



JAPANESE CANCER ASSOCIATION



<http://www.jca.gr.jp>

Executive Office

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01

President Hideyuki Saya Message from JCA

The Japanese Cancer Association (JCA) is an organization of researchers who carry out basic and clinical cancer research, and research on public health and social medicine. JCA currently has some 13,000 members, specializing in a wide range of fields. JCA serves as a forum where researchers with diverse specialties related to cancer gather to exchange information.

The Annual Meeting is held once a year in autumn, and attracts approximately 5,000 researchers, health workers, students and various other stakeholders each year. JCA has been enthusiastically promoting the globalization of the Association, such as by holding International Sessions at the Annual Meeting by inviting speakers from abroad, especially from neighboring Asian countries, since 2007. JCA also started to provide travel grants for researchers from neighboring Asian countries to encourage them to participate in the Annual Meetings.

Cancer Science is the official journal of JCA. Cancer Science replaced the previous journal, GANN (meaning "cancer" in Japanese), one of the oldest cancer journals in the world founded in 1907, and has thus been a driver of global cancer research for more than a century. Cancer Science has been an open access journal since 2014, and is currently published under the direction of Masanori Hatakeyama, Editor-in-Chief.

Regarding cooperation with AACR, the AACR-JCA joint sessions started at the AACR Annual Meeting in San Diego in 2014, and the joint sessions at each of AACR Annual Meetings continue to this day. We also have JCA-AACR joint sessions in the JCA Annual Meeting. We are so proud of these joint sessions as they focus on cutting-edge science and timely scientific topics such as molecular targeted therapy and immunotherapy based on genomic abnormalities of individual cancers and immunological conditions of the tumor microenvironment. In addition to these joint sessions, we have the AACR-JCA Joint Conference held in Hawaii once every three years, and the JCA-AACR Joint Special Conference held once every two years in Japan on the theme of each organ cancer, the JCA-AACR Precision Cancer Medicine International Meeting held once every two years.

The Covid-19 pandemic have placed an enormous burden on the medical care system, which has had a major impact on cancer research and treatment. In order to overcome this unprecedented disaster and save people suffering from cancer, JCA is demonstrating international leadership and building collaborative relationships with overseas researchers. We will contribute to the development of life sciences and promote the development of new cancer prevention and treatment methods by continuing to promote cancer research in the future.

02

The 82nd Annual Meeting in Yokohama, September 21 to 23, 2023

Welcome To The New Era

I am pleased to announce that the 82nd Annual Meeting of the Japanese Cancer Association (JCA) will be held at Pacifico Yokohama for three days from September 21st (Thursday) to September 23rd (Saturday), 2023. In the past decade, the main mission of JCA "Conquering Cancer Through Basic Research" has been actualized. Advance in cancer research has been drastically accelerated, leading to the identification of cancer driver genes and to corresponding targeted drugs, and bringing novel points of view on carcinogenesis. From 2019, Japan has officially started "Cancer Genomic Medicine" under the umbrella of the National Health Insurance system, which optimizes therapeutic interventions based on the genomic profiling of tumors. Many JCA members have played important roles in this process, and it was a highly rewarding endeavor to translate our basic research achievements into clinics.

Progress in cancer research is further accelerated today. We now know that some cells of seemingly normal tissues may harbor somatic mutations in the genome, and tumor heterogeneity has been more clearly elucidated due to the advance in single-cell analyses. Precise interaction of tumor and surrounding cells is now being revealed, showing the pro- or anti-tumorigenic function of those cells. Further, great attention is paid to the role of RNA splicing anomaly. The whole genome sequencing project has been started with the support of AMED, expected to reveal genomic profiles of Japanese

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International Sessions (IS)

One of our most important missions is to pursue international collaborations. Towards this goal, we organize International Sessions (IS) throughout the Annual Meeting. Twelve up-to-date topics are chosen each year, and the front line scientists in the field are invited from both overseas and Japan. To encourage young scientists, presentations are also selected from the abstracts. For more than 15 years, IS has provided an excellent opportunity to exchange ideas and also to facilitate networking around the world, especially among Asia-Pacific countries.



Photo credit : Yokohama Visitors Guide

cancer patients.

As we look around this situation, we must collaborate extensively with parties outside our cancer community, and, thus, we can say that we are opening the new era. I plan to challenge many new programs in the 82nd Annual Meeting. We will, for instance, provide learning opportunities for bioinformatics through the programs "Bioinformatics Hands-On Series", and have a "Come here, drug seeds" symposium to attract pharmaceutical companies.

We will transform this time of great change into the biggest opportunity, and set the theme of our Annual Meeting as "Welcome to The New Era". We look forward to your active participation to invent together the new Annual Meeting.



