Vas-Cog Journal

No.2 Dec 1, 2015

Official Journal of Vas-Cog Japan Society

Vas-Cog Japan 2015 (September 19, Tokyo)
(group photo)
Greetings from Vas-Cog Japan society
Koji Abe, MD, PhD (President)

After 5 times of annual national symposium from 2010, Vas-Cog Japan society was formally launched in 2014 for elucidating vascular contribution to AD development and vascular dementia. During this 1 year, our society kept developing with a new journal publication, 131 active members with 52 council members, and 20 directors. Based on the great contributions of Professors Urakami K, Hanyu H, Shoji M, and Morishita R, we are going well for stronger society, promotion, journal publication, and finance. I greatly thank all of our members, councils, and directors.

Year 2015 was of our great honorable year, when Vas-Cog Japan 6 jointly held meeting with Vas-Cog World 7 at Tokyo Fashion Town with Professors Yamaguchi S and Kawabata N as Japan chairpersons and Professor Nagata K as World chairperson on September 16-19. We shared very exciting joint days in a fashionable Tokyo bay area with many foreign guests and young/old vas-cog scientists! I believe this unique joint meeting strongly promoted mutual scientific interests for this field among more than 500 participants. I would like also to celebrate the success of Vas-Cog Asia 4, which was held in Kuala Lumpur on October 2. Vas-Cog Asia also became a formal society with 30 organizers and many active members.

Vas-Cog Japan society is dedicated to elucidate the mechanism of vascular factors on any types of dementia, and to contribute potential therapy for dementia people. Many vascular risk factors (VRFs) such as hypertension (HT), hyperlipidemia (HL, dyslipidemia), diabetes mellitus, and metabolic syndrome are strongly related both to Ab formation and cerebral white matter lesions (WML). Because recent studies suggest that combination of Aβ deposit plus small vessel disease is important for AD phenotype presentation especially in the very elder societies, we will continue to study vascular and other risk factors both for preventing and treating AD and other dementias. I hope you to actively join our society for fighting against dementia in aged societies.

December 1, 2015
Dear Colleagues and Friends,

The 6th Vas-Cog Japan was held at Tokyo Fashion Town in September 19, 2015. Dr. Kawabata and I organized this year’s conference, and the conference was accompanied with the Vas-Cog World conference at the same place. Because of joint hosting, the conference was greatly successful, and the number of participants was around 150 for the Japanese conference. We planned this congress as a following style, including 2 special lectures, 2 educational lectures, and one symposium with 5 speakers. This congress accepted 45 presentations in total, in which 11 speakers were assigned to candidates for a young investigator award. Two young speakers won the best young researcher’s award. The first special lecture was presented by Prof. William Jagust from UC Berkley. He talked about recent progress in amyloid and tau imaging study with PET. He demonstrated distinct localization and timing of Aβ and Tau depositions depending on clinical stage of AD, and suggested the importance of tau pathology for the AD treatment strategy. The second lecture was by Prof. Kobayashi from Shimane University. He emphasized the importance of assessment and diagnosis of apathy in treatment of vascular dementia. Two educational lectures included regenerative medicine in stroke and network analysis of memory disturbance in stroke patients. Both lectures were highly impressive and valuable for future research. In the symposium five speakers discussed their own research findings regarding the prevention and pathophysiology of vascular dementia. All presentations by participants were all excellent and impressive. After the conference, participants enjoyed the closing party and a ceremony for awarded young speakers. Finally, we promised reunion in Kanazawa next year. I greatly appreciate all the participants for their contributions to the success of the conference.
We held the 6th Japanese Society for Vascular Cognitive Impairment Vas-Cog Japan 2015 at the Tokyo Fashion Town on 19th September 2015 with Professor Shuhei Yamaguchi from Shimane University of Medicine. This congress started as a study research group in 2010. The society was formed this year, and Vas-Cog World was held by Dr. Ken Nagata and Dr. Koji Abe at the same time.

