



2023 JSPS-NIH Forum

March 17, 2023

Japan Society for the Promotion of Science Fogarty International Center, National Institutes of Health



2023 JSPS-NIH Forum

DATE 2:00 pm - 7:00 pm March 17, 2023 (EDT) *[Japan Standard Time 日本時間] 3:00 am - 8:00 am March 18, 2023

VENUE Hybrid (Building 31, Conference Center, 6th floor, Rooms B & D) In-person Registration (Invitation Only) Online Registration from here

*Time and Format are subject to change based on speakers and regulation on COVID-19

2:00pm - 2:25pm (EDT) 3:00am - 3:25am (JST)	Opening Remarks Dr. Kohji HIRATA, Director, JSPS Washington Office Mr. Koji ARIBAYASHI, Science Counselor, Embassy of Japan in the USA Dr. Yoh-suke MUKOUYAMA, Chair of Review Panel / Senior Investigator, NHLBI, NIH Dr. Michael GOTTESMAN, Chief, Laboratory of Cell Biology, NCI/CCR, NIH Dr. Akira IMATANI, Professor, School of Medicine, Tohoku University (Online)
Lecture Session 1 (Speaker from Japan)	Theme: Cancer Cell Biology and Microenvironment
2:25pm – 3:10pm (EDT) 3:25am – 3:10am (JST)	Invited Speaker (1) 45 min. including Q & A Dr. Junko MURAI , Associate Professor, Department of Cell Growth and Tumor Regulation Proteo-Science Center, Ehime University Lecture title: Revising the mechanism of the anti-cancer effect of DNA-damaging agents through the functions of Schlafen 11 (SLFN11)
3:10pm - 3:20pm (EDT) 4:10am - 4:20am (JST)	Break
Lecture Session 2 (Speakers from NIH)	
3:20pm - 4:00pm (EDT) 4:20am -5:00am (JST)	 Invited Speaker (2) 20 min. including Q & A Dr. Takanobu TAGAWA, HIV and AIDS Malignancy Branch, NCI, NIH Lecture title: Exposing stealth strategies: non-coding RNAs during oncogenic herpesvirus infection Invited Speaker (3) 20 min. including Q & A Dr. Ryo SATO, Laboratory of Stem Cell and Neuro-Vascular Biology, Cell and Developmental Biology Center, NHLBI, NIH Lecture title: Perivascular Neural β-III Tubulin (Tuj1) Expression in Lung Fibrosis: A New Target for Treatment
4:00pm - 4:10pm (EDT) 5:00am - 5:10am (JST)	Break

Flash Talk Session	
4:10pm - 4:35pm (EDT) 5:10am - 5:35am (JST)	Presentations on Research Plan at NIH by JSPS-NIH Fellows (KAITOKU-NIH) Awarded in FY2022 (8 Fellows) 3 mins for each
4:35pm - 4:45pm (EDT) 5:35am - 5:45am (JST)	Closing Remarks Dr. Nina F. SCHOR, Deputy Director for Intramural Research, NIH Dr. Christine SIZEMORE, Director of the Division of International Relations, Fogarty International Center, NIH
4:45pm - 7:00pm (EDT) 5:45am - 8:00am(JST)	Networking (only for in-person participants) at Room B, D & Hallway

2023 JSPS-NIH Forum

Cancer Cell Biology and Microenvironment

Dr. Junko MURAI

Associate Professor, Ehime University "Revising the mechanism of the anti-cancer effect of DNA-damaging agents through the functions of Schlafen 11 (SLFN11)

Dr. Takanobu TAGAWA (NCI/ NIH) Dr. Ryo SATO (NHLBI/ NIH)

also featuring

Presentations from current JSPS-NIH Fellows (KAITOKU-NIH)

Reception (4:45 - 7:00pm) Invitation Only. The event is free to attend and will be held in English. The background-image is a confocal microscopy image of Schlafen 11 protein (green) on chromatin under replication stress condition. The photo was taken by Junko MURAI.

