

Motif for the emblem of IEA-WCE2017

The emblem of trains and ring of IEA-WCE2017 expresses the main theme of the congress, “Global/Regional/Local Health and Epidemiology in A Changing World”. The people on the ring of Moebius denotes a changing world. The steam locomotive is a metaphor of origin of epidemiology, where the bullet train denote future epidemiology.

John Snow made a map of cholera in London, UK in 1850s as an origin of epidemiology. Then epidemiology was exported to all over the world. Train had similar history from the UK, where the first steam locomotive was established.

The steam locomotive on the emblem is the Japan National Rail Model 150 Steam Locomotive, or called as “Locomotive No.1.” It was made by Vulcan Foundry Co., Ltd. in Lancashire, UK in 1871. It was imported to Japan and used for the first railway between Tokyo (Shimbashi Station) and Yokohama (currently Sakuragicho Station) opened in 1872. The scheduled speed was 50 km/hr.

Near the congress venue, Omiya Station in Saitama City has been an important position of train network or railway junction. Because of that special location, the Railway Museum was opened in Saitama city. You can see the genuine “Locomotive No.1” at the museum (See <http://www.railway-museum.jp/en/exhibition.html> and visit the museum. Two minute trip from Omiya Station using a shuttle train).

The new bullet train railway called Linear Central Shinkansen using linear motor technology is now under construction between Tokyo (Shinagawa Station) and Nagoya. It is scheduled to open in 2027. The speed will be as high as 500 km/hr, and it connect the two cities for 40 minutes (Today it takes about 94 minutes with a Shinkansen train).