We received an enthusiastic speech from Dr. William Jagust about the role of brain Amyloid and Tau in Aging and Alzheimer's disease at the special lecture 1 and luncheon seminar. At the special lecture 2, we were able to listen to a segment of long-time research regarding apathy after apoplexy and Alzheimer from vascular dementia, with suggested importance of caudate nucleus in vascular dementia. At the symposium, 5 doctors discussed wide topics from the basics to clinical research into predictive and preventatives for vascular dementia and the clinical state of the disease. In the morning seminar, Dr. Mikio Shoji and Dr. Kenjiro Ono provided insight into the latest knowledge about the origins of Alzheimer dementia; valuable lectures. We deeply appreciate the many doctors who took charge of educational lectures and afternoon seminars, where a great deal of information about vascular dementia was provided. We had received over 40 submissions for oral presentations. In particular, the Young Investigator’s Award (YIA) was the subject of address of 11 titles, proving that young doctors are very concerned about vascular dementia, and indicating great energy for the greater development of this society in the future.

Holding in conjunction with the International Vas-Cog World Conference, however, tended to result in a less cohesive audience with mixed results. This conference focused on concern for the causes of dementia - not only Alzheimer dementia lesions but vascular dementia lesions. Current trends seem to limit dementia to Alzheimer dementia, though I strongly feel the need to spread the understanding of the additional possibilities of vascular dementia or vascular cognitive impairment.

To end, please allow me to use this opportunity to offer my sincere thanks to the all of the attendees of this conference.
Vas-Cog World 2015 was held at the Tokyo Fashion Town of Ariake, Koto-ku, Tokyo from September 16, 2016 to 19 days. Although the second day became the large roughness of the weather like typhoons, many researchers that more than 300 people from Japan and abroad gathered, it became a very meaningful scientific meeting.

On September 16, following the meeting of STROKOG (Consortium of Studies of Post-stroke Cognitive Disorders), as a Pre-congress Event, Raj Kalaria, Masafumi Ihara, Florence Pasquier and Toshiya Fukui made a presentation in the Educational Course.

On September 17, Opening Ceremony was carried out by Ken Nagata, Koji Abe and Raj Kalaria, The scientific program of Vas-Cog World 2015 has been started. Theme (1) "Diagnosing Vascular Cognitive Disorders" (Chair: Mikio Shoji and Sandra E. Black) was organized by 5 presentations, and Theme (2) "Small Vessel Disease and Dementia" (Chair: Ken Nagata and Geert Jan Biessels) in 6 presentations announcement of is it was done. Across the two Luncheon Seminars by Abe Koji and Ken Nagata, Poster Sessions and Poster Review Sessions have been carried out in the afternoon. In the Poster Session, a total of 159 papers have been presented in 27 fields. In the Debate (1)

"Do Vascular Risk Factors Make a Major Contribution to the Etiology of Alzheimer's Disease?" (Chair: Issei Komuro and Raj Kalaria), 4 speakers made their presentation. Four speakers
presented their papers in the Young Investigators Meeting (1) "Dementia and Vascular Risk Factors" (Chair: Mohammad Arfan Ikram and Toru Yamashita). In the evening, Takehiko Nagao and Shinichiro Uchiyama made their presentations in the Evening Seminars.

The Scientific program of the third day, September 18th, was started with the Theme (3) "Vascular Factors in AD and Other Dementia" (Chair: Raj Kalaria, and Ryuichi Morishita) which was organized by 6 presentations subsequently, 6 speakers made their presentations in the Theme (4) "Post-stroke Dementia, CCA and Risk Factors" (Chair: Tsong-Hai Lee and Toshiki Mizuno). Across the Luncheon Seminars by Toshiya Fukui and Yasuo Terayama, the Vas-Cog General Assembly was held in the afternoon. Subsequently, Poster Session and Poster Review Session have been carried out.

Four speakers made their presentations in the Debate (2) "Is It Possible to Prevent MCI from Converting into AD?" (Chair: Elisabet Englund and Shokei Mitsuyama). Three speakers presented their papers in the Young Investigators Meeting Young researchers session (2) "Cerebrovascular Impact for AD" (Chair: Masafumi Ihara and Kaavya Narasimhalu). In the evening, following the Evening Seminar by Ken Nagata, the Banquet was carried out in TOC West Tower.

The program of September 19, was started with the Theme (5) "Neuropsychiatric Diseases and Vascular Factors" (Chair: Ingmar Skoog and John O'Brien) which was organized by 6 presentations. Subsequently, 6 speakers made their presentations in the Theme (6) "Emerging Neuroimaging and Biomarker for Dementia" (Chair:
Christopher Chen and Hidekazu Tomimoto. After the Luncheon Seminar by Ryuichi Morishita, Ken Nagata and Koji Abe concluded the meeting at the closing ceremony, and all of the programs of Vas-Cog 2015 have been completed.

