

Celebrating LMI Inaugural Issue

*Hiroaki Ohnishi**

†Department of Laboratory Medicine, Kyorin University School of Medicine, 6-20-2, Shinkawa, Mitaka, Tokyo, 181-8611, Japan.
E-mail: onishi@ks.kyorin-u.ac.jp

*President of the Japanese Society of Laboratory Medicine; Professor, Department of Laboratory Medicine, Kyorin University School of Medicine



With this commemorative inaugural issue, the Japanese Society of Laboratory Medicine (JSLM) is proud to launch Laboratory Medicine International (LMI), a new journal dedicated to the advancement of the science and practice of laboratory medicine and clinical pathology.

Medical and laboratory tests have long been the cornerstone of diagnosis and decision-making in clinical practice, and the dependence on laboratory tests has continued to grow in the modern era of medicine. The development of novel molecular technology has further enabled the application of genetic analysis to diagnosis, embodying the understanding of human diseases through the most fundamental etiology. Laboratory medicine covers all areas of diagnosis and promotes patient care in scientific ways, organizing knowledge in the form of testable explanations and predictions about human beings. However, the clinical application of laboratory tests to patient diagnosis and the subsequent selection of therapeutic strategies has yet to be fully investigated, from conventional fields like specimen sampling to the latest evolved fields like molecular diagnosis. Under these circumstances, LMI will be a premium resource for those interested in improving patient care through accurate and reliable medical tests.

We are thrilled to have Hiroshi Yoshida, MD, PhD, as founding Editor-in-Chief of LMI. Dr. Yoshida is a professor of laboratory medicine, and internal medicine

specializing in lipid metabolism and atherosclerosis, and Director of the Jikei University Kashiwa Hospital. He will surely bring wisdom gained from his over 30 years of pioneering research in laboratory medicine and over 10-year experience in editing the Japanese Guidelines of Laboratory Medicine, to present -day challenges: how to implement useful medical tests in real-world healthcare from a scientific standpoint. He is definitely the right person for the job.

LMI also enjoys the support of the outstanding group of Deputy Editor Dr. Tatsuo Shimosawa, associate editors, and editorial board members who bring multidisciplinary expertise and a wealth of experience to the journal, which is essential in the field of laboratory medicine that covers all areas of modern medicine. We applaud the efforts of the founding editors for the launch of LMI, a longtime dream that our society has pursued.

The importance of laboratory medicine has never been recognized so profoundly and realistically as in the current situation caused by the COVID-19 pandemic. Admirably, a respectable predecessor of JSLM once stated: "all medical researches lead to laboratory medicine". We urge our members and others interested in medical and laboratory tests to join LMI and contribute their original work, thoughtful review papers, and efforts as peer reviewers. Such contributions will help overcome threats to worldwide public health through unrestrained scientific enthusiasm to understand the nature of human diseases.

We appreciate all readers for joining us in the launch of LMI.