and cognitive functions such as IQ, at the Institute of Development, Aging, and Cancer, Tohoku University. He has mainly focused on social barriers to developmental disorders and has been conducting research on the attitudes toward developmental disorders and support for that person. He is also involved in supporting people with disabilities at the Support section for inclusion, Center for Health Science and Counseling, Kyushu University.

People with Developmental disorders indicate difficulty for social communication. Previous studies reported that person with divelopmental disorders experienced social exclusion (e.g., bullying) about four times more than people without developmental disorders (typically developing individuals).

In the individual model of the disorders, traits of the disorders can be considered as a problem. In the social model of the disorders, disorder can also be viewed as a barrier between the individual and society. From this perspective, the problem is the psychological barriers of those who surround the person with a developmental disorders.

I have conducted research on attitudes toward developmental disabilities as a psychological barrier. In this presentation, I would like to introduce the results of these studies and consider how psychological barriers can be resolved.