On behalf of the executive committee of Vas-Cog 2015, we would like to thank from my heart to all participants and the staff.
※ This text was described by omitting the title of presenters and chair persons.
The Vas-Cog Asia 4 was held as a joint conference with the Asia Pacific Stroke Conference (APSC) 2015 in Kuala Lumpur in the afternoon on October 2 as in the previous three conferences. There were variety of presentations in this conference even more than in the former conference. Concerning the correlation between cognitive impairment and cerebrovascular disease, many new aspects of basic science, pathophysiology, epidemiology, imaging, prevention, and treatment were presented and much argued. In the Session of Young Flash Talk, young Asian researchers presented interesting works, which were successfully congratulated. Dementia and stroke are two major disabling diseases, which shorten healthy lifespan, and are continuously increasing in Asia. Therefore, Vas-Cog Asia will become more meaningful conference and society in future.

World Stroke Day Proclamation by World Stroke Organization (WSO) was “Stroke and Potentially Preventable Dementia”. In this proclamation, WSO emphasizes to prevent, identify, and treat potentially preventable dementia. The proclamation notes that subclinical (“silent”) strokes occur five times as often as clinical (obvious) strokes, and may affect thinking, mood, and personality. It also notes that all major dementias have a vascular component including 80% in Alzheimer disease. Asia Pacific Stroke Organization (APSO) has recently been recognized as the local organization of WSO in Asia. Therefore, Vas-Cog Asia holding a joint conference with APSC should also develop promotion activities for preventable dementia.

The next Vas-Cog Asia will be held in Brisbane, Australia in the afternoon on July 14 again as the Joint Conference with APSC 2016. Brisbane is the third biggest city in Australia with population of two million, and very popular among tourists because of warm ever weather and well known adjacent resorts such as Gold Coast. We are looking forward to seeing many of you in Vas-Cog Asia 5.
Welcome to Vas-Cog Japan 2016

Masahito Yamada, MD, PhD
Kanazawa University

Masatsugu Horiuchi, MD, PhD
Ehime University

We are pleased to welcome you to the Vas-Cog Japan 2016 to be held at the Kanazawa Miyako Hotel, August 6, 2016. This is the first time that the meeting is held in the local city other than Tokyo or Kyoto since the Society has been established in 2010.

The number of patients suffering from dementia has soared in worldwide including Japan. Major causes of the dementia are Alzheimer’s disease and vascular dementia. In the Vas-Cog Japan 2016, we have decided “Cardiovascular and metabolic disorders and dementia, and cerebral amyloid angiopathy (CAA)” as a theme. We would like to focus on relationship between CAA, Alzheimer’s disease, and inflammation, in addition to pathomechanisms of vascular dementia in relation to cardiovascular and metabolic disorders.

Since starting operations of superexpress (Shinkansen) between Tokyo and Kanazawa in March 2015, access to the conference venue is much easier than before. Old-fashioned town and traditional culture are still preserved in Kanazawa. Fruitful discussion at the Vas-Cog 2016 could be a first step to overcome vascular cognitive impairments. Furthermore, we also would like every participant to enjoy the historic city. We are looking forward to seeing you in Kanazawa.
The 7th Board Member meeting for Japan Vas-Cog was held on the 18th of September, 2015 in Tokyo, with 14 board members.

Ryuichi Morishita, MD, PhD
Osaka University

The titles of the meeting were “The Plan for Future Conferences,” “Preparation for Forming a Society.” Following is a report of the meeting, with the topics discussed and plans approved.

[Membership]
131 regular members (10th September, 2015)

[Report from each chairman]
*The chairperson for the promotion of becoming a society, Dr. Katsuya Urakami, discussed the difficulties of forming a society due to membership number and the need to confirm the criteria for formation.
*The chairperson for increasing membership and public relations, Dr. Haruo Hanyu, discussed greater promotion of membership through a mailing list. A prospectus will be created and published for homepage banner advertisement.
*The chief editor of the academic magazine, Dr. Mikio Shoji, discussed publishing a second volume of the periodical for the organization following the conference (each section will be contacted appropriately).
*The chairperson of financial affairs, Dr. Ryuichi Morishita, reported on the financial accounting and discussed the formation of a society this year. Also discussed were plans for additional documentation by the next conference. There are also plans for one more auditor in addition to Dr. Matsubara.