Hiroyuki Mano
President
The 82nd Annual Meeting
of the Japanese Cancer
Association



Organizing Committee of
International Sessions
Chair
Toru Hirota



03

AACR-JCA Joint Conference 2022 in Hawaii



12th JCA Chairperson
Masanori Hatakeyama

The AACR-JCA Joint Conference has been held every three years since 1989, with changing venues in the Hawaiian Islands. The 12th Joint Conference will be held at Hyatt Regency Maui, Maui, Hawaii, from December 10 to 14, 2022 (the dates have been rescheduled from February to December due to the COVID-19 pandemic), co-chaired by Dr. Antoni Ribas (UCLA Jonsson Comprehensive Cancer Center, LA, USA) and Dr. Masanori Hatakeyama (Institute of Microbial Chemistry, Tokyo, Japan) under the title of "Breakthroughs in Cancer Research: Translating Knowledge into Practice". We expect over 300 participants from 15 countries; US, Japan and other countries attended the conference. Keynote Session will be presented by Dr. Alexander Marson (The University of California, San Francisco, USA) on a theme of "Reprogramming T Cells with CRISPR to Enhance Immunotherapy" and Dr. Masanori Hatakeyama (Institute of Microbial Chemistry, Tokyo, Japan) on "H. pylori infection, BRCAness, and gastric cancer". After the Keynote Session, 36 plenary talks on 12 scientific topics and about 300 posters will be presented. Participants will have fruitful discussions and will exchange scientific information in an enthusiastic atmosphere during the conference, and will enjoy their comfortable stay in Hawaii.

Year	Title	Chairpersons
12th (2022)	Breakthroughs in Cancer Research: Translating Knowledge into Practice	Masanori Hatakeyama (Institute of Microbial Chemistry) Antoni Ribas (UCLA Jonsson Comprehensive Cancer Center)
11th (2019)	Breakthroughs in Cancer Research: Biology to Precision Medicine	Hitoshi Nakagama (NCC) Elaine R. Mardis (Nationwide Children's Hospital)
10th (2016)	Breakthroughs in Cancer Research: From Biology to Therapeutics	Tetsuo Noda (JFCR) Frank McCormick (UCSF)
9th (2013)	Breakthroughs in Basic and Translational Cancer Research	Kohei Miyazono (Univ. of Tokyo) Tyler Jacks (MIT)

04

JCA-AACR Special Joint Conference

The 7th JCA-AACR Special Joint Conference, sponsored by JCA and AACR, was held on July 8 (Fri) -10 (Sun), 2022 at the Kyoto Brighton Hotel, Kyoto, focusing on "The Latest Advances in Pancreatic Cancer Research: From Basic Science to Therapeutics". The organizers of this conference included three JCA committee members (Drs. Kohei Miyazono, Masanobu Oshima, and Hiroshi Seno) and three AACR committee members (Drs. Elizabeth M. Jaffee, Anirban Maitra, and Rosalie C. Sears). The conference was originally planned to be held in June, 2020, but has been postponed due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Pancreatic cancer is one of the most aggressive cancers, and the 5-year survival rate of pancreatic cancer patients still remains less than 10%. This conference dealt with a wide range of topics to elucidate the pathogenesis of pancreatic cancer and discuss new strategies for prevention and treatment of pancreatic cancer. We invited 18 speakers from Japan and 9 from abroad to present diverse, cutting edge and forward-looking research. We also invited a speaker from the Pancreatic Cancer Action Network and had a special session "patient and public involvement". Fortunately, all 9 invited speakers from the AACR side were able to come to Japan, and the conference venue was filled with excellent presentations and active discussions. Although the conference was held under the COVID-19 pandemic, more than 50 posters were presented, and the number of participants, excluding the invited guests, was about 150, including more than 30 from abroad (seven countries) and 120 from Japan.



7th JCA Chairperson
Kohei Miyazono

05

JCA-AACR Precision Cancer Medicine International Conference



JCA Chairperson
Hiroyoshi Nishikawa

Cancer genomics has revolutionized the way we diagnose and treat cancer. Precision medicine has already been implemented into daily practice worldwide, and, especially in Japan, cancer gene panel tests are reimbursed by the national health insurance system from 2019. Given the rapid progress in this area, JCA together with AACR started an entirely new biennial joint conference for precision medicine.

The commemorable first conference was held online on 11-12 September 2021 with the main organizers, Drs. Hiroyuki Mano (JCA) and Elaine Mardis (AACR). The first conference covered a wide range of topics, from new basic concepts to cutting edge-techniques in precision medicine, and also to novel schemes in clinical trials. With 330 participants and more than 1,500 of video viewing, our first conference finished with a great success.

The second JCA-AACR Precision Cancer Medicine International Conference will be held for three days from June 28 (Wed.) to June 30 (Fri.), 2023, at Kyoto Tokyu Hotel and online hybrid. The second conference will be organized by Drs. Hiroyoshi Nishikawa (JCA) and Charles Swanton (AACR), and a total of 14 organizing committee members to share cutting-edge knowledge on precision medicine and to promote joint research, from basic research to clinical trials and the real-world data. The plenary sessions will focus on cancer evolution and immune precision medicine, and will be addressed by the world's top researchers and physicians. In addition to the continuing development of molecular targeted therapy, the latest data for precision medicine in cancer immunotherapy, where combination therapy is becoming the mainstream, will be also discussed. Presentation of the latest research and technologies is expected to make a significant contribution to future development of precision medicine.

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access!

Free

One of the oldest cancer journals in the world, first published in 1907, and has since been recognized as one of leading journals that substantially stimulate cancer research for more than a century. Our journal is now vigorously working to foster research that elucidate molecular mechanisms of cancer development, which pave the way for innovative cancer treatment, especially molecular targeted therapy and immunotherapy based on genomic abnormalities of individual cancers and tumor microenvironment. The journal's median time from submission to first decision is just 9 days, providing high quality rapid publication of research that has significant clinical impact. Submit your paper to the most cited cancer journal from Asia.



The official journal of the Japanese Cancer Association
wileyonlinelibrary.com/journal/cas



Editor-in-Chief

Masanori Hatakeyama
(Institute of Microbial Chemistry)