

*T. KANO. Elderly care and housing environment in Japan. Gerontechnology 2010;9(2):296; doi:10.4017/gt.2010.09.02.213.00* **Purpose** This presentation will focus on the provision of a more supportive environment for the elderly in Japan. **Method** Discussion with elder care staff suggested small-scale assisted living as an optimum solution. Presentation of the care concept provided the basis for discussion with care workers. The new care concept and traditional forms of care in Japan were compared and contrasted. **Results & Discussion** There are two pillars for elderly residential care in Japan: (i) community-based care in the homes of the elderly and (ii) Institutional Care. The living contexts in institutions as well as the houses of the elderly are not conducive to independent living. As a response, there is a shift towards providing a more homely or personalized environment in institutions (group homes, or special homes for the elderly called satellites) or within the confines of the homes of elderly. The crux of this issue is to ensure that the elderly are provided with a supportive living environment in either institutions or their own homes within the community. My presentation will focus on the provision of care within such environments, including renovating the homes of the elderly as well as in institutions. It will also discuss issues and perspective related to a the important aspects of a supportive housing environment for the elderly. In an aging society, one of the most important provisions is housing which will promote the welfare of the elderly. There is no doubt that structural renovations and reforms are urgently needed both in institutions and also the private residences of the elderly.

*Keywords:* housing environment, residential care, institutional care.

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