[Plans for future conferences]
The 7th conference (August 6th, 2016: Kanazawa Miyako Hotel) organizers: Dr. Masatsugu Horiuchi and Dr. Masahito Yamada
The 8th conference (August 5th, 2017: Toranomon Hills, Toyko) organizers: Dr. Shinichiro Uchiyama, Dr. Issei Komuro, and Vice-Chairperson Dr. Kazuo Kitagawa
The 9th conference (2018) organizers: Dr. Katsuya Urakami and Dr. Etsuro Matsubara
The 10th conference (2019) organizers: Dr. Masahiro Akishita and Dr. Yoshio Ikeda
Vas-Cog Asia 4 in conjunction with (APSC2015) in Kuala Lumpur and October 2nd, 2015, Shangri La Hotel (Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia)
Chair: Koji Abe, Ramesh Sahathevan, and Christopher Chen

[COI] We are planning consideration of COI and creating a standard comparable to other similar societies.
[Name list]

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  Hiroshi Mori (Osaka City University)

- **President**
  Koji Abe (Okayama University)

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  Masahito Yamada (Kanazawa University)
Editors Note
Mikio Shoji MD., PhD.,
Hirosaki University

Since Vas-Cog Japan has developed to be official academic society, News and Letter is also changed to the Vas-Cog Journal as the official journal of Vas-Cog Japan Society. Here, we bring you the 2nd issue, No.2. We would like to provide information of VAS-Cog Japan Society, annual meeting and to publish original article about vascular dementia study in the future. CONET Co., Ltd. manages society secretary works.

In this issue, we reported the 6th annual meeting of Vas-Cog Japan 2015, which was held in TOKYO fashion town on September 19, by Dr. Shuhei Yamaguchi in Shimane University and Dr. Shinya Kawabata in Yachiyo Hospital. About 150 participants and 45 presentations, plenary lectures and special lectures and symposium were very impressive, suggesting marked progress in our society. Since Vas-cog world 2015 was held simultaneously, 6th annual meeting of Vas-cog Japan was international and memorable. Many researchers in Vas-Cog world also joined Vas-Cog Japan.

Vas-Cog World 2015 was held by Dr. Ken Nagata and Koji Abe in September 16-19 in the same venue. About 300 researches participated the meeting and successfully closed. Dr. Nagata reported the Vas-Cog world 2015 and Dr. Uchiyama also reported the Vas-cog Asia 2015. Based on these reports, we noticed the developing of this field in the world.

Next 7th annual meeting of Vas-Cog Japan will be held in Kanazawa city, August. I am looking forward to seeing many members in Vas-cog Japan 2016, in Kanazawa.

The past and future annual meetings of Vas-Cog Japan

The 1st Meeting : August, 2010 (Tokyo) Chairmen : Ken Nagata and Toshiya Fukui
The 2nd Meeting : August, 2011 (Tokyo) Chairmen : Koji Abe and Shokei Mitsuyama
The 3rd Meeting : August, 2012 (Tokyo) Chairmen : Ryuichi Morishita, Yasuo Terayama, and Koji Abe
The 4th Meeting : August, 2013 (Tokyo) Chairmen : Mikio Shoji and Haruo Hanyu
The 5th Meeting : August, 2014 (Kyoto) Chairmen : Toshiki Mizuno and Hidekazu Tomimoto
The 6th Meeting : August, 2015 (Tokyo) Chairmen : Shinya Kawabata and Shuhei Yamaguchi
The 7th Meeting : August, 2016 (Kanazawa) Chairmen : Masatsugu Horiuchi and Masahito Yamada
The 8th Meeting : August, 2017 (Tokyo) Chairmen : Shinichiro Uchiyama and Isseki Komuro
The 9th Meeting : August, 2018 (planned) Chairmen : Katsuya Urakami and Etsuro Matsubara
The 10th Meeting : August, 2019 (planned) Chairmen : Masahiro Akishita and Yoshio Ikeda

* to be continued*