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## 個人情報保護法について

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## The Act on the Protection of Personal Information: An Overview of the Rules of APPI Related to Research and Development on Cosmetic Products

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## Abstract

The Act on the Protection of Personal Information (No. 57 of 2003) (hereinafter "APPI") is a law enacted to protect the rights and interests of individuals regarding the proper handling of personal information, while giving due consideration to the value of personal information. APPI, as the "Fundamental Law" of personal information protection system, establishes the basic principles regarding the handling of personal information and responsibilities of national and local governments (Chapters 1–3), and as the "General Law" regarding the handling of personal information, establishes the minimum basic regulations for the private and public sectors, respectively (Chapters 4 and 5). APPI also establishes a legal basis for the Personal Information Protection Commission, which has jurisdiction over APPI, and its supervisory authority (Chapter 6). Companies, doctors, researchers, etc., when conducting research or development related to cosmetic products, are required to comply with the provisions of Chapter 5 of APPI, which sets forth rules for the handling of personal information, etc. by private businesses.

In addition, APPI Amendment Laws were enacted in 2020 and 2021. The 2020 Amendment Law introduced provisions prohibiting the inappropriate use of personal information (Article 19), requiring reporting to the PPC and notification to the individual in the event of a leakage, etc. of personal data (Article 26), requiring the provision of information to the individual in the case of a cross-border transfer of personal data (Article 28, Paragraph 2, Paragraph 3, etc.), and stipulating rules regarding pseudonymized information (Article 41, Article 42, etc.), among others. On the other hand, the 2021 Amendment Law includes the unification of the personal information protection systems of the public and private sectors, and the unification of regulations in the domains of medical care and academic research. It is important for companies, doctors, and researchers to pay close attention to these recent developments in APPI.

This lecture provided an overview of APPI rules relevant to companies, doctors, and researchers conducting research and development of cosmetic products, and also introduced recent relevant developments in APPI.

**Key words:** ELSI, data protection, data privacy, the Act on the Protection of Personal Information.