All superheroes have a beginning



MEDTECH ACTUATOR

ORIGIN ACADEMY
Nagoya University, Japan

FUTURE LEADERS SHAPING
THE FACE OF TOMORROW

MEDTECH ACTUATOR
ORIGIN

POWERING HEALTHCARE INNOVATION ACROSS THE GLOBE

The MedTech Actuator is designed to catalyse health-focused innovations, transforming them into globally competitive companies that drive the next wave of healthcare innovation and economic impact.

We have rapidly become one of the worlds premier MedTech and HealthTech commercialisation initiatives by not only supporting startups but by augmenting and developing entire innovation ecosystems.

Entrepreneurship and commercialisation are about skill acquisition, not just knowledge building—and we have delivered measurable impact across the entire commercialisation pathway.

1000+ Startups enabled	**~$6.3B** Market cap across startups	**~$1.1B** Capital raised by supported startups
x27 Released $27 for every $1 of government investment	**1000+** Jobs been created	**5000** Clinicians and researchers trained



MEDTECH ACTUATOR OVERVIEW

A bold approach delivering integrated value across an ecosystem

The MedTech Actuator is a bold, pathbreaking initiative driving the future of healthcare and economic growth across the Asia-Pacific—now. Through dynamic programs spanning the entire innovation spectrum, our mission is to transform global healthcare by connecting a diverse ecosystem to:

1. Funding: Providing startups with access to intelligent capital and connecting them with investors who understand the complexities of health innovation.
2. Commercialisation Expertise: Guiding ventures through the critical early phases of product development, regulatory navigation, and market entry.
3. Global Market Access: Creating pathways for startups to scale beyond their home markets by linking them to key health and medical hubs worldwide.
4. Deep Industry Networks: Bringing together clinicians, researchers, entrepreneurs, and industry leaders to drive collaboration and co-creation.
5. Policy & Partnerships: Working with governments, regulatory bodies, and corporate partners to create an environment where MedTech startups can thrive.



Dr Mukesh Haikerwal AC
Chairman
(Former President of the World Medical Association)

In the six years since our launch, and across all our programs, the MedTech Actuator has achieved unprecedented success and impact, including:

- Accelerating 1000+ Startups through our flagship industry-led accelerator program and supporting 600+ startups across our priming and growth programs.
- Enabling ~$1.1B in Committed Early-Stage Capital to fuel the growth of health ventures.
- Driving Job Creation, with over 1,000 new jobs generated through our supported startups.
- Delivering a 27:1 Return on Government Investment, amplifying public funding into significant economic impact.
- Training 5,000+ Clinical & Research Innovators, the next generation of MedTech leaders.
- Championing Diversity, maintaining a 50/50 gender balance across all programs.
- Expanding Globally, with active programs and activities across Australia, Singapore, India, Japan, Vietnam, South Korea, the UK, and Spain, with new initiatives in development for the Netherlands, Germany, China, and Spain.

These achievements underscore our ability to drive real, lasting impact, advancing healthcare innovation, accelerating economic growth, and positioning as a global leader. With a sharp focus on economic and health impact, the MedTech Actuator has radically de-risked the traditional innovation pathway by embedding an entire commercialisation ecosystem within startups, catalysing venture development, accelerating speed to market, and maximising value realisation.

Through rigorous development, relentless execution, and global connectivity, our startups are not only transforming healthcare but also delivering profound social and economic impact.

OUR ECOSYSTEM & PARTNERS

Our thriving and curated ecosystem of over 150 global partners connects with and accelerates impactful innovation that sustainably improves human health and flourishing. A selection of these partners are below:



OVERVIEW

Scaling momentum and impact – moving forward together

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Insight

The Japan economy and society are in transition – and at pace. Traditional strengths that have served past growth are being overtaken by emerging technologies, sectors and industries upon which continued economic strength depend. Demographics are shifting, patterns of productivity are morphing – an uncertain future demands change and adaptation. The future leadership of innovation is dramatically changing, it requires globalisation, diverse teams and inclusive thinking.

Studies from around the world consistently link entrepreneurship and innovation with rapid technology translation, job creation, economic growth and long-term productivity increases. Despite excellent advantages, Japan has yet to fully unleash the full potential of health innovation in addressing economic transition and healthcare transformation through education, and inspire the next generation of global health entrepreneurs

Health innovation education has been a focus of the MedTech Actuator for several years through a program known as Origin. In 2018, 2019, 2020, 2014, and 2025 we ran early-stage education programming across several schools and universities in Oceania, Asian and EU countries with the sole aim of encouraging and motivating entrepreneurial thinking – and impact – in health.