2:00 - 4:45 рм, Fri. March 17 Building 31 Conference Center 6th floor Room B&D/ online NIH Bethesda Campus (invitation only) Online Registration by March 16 at



Fogarty

JSPS Washington Office 2001 L St., NW, Suite 1050, Washington, DC 20036 TEL: 202-659-8190 FAX: 202-659-8199 url: jspsusa.org e-mail: was-kaitoku-nih@overseas.jsps.go.jp

JSPS

JSPS is the premier research funding agency in Japan. Its Washington Office in cooperation with the Fogarty International Center support the forum.



Thank you for joining us





2:00 – 4:45 PM, Friday, March 17, 2023 (EST) 4:45 – 7:00 PM Reception (In-Person Only) (Japan Standard Time (Zoom) 3:00 – 5:45 AM, Saturday, March 18, 2023)



Thank you for joining us

Be sure to mute your microphone whenever you are *not* speaking to avoid background noise and distractions for others.



Download the booklet from our website. https://jspsusa.org/wp/20230102-2/



Thank you for joining us

JSPS will <u>take some photographs and video</u> <u>recordings</u> during the forum.

They may be used for the website and other publications by host organizations.

Download the booklet from our website. https://jspsusa.org/wp/20230102-2/

Thank you for joining us



Request for Online Audience: Please do not take pictures or videos.



Download the booklet from our website. https://jspsusa.org/wp/20230102-2/



Thank you for joining us

Questions during the lecture session from the <u>online</u> <u>audience</u> can be asked via **Zoom Chat**.

There will be no Q&A during the flash talk due to the time constraints.



Download the booklet from our website. https://jspsusa.org/wp/20230102-2/



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Opening Remarks

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Mr. Koji ARIBAYASHI

Science Counselor, Embassy of Japan in the USA

Dr. Yoh-suke MUKOUYAMA

Chair of Review Panel / Senior Investigator, NHLBI, NIH

Dr. Michael GOTTESMAN

Chief, Laboratory of Cell Biology, NCI/CCR

Dr. Akira IMATANI

Professor, School of Medicine, Tohoku University

Lectures

Dr. Junko MURAI

Associate Professor, Department of Cell Growth and Tumor Regulation Proteo-Science Center, Ehime University

Dr. Takanobu TAGAWA

HIV and AIDS Malignancy Branch, NCI, NIH

Dr. Ryo SATO

Laboratory of Stem Cell and Neuro-Vascular Biology, Cell and Developmental Biology Center, NHLBI, NIH

Flash Talks JSPS-NIH Fellows (KAITOKU-NIH) Awarded in FY2022 (8 Fellows)

Closing Remarks

Dr. Nina F. SCHOR Deputy Director for Intramural Research, NIH

Dr. Christine SIZEMORE

Director of the Division of International Relations, Fogarty International Center, NIH

Revising the mechanism of the anti-cancer effect of DNA-damaging agents through the functions of Schlafen 11 (SLFN11)

Junko MURAI Associate Professor Department of Cell Growth and Tumor Regulation Proteo-Science Center, Ehime University



Abstract

The property of unlimited proliferation of cancer cells is a major cause of death by cancer. DNA-damaging anticancer drugs such as platinum derivatives and topoisomerase I inhibitors have been used at the forefront of cancer treatment for nearly half a century. A primary mechanism of action of DNA-damaging agents is to generate replication-dependent lethal DNA damage (i.e., double-strand DNA breaks) in cancer cells. Hence, mutations in DNA repair genes augment the sensitivity to the DNA-damaging agents. In this context, it was a surprise that Schlafen 11 (SLFN11), which is not likely a DNA repair gene, was found in 2012 as its mRNA expression correlates most highly with sensitivity to DNA-damaging agents based on analyses of large cancer cell line databases. Later, the causality has been validated using various models. Although the presence or absence of SLFN11 does not change the amount of DNA damage, when SLFN11 is recruited onto chromatin in response to DNA damage, it causes changes in chromatin structure and irreversible replication arrest, leading to SLFN11-dependent cell death in about 24 hours. On the other hand, SLFN11-negative cells can complete DNA replication despite harboring DNA damage, and the cells in G2 phase can survive for days, allowing time for DNA repair. Therefore, the mechanism of action of DNA-damaging agents can be revised as "leading to cell death by activating SLFN11" rather than "leading to cell death by inducing DNA damage". Since there is still no clinically applicable sensitivity biomarker for platinum derivatives and topoisomerase I inhibitors, SLFN11, which is highly expressed in about half of all cancer tissues, is attracting increasing attention. In the past few years, several clinical reports have revealed a significant correlation between SLFN11 expression and drug response. The history of SLFN11 began in 2012 at Dr. Pommier lab in NCI, NIH. In the talk, I will introduce the basic and clinical frontiers of SLFN11 in cancer therapy.

Junko MURAI

Biography

2000/5-2003/3: Physician, Osaka University Hospital, Suita, Japan

2008/11-2009/1: Postdoctoral Fellow, Kyoto University, Sakyo-ku, Japan (Dr. Shunichi Takeda lab.)

2009/2-2010/1: Postdoctoral Fellow, Dana Farber Cancer Institute, Boston, USA (Dr. Alan D. D'Andrea lab.)

2010/2-2012/9: Visiting fellow, National Institute of Health, Bethesda, USA (Dr. Yves Pommier lab.)

2012/10-2015/3: Assistant Professor, Kyoto University, Sakyo-ku, Japan

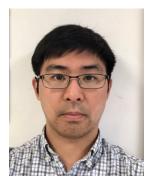
2015/4-2018/9: Research Fellow, National Institute of Health, Bethesda, USA (Dr. Yves Pommier lab.)

2018/10-present Project Associate Professor, Institute of Advanced Biosciences, Keio University, Tsuruoka, Japan

2022/3-present Associate Professor, Department of Cell Growth and Tumor Regulation Proteo-Science Center, Ehime University

Exposing stealth strategies: non-coding RNAs during oncogenic herpesvirus infection

Takanobu TAGAWA HIV and AIDS Malignancy Branch, NCI



Abstract

Infectious agents are associated with 15~20% of cancers. Oncogenic herpesviruses such as Kaposi sarcoma herpesvirus (KSHV) directly contribute to carcinogenesis. KSHV persists for the life of hosts by maintaining latency, which results in cancers including Kaposi sarcoma and primary effusion lymphoma. Non-coding RNAs (ncRNAs) are critical players during KSHV infection. ncRNAs includes miRNAs, lncRNAs, and an alternative splicing product called circular RNAs (circRNAs), closed-circular singlestranded RNAs. Human circRNAs have emerged as important gene regulators in tumorigenesis, but their roles in oncogenic virus biology is just being realized. We identified 63 human circRNAs that respond to KSHV infection in primary human endothelial cells. One of these, circRELL1(4,5,6), is highly expressed and induced during KSHV, Epstein-Barr virus, and human cytomegalovirus infection. We found that circRELL1(4,5,6) suppresses lytic viral gene expression and virion production. circRELL1(4,5,6) was also shown to promote cell growth and suppress cell death. We identified that circRELL1(4,5,6) interacts with TTI1 mRNA and stabilize the transcript level. TTI1 codes for a component of the mTOR complex. Since mTOR signaling is known to promote cell growth and suppress the KSHV lytic cycle, we propose that circRELL1(4,5,6) to be a novel regulator of the mTOR axis during KSHV infection, resulting in suppression of the lytic cycle and induction of cell growth. In conclusion, we identified a host circRNA induced by multiple herpesviruses that contributes to latency maintenance of an oncogenic virus.

Takanobu TAGAWA

Biography

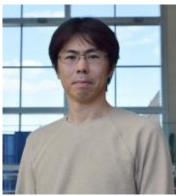
EDUCATION

2011-2016
2017-present
2011-2017
2009 - 2011
2022
2019
2018, 2019

Perivascular Neural β -III Tubulin (Tuj1) Expression in Lung Fibrosis: A New Target for Treatment

Ryo SATO

Visiting fellow, M.D., Ph.D., Laboratory of Stem Cell and Neuro-Vascular Biology, Cell and Developmental Biology Center, NHLBI, NIH



Abstract

Idiopathic pulmonary fibrosis (IPF) is a devastating disease that requires an improved understanding of the pathological mechanisms for the development of novel therapies. Also, IPF shares several pathogenetic similarities with other fibrotic lung diseases, such as COVID-19induced pulmonary fibrosis and lung cancer. In this study, we identified neuronal ß-III tubulin (Tuj1), a pan-neuronal marker, as a potential biomarker in pulmonary fibrosis, and discovered that Tujl-expressing pericytes suppressed the severity of lung fibrosis. A series of spatial and temporal imaging and scRNA-seq analysis of bleomycin-induced fibrotic lung revealed the emergence of Tuj1-expressing pericytes in response to lung fibrosis. Our lineage-tracing experiments using the pericyte-specific CreER mice (PDGFRB-CreER or NG2-CreER) and Credependent reporter mice (Rosa-LSL-YFP) supported the observation that Tuj1-expressing cells are derived from pericytes. Importantly, Tuj1-expressing pericytes were also found in human IPF tissues. To investigate the role of Tuj1 (gene name: Tubb3) in lung fibrogenesis, we examined what happens to fibrosis in Tubb3 knockout mice following bleomycin administration. Interestingly, Tubb3 knockout mice exhibited enhanced lung fibrosis without any significant neuronal abnormality, suggesting that Tuj1-expressing pericytes appear to suppress lung fibrosis. Taken together, these studies provide a potential clue for developing a novel therapeutic strategy targeting the Tujl-expressing pericytes in the fibrotic lung vasculature.

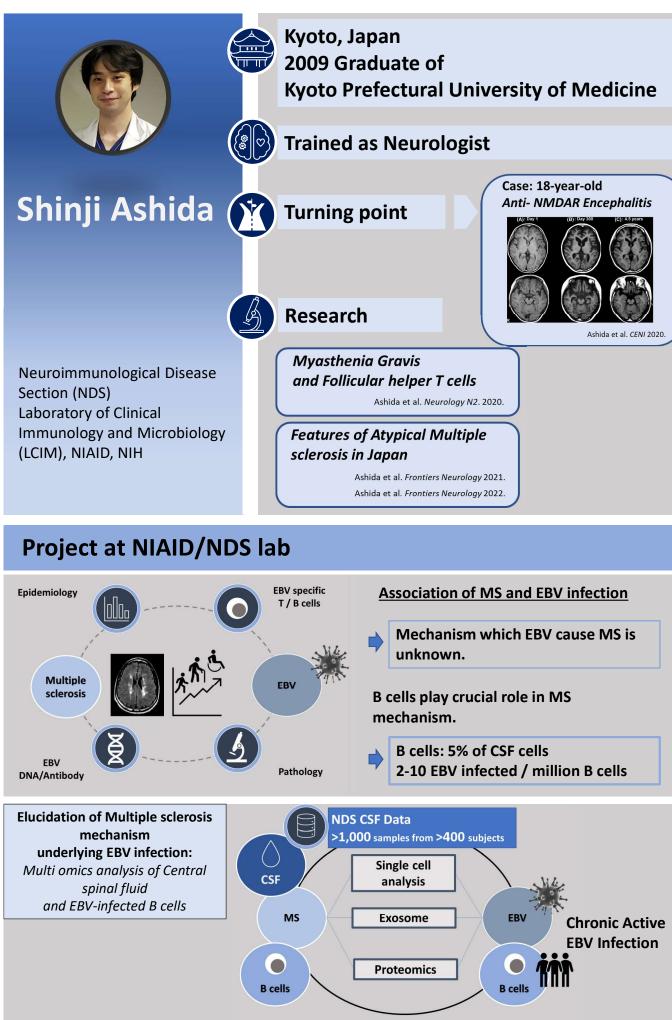
Ryo SATO

Biography

Dr. Sato received his M.D. from Kumamoto University in 2006 and his Ph.D. from Keio University in 2017. He worked as a pulmonologist at Kumamoto University Hospital and started as a visiting fellow at NIH in 2019.

Research Plan at NIH by JSPS-NIH Fellows Awarded in FY2022

	Name	Institute	page
1	Shinji ASHIDA	NIAID	16
2	Fumiaki IWANE	NINDS	17
3	Fuki KUDOH	NICHD	18
4	Wakako KURIBAYASHI	NIA	19
5	Taisuke SATO	NHGRI	20
6	Kensuke DAIDA	NIA	21
7	Naoki HAYASE	NIDDK	22
8	Kazumasa HORIE	NCI	23



Fumiaki Iwane, PhD

2017 – 2021: PhD, Swiss Federal Institute of Technology in Lausanne

2019 – 2021: Research Fellow, The University of Texas at Austin

Article | Open Access | Published: 16 December 2021

Customizing skills for assistive robotic manipulators, an inverse reinforcement learning approach with error-related potentials



2021 – Present: Research Fellow, Human Cortical Physiology and Neurorehabilitation Section (HCPS), NINDS (PI: Dr. Leonardo G. Cohen)

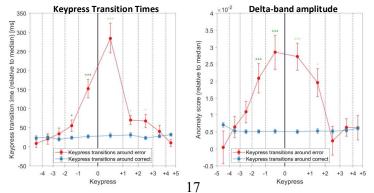
At HCPS / NINDS

Goal: To understand the mechanisms underlying plastic changes in human central nervous system and to develop novel rehabilitation therapies.

My Project

Goal: To predict upcoming erroneous actions during skillful performance.

Results: Behavioral slowing and anomalous delta-band MEG amplitude preceded single errors and predicted upcoming errors at the 70%.



Fuki Kudoh, Ph.D

Education and Training

March 2020 Obtained Ph.D in Science from Hokkaido University Superivsor: Prof. Kazuyasu Sakaguchi Laboratory of Biological Chemistry, Dept. of Chemistry

Protein phosphatase PPM1D, negative regulator of p53 pathway

- Role of PPM1D in myeloid differentiation and inflammation
- Molecular mechanism of PPM1D enzyme

July 2020- Visiting Fellow in Keiko Ozato lab, Section of Molecular Genetics on Immunity, NICHD

"DNA damage in innate immunity and epigenetic memory"

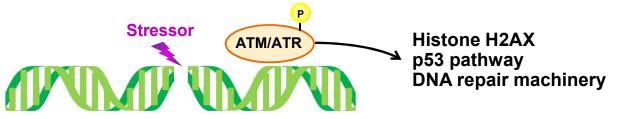
Plan after fellowship

Looking for academic career in US and Japan

My theme of research in NIH

DNA double strand breaks in innate immunity

DNA double strand breaks (DBS)



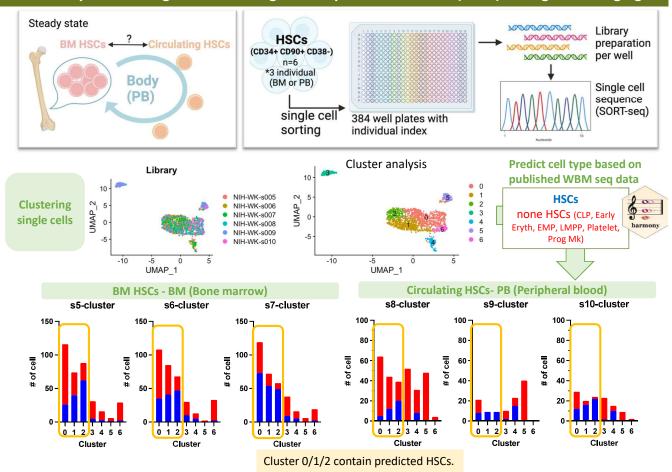
- Immune cells accumulates DSBs by infection, autoimmune diseases. (Walter D. *et al., Nature* 2015; Mitroulis I. *et al., Cell*, 2018; Manolakou T. *et al., Sci. Ad.*, 2022)
- Dr. Ozato reported histone chaperone KO accumulated DSB in Hematopoietic stem cells. (Chen C. *et al., Cell Rep.,* 2020)
- > The meaning and mechanism of DBS in the HSC is unknown.

I will focus on

- 1. The molecular mechanism of DNA damage accumulation by infection
- 2. DBS as a part of innate immunity, especially in innate immune memory



DNA methylation changes in circulating hematopoietic stem cells (HSCs) during human aging



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Taisuke Sato, M.D., Ph.D.

OBGYN Specialist (Maternal-Fetal Medicine)
 Clinical Genetic Specialist

Previous Affiliation in Japan:

- 1. Department of Obstetrics and Gynecology, The Jikei University School of Medicine, Tokyo
- 2. Department of Maternal-Fetal Biology, National Research Institute for Child Health and Development, Tokyo

Previous Main Work:

Develop a new **prenatal diagnosis** using circulating fetal cells and cell-free nucleic acid in maternal peripheral blood

Current Affiliation (Sep. 2020 -):

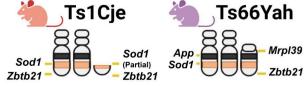
Center for Precision Health Research, Prenatal Genomics and Therapy Research Section, NHGRI (Dr. Bianchi Lab)

<u>Current Work:</u> Investigate placental molecular signatures in different models of Down syndrome (DS)

- · Little is known about placental development in mouse models of DS
- · Placentas should be considered in developing prenatal therapies
- Long-term goal: Develop prenatal treatments for DS

Hypothesis

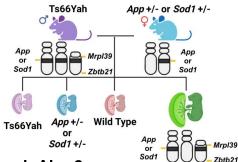
App and Sod1 overexpression induces abnormal oxidative stress, premature aging, and inflammation on DS placenta



The Roles of Oxidative Stress, Premature Aging, and Inflammation in Preclinical Models of DS

Preliminary Results

- Inflammation or redox homeostasis genes & pathways are dysregulated in DS placentas
- Placentas in mouse models show differences in inflammation & redox homeostasis



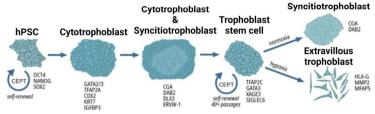
E 18.5 Placenta Inflammation Redox Homeostasis

Research Aim 1:

Uncover the molecular and cellular mechanisms of abnormal placental development in mouse models of DS

Research Aim 2:

Investigate the developmental time course of abnormal placental development using iPSCs derived from individuals with DS





Kensuke Daida M.D. Ph.D.

Lab in Japan : Department of Neurology, Juntendo University, Tokyo

Research focus: Genetics of Parkinson's disease (PD) and other neurological diseases

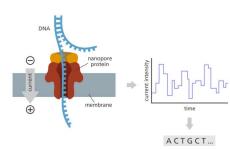
Lab in NIH : Laboratory of Neurogenetics/NIA Center for Alzheimer's and Related Dementias/NIA

PI : Dr. Cornelis Blauwendraat

After finishing JSPS program: Going back to Japan.



Research using Long Read Sequencing

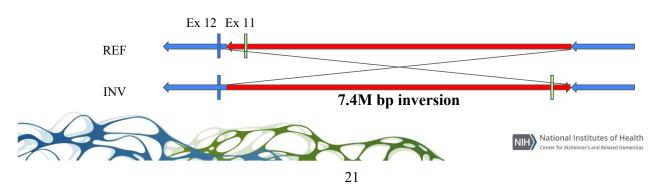




Method of the Year 2022: long-read sequencing

- Human brain sample of Alzheimer's, arkinson's and other
- DRD Blood from PD patients
- amilial cases

Identify structural variants affect to neurological disease combining with expression and methylation data.







National Institutes of Health

My name: Naoki Hayase

What I have studied in Japan:

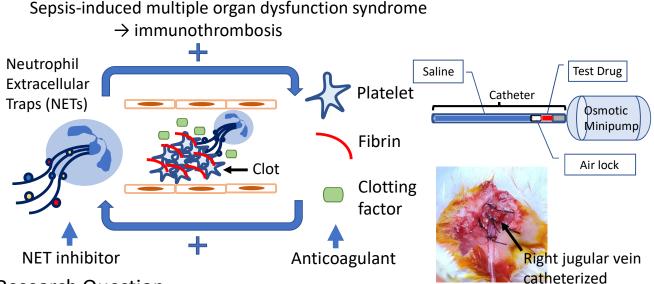
- Contribution of extracellular histones and NETs to distant organ injury in ischemia-reperfusion.
- Biomarkers of sepsis-induced organ injuries.

Previous lab: Department of emergency and critical care medicine, the University of Tokyo.

Current lab: Renal Diagnostics and Therapeutics Unit, NIDDK (Host researcher, Dr. Robert A. Star)

My plan after leaving NIH

• A physician scientist to handle basic, clinical, and translational research and educate Ph.D. students.



Research Question

 Can combination of a NET inhibitor and an anticoagulant treat a clinically relevant sepsis model?

Methodology

- A fully treated mouse model of sepsis [cecum ligation and puncture (CLP)].
- Continuous infusion of NET inhibitors and/or anticoagulants, or saline via osmotic minipumps with delayed onset starting at 6–12 hours after CLP.

First year: Effect of NET inhibitors and/or anticoagulants on survival.

Second year: Pathophysiology and organ specific effects of NET inhibitors and/or anticoagulants.

Kazumasa Horie, M.D., Ph.D.

2018-2022 Kobe University (iPS cell Applications)

The impact of valproic acid on patient-derived colorectal cancer organoids

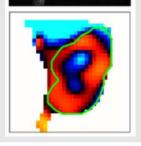
2022- Radiation Biology Branch / NCI Non-invasive Imaging (MRI)

- Electron Paramagnetic Resonance (EPR) pO₂ mapping
- Hyperpolarized MRI using ¹³C Metabolic imaging
- Dynamic Contrast-enhanced MRI tissue perfusion / permeability

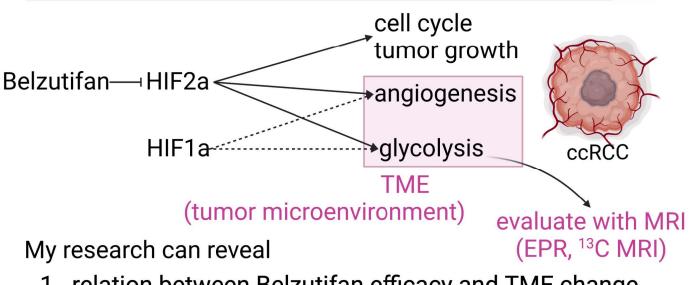
After KAITOKU-NIH

continue researching about cancer in Japan





Multimodal molecular imaging detects early responses to novel HIF-2α inhibitor Belzutifan



- 1. relation between Belzutifan efficacy and TME change
- 2. importance of the baseline HIF1a expression

It will be useful for

- optimizing treatment regimens
- predicting treatment efficacy

NOTE

NOTE

NOTE