

47th Annual Scientific Meeting of the Japan Atherosclerosis Society

We held the 47th Annual Scientific Meeting of the Japan Atherosclerosis Society (JAS) at the Sendai International Center on July 9th and 10th, 2015. Because the new exhibition facility has been recently constructed, the center was spacious enough for the meeting including poster exhibition.

The theme of the meeting was decided to be “Innovation of Arteriosclerosis Research.” The meeting was expected to start a new trend in the field of atherosclerosis research. More than 1,100 attendees were present, indicating a great success despite being held in the local cities. We would like to express our sincere thanks to everyone who attended the meeting.

For the special events of the meeting, Professor Peter Carmeliet (President, Vesalius Research Center, Belgium) gave a special invited lecture from abroad titled “Revisiting Angiogenesis: Endothelial Cell Metabolism As A Target?,” which focused on the specificity of vascular endothelial cell metabolism. Dr. Shinichi Nishikawa (JT Biohistory Research Hall/ All About Science Japan) gave a lecture titled “Look in the science of the 21st century,” and Professor Yoshimi Takai (Kobe University) gave a lecture titled “Cell adhesion and its pathological condition.” In the featured session titled “Innovation of Arteriosclerosis Research” five distinguished scientists introduced their state-of-the-art researches that were not being bound to arteriosclerosis. Every event attracted a large audience with a favorable reputation.

For the symposium, we had 11 regular symposia including “Current situation and issues of drug development in academia” and “challenge from medical engineering to the hardening of atherosclerosis,” two joint symposia of “The maintenance of vascular integrity for the prevention of vascular diseases” organized with the Japanese Vascular Biology and Medicine Organization and “Emerging Paradigms for the maintenance of familial hypercholesterolemia” organized with the Asian-Pacific Society of Atherosclerosis and Vascular Disease and the Asia-Pacific Federation of the International Atherosclerosis Society, two JAS-planned symposia titled “Symposium of tomorrow,” and three sponsored symposia.

For the new trials, we conducted “The seminar for training physicians” for the enlightenment of freshman, and “The oral presentation of the best posters” for the excavation of young researchers. “Seminars for training physicians” was extremely well

received. Training physicians gathered from across the country, and because of the incandescent debate, they also wanted to attend the seminar in the following year. Eight young scientists were selected from the poster presentation for their work in “The oral presentation of the best posters.” Their high-quality research presentation revealed their potential and capability.

Our annual meetings have not only focused on arteriosclerosis research but also conducted various proposals including the guideline for arteriosclerosis prevention. “Comprehensive management for the prevention of cerebro-cardiovascular disease” was announced in April of this year. A panel discussion was conducted to clarify the significance of this announcement. Professor Alberico L. Catapano, president of the European Atherosclerosis Society, joined this panel discussion and explained the situation of this issue in Europe. We also held an open public lecture for “the prevention of atherosclerosis and dementia,” and the venue was filled by the audience.

Finally, I would like to express my sincere thanks to the steering committee of the meeting; Dr. Hisanori Horiuchi (Tohoku University) the secretary-general, and Dr. Takaaki Abe (Tohoku University), Dr. Masahiko Igarashi (Yamagata City Hospital), Dr. Yasushi Ishigaki (Iwate Medical University), Dr. Toshiyuki Ishibashi (Ohara General Hospital), Dr. Hideki Katagiri (Tohoku University), Dr. Hidetoshi Kotake (Tsurugaya Clinic), Dr. Hiroaki Sato (Fukushima Medical University), Dr. Ryuichi Sano (Sano Clinic), Dr. Hiroaki Shimokawa (Tohoku University), and Dr. Kazuhisa Tsukamoto (Fukushima Medical University) members of the program committee.

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