In 2024, we launched the 'Origin Academy', a program focused on giving participants the opportunity to understand creativity in health entrepreneurship and develop innovative solutions to global health challenges. The program can be delivered within a timeline that suits the curriculum from one of our international offices: Melbourne (Australia), Singapore, Osaka (Japan) or Durham (UK). The international element adds an attractive component to global creative thinking, and leadership for participants.

MEDTECH ACTUATOR ORIGIN ACADEMY

Delivering the health innovation leaders of the future

The opportunity – with Japan as key

Origin Academy has a unique advantage that brings forth a unique transforming agenda that:

- Fosters a widening pool of future entrepreneurs in the health innovation ecosystem, encouraging and attracting future leaders
- Nurtures entrepreneurial skills, curiosity, mindset, creativity and problem-solving for participants, with long-life connections across the ecosystem including industry, clinical and research.
- Promotes multidisciplinary entrepreneurial collaboration between participants, both in-state and globally
- Encourages individuals to take on leadership roles and broaden their career options

Our experience of program delivery in universities, and our exposure to numerous ecosystems in both health and innovation domains, has led us to conclude that entrepreneurial insights, and mindset should be considered. The ability to integrate a multi-disciplinary and multi-skilled project with creative thinking, and business foundations is a key driver to creating future business leaders - and potentially startups - for the country.

Origin Academy fosters collaboration, inclusion and input through creating dedicated channels for diverse participation, leveraging invaluable clinical insights, research technology and future entrepreneurial business leaders. We are excited to present this brief and look forward to discussing further.

ORIGIN ACADEMY

Turbocharging health innovation with the future entrepreneurs.

Education
Seminars and interactive workshops to build motivation and interest

Global Mindset
Enabling broad thinking for students with international collaborations

Alumni
Network for life

Enterprise
Understand foundations of business, building skills and confidence

Leadership
Enabling the next generation of creative and entrepreneurial leaders

Mentoring
Experienced industry mentors and coaches to guide and prepare



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ORIGIN ACADEMY FRAMEWORK

Exposure to real-world thinking and global impact

MedTech Actuator Origin Academy is unrelentingly impact-focused and innovator-driven.

The involvement of existing local healthcare industries and ecosystems is key to the success of this program, and real-world projects. This ensures that participants, draw and leverage the power and expertise of the local market to catalyse momentum and knowledge access

The philosophy of the Origin Academy is to focus on building an entrepreneurial skillset through active participation, and leadership development. Participants will also gain a broad set of skills across business, commercial, finance and and strategy, based on the Origin Academy framework.



LEARNING OUTCOMES

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Building a diverse skillset and awareness in health innovation, entrepreneurship and business

- Participants will be able to generate ideas based on global health needs and master oral and visual presentation skills, while building confidence to encourage and motivate others to act.
- Participants will identify problems worth solving that create an impact on society and health. Participants will advance their skills in customer needs, customer validation, competitive analysis, and iteration while utilising design thinking to evaluate real-world problems
- Participants will identify and analyse customers, stakeholders, and team members through networks, primary customer research, and competitive and industry analyses to prioritise and pursue an initial target market in real-world, impact orientated projects.
- Participants will create presentations and business plans that articulate and apply financial, operational, organisational, market, and sales knowledge to identify paths to value creation through 1) company formation (for-profit);or 2) social innovation (non-profit).
- Participants increase their awareness and practice the skills and disciplines necessary to increase confidence to foster self-efficacy and self-advocacy, improve communication and problem-solving skills, manage strong impulses and feelings, and identify personal purpose.
- Participants will develop leadership skills through a combination of building and managing teams, while interacting with a broader group building resilience, managing uncertainty and developing strong and effective problem-solving skills across both personal and profession

PROGRAM CURRICULUM

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Foundations in entrepreneurship, impact and business

The curriculum toolkit will run with 8 specific interactive modules:

1. Global health impact through identifying real-world challenges that require creative thinking to solve
2. Design thinking framework to generate innovative solutions through creative problem-solving using ideation, and prototype testing
3. Market validation testing through identification of customers, buyer trends, and pivoting of solutions to suit needs
4. Business economics building out financial projections, pricing strategies , creating operational budgets/cash-flow, and venture structures
5. Marketing foundations by applying principles of marketing, creating a brand and understanding customer channels
6. Pitching essentials to develop a world-class presentation on the proposed solution, with a focus on creating health impact
7. Leadership insights building personal development goals, with greater understanding of interpersonal strengths and weaknesses
8. The Show will allow to present their projects to the wider community of family, friends and the health community

PROGRAM DESIGN

Priming entrepreneurship mindset in Japan

MedTech Actuator has significant experience is stimulating and activating entrepreneurial thinking and creative action in health innovation. Origin Academy is a high-energy and focused program with activities designed to stimulate a broad scope of individuals creating a sense of impact while applying enterprise skill building. Origin Academy will build a sense of confidence for a diverse range of participants while creating a guiding pathway for their innovative projects, and ambitions.

The international component has been integrated to give the participants a broader global perspective on their projects, but also to:

- Understand cultural differences to project solutions and impact perspectives
- Develop strong interpersonal skills and leadership qualities
- Build confidence working with participants with alternative outlook
- Experience diverse social inclusion, and understanding social inequities
- Competence in multinational team collaboration

Delivery design

The MedTech Actuator Origin Academy can be delivered flexibly to suit institutional needs — ranging from an intensive 3–5 day format to a more extended 12–16 week model. The program is anchored in a real-world health innovation project, which serves as the foundation for both course content and assessment design. This applied learning approach ensures participants engage directly with the skills, frameworks, and critical thinking required to navigate the commercialisation of health and medical technologies.

Nagoya University Itinerary

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The Nagoya University 3-day Origin Academy Program will feature morning lectures paired with interactive afternoon sessions. Over the course of the program, participants will explore and apply key topics including ideation, problem–solution fit, pitching and strategy, and capital raising. The program will conclude with a final pitch session and reflection exercise, allowing participants to consolidate their learnings, test their ideas, and receive feedback from peers and experts.

Day 1: Friday 5 December

1pm – 4pm

1.pm: Future of Global Healthcare

2pm: Innovation thinking

- Ideation
- Design Thinking
- Problem-solution fit

4pm: End of day

Day 2: Saturday 6 December

10am – 4pm

10am: Commercialisation & IP

11.30am: Innovation Framework

- Lunch -

1pm: Pitching & Branding

4pm: End of day

Day 3: Sunday 7 December

10am – 3pm

10am: Team and mentors

11.am: Capital raising

- Lunch -

1pm: Pitch & Reflection

3pm: End of day

Nagoya University proposed problems for program

Participants will work in interdisciplinary teams to develop a strategic roadmap or prototype addressing a real-world healthcare challenge. These projects will be pitched on the final day for feedback and potential implementation pathways.

Option 1: Healthy Aging & Independent Living

Problem: Japan has the world's oldest population, with over 28% aged 65+. This brings challenges around mobility, independence, and access to daily care.

Innovation Opportunity:

- Technologies to support aging in place (fall detection, remote monitoring, AI caregivers).
- Social connection tools to reduce loneliness.
- Smart home or robotic solutions to assist with daily activities.

Why It Fits: It is an urgent national priority, with high government and private-sector interest, and significant potential for scalable solutions.

Option 2: Rural & Remote Healthcare Access

Problem: Many rural Japanese communities are facing shrinking populations and hospital closures, leaving elderly residents without accessible healthcare.

Innovation Opportunity:

- Telemedicine and virtual care platforms.
- Portable diagnostics and point-of-care testing.
- Mobile health units or drones for medicine delivery.

Why It Fits: Addresses equity in healthcare delivery, a major concern in Japan's aging rural communities, and aligns with digital health policies.

Option 3: Mental Health & Workforce Wellbeing

Problem: Japan continues to face challenges with stress, overwork (karoshi), and mental health stigma, leading to unmet needs in prevention and treatment.

Innovation Opportunity:

- Digital mental health platforms with culturally adapted tools.
- Workplace wellbeing analytics with early intervention programs.
- AI chatbots or VR therapies for stress and anxiety management.

Why It Fits: Mental health solutions are underdeveloped in Japan compared to physical healthcare, creating a clear space for innovative approaches.

Teams will use their projects as a foundation to build practical skills in innovation, entrepreneurship, and leadership, integrating both experiential and knowledge-based learning. Insights from the core modules will be directly applied to these real-world challenges, supported by a structured commercialisation framework designed to foster strategic thinking, problem-solving, and scalable growth.

TEACHING TEAM

Passionate, and impact driven leadership team, committed to Japan



Prof. Buzz Palmer

CEO

BSc(Hons), DipPM, MBBS, PhD

- Co-founder of MTAC & Synthesis
- One of APAC's leading voices in healthcare innovation
- Serial MedTech entrepreneur
- Professor – Surgery, University of Melbourne
- Former clinician in orthopaedic medicine
- WHO foresight committee



Junichi Azuma

GM

BBA Management

- Expert in Industry development in healthcare sector
- Extensive Japanese and global networks
- Expertise in venture development and intellectual property strategy
- Strong relationships with key stakeholders and ecosystem players
- Proven track record in operational excellence and strategic partnerships