GUNMA UNIVERSITY
Graduate School of Medicine

入学案内 2019
Admission Guide 2019
群馬大学 大学院
医学系研究科生命医科学専攻【修士課程】
Course of Biomedical Sciences (Master's Program)
A Message from the Dean

Course of Biomedical Sciences (Master’s Program) was installed in 2007 at Graduate School of Medicine. Due to rapid development of life science, medicine, and information science, a possibility of utilizing the advance in bio-medical fields, in such as a bio-correlative industry, drug design, and advanced medicine, has increased. Therefore, Course of Biomedical Sciences was established in order to grow researcher, educator and high-level medical person, who can exercise leadership in life science, medicine and medical field.

In Course of Biomedical Sciences, the interdisciplinary field of medicine and life science is set as the main object of education and research. Namely, it aims at advancing a life process for analysis from a medical viewpoint, promoting the education and research of the interdisciplinary field in medicine and medical treatment, learning and developing new medicine and medical technology which aimed at improvement of health and the quality of life, raising advanced medical person, etc.

Although the graduates of this Course would be divided into the advanced profession people in each field, such as researcher, educator, medical person, and industrial person, or into those who go on to Course of Medical Sciences (Doctoral Program), playing an active part as a leader in each field will be expected, taking advantage of having learned at Course of Biomedical Sciences.

\(<\text{Special Educational Course and Program}>\)
- Medical Physics Course

In Gunma University, heavy-ion cancer therapy was started from 2010 in Heavy-Ion Medical Center uniquely installed in Japan. Medical physicist, who takes charge of the cancer medical treatment using radiation, such as heavy-ion, is very insufficient in Japan. So, Medical Physics Course that aimed at cultivation of medical physicist was installed.
1 Aim of Master’s Program for Biomedical Sciences

Recent advances in life sciences and information sciences have opened up abundant prospects for applying the achievements of basic research within bio-related industries and new medical services, including drug discovery and regenerative medicine. At the same time, there is a need to solve many challenges, such as medical ethics and information security that are associated with advanced medical technology, and community healthcare support in our aging society, which are opening up a wide range of potential roles for medical researchers and health professionals. Many doors are being opened to non-medical school graduates and trained researchers, educators, and/or highly skilled workers who can exercise leadership in the life sciences and medical fields. However, there is a looming shortage of researchers/educators able to respond to the needs of society and who can take an active role in Biomedical Sciences, this new interdisciplinary field between life sciences and medicine.

There is also a growing number of non-medicine, non-veterinary, and non-dentistry graduates who are hoping to pursue their interest in life science research or medical fields; however, before these graduates can enter a graduate school of medicine to take a PhD course, they either need to have obtained a Master’s Degree or must have more than two years’ research experience at a university or research institute. Gunma University Graduate School of Medicine has been shifting its focus of interest to new interdisciplinary fields. For example, in 2003, we re-organized our Medical Sciences Course (Doctoral Program) and our research and educational system into a basic plus clinical integrated style, and established a PhD program in health sciences, now being run by the Graduate School of Health Sciences. The