

NEW YORK PHARMA FORUM PROGRAM
MONDAY, MARCH 15, 1999

SPEAKER: **Ms. Yumiko Nishimura**
Associate Director
The Comparative Health Care Policy Research Project
Asia/Pacific Research Center, Stanford University

TOPIC: **"Can Apples Learn from Oranges?"**
~U.S. – Japan Comparative Studies in Health Care ~

Ms. Nishimura has introduced the Japanese health care system to the world in a book, *Japan's Health System: Efficiency and Effectiveness in Universal Care*, which The Comparative Health Care Policy Research Project of Stanford published in 1993. Also, she authored a book about health care reform in the U.S., *America Iryo no Nayami* (Anxiety of U.S. Health Care) in 1995 for Japanese readers.

Ms. Nishimura's most recent research project was a cross-cultural survey of gynecologists' decision-making on hysterectomies. Her work at Stanford has two main initiatives. One is to provide information to both Japanese and U.S. policy makers about each other's health care systems and policies. The other is to conduct empirical studies.

In collaboration with Japanese local governments, Ms. Nishimura has begun a study of preventive care and health promotion to investigate how American wellness programs may be applicable to new health promotion projects in Japan, both in the community and at work places.

Ms. Nishimura will discuss comparative health care studies with a focus on how American health care business can expand their share of the Japanese market.

Before joining Stanford, Ms. Nishimura was a sociologist from Ochanomizu University in Tokyo, a lecturer in women's studies and educational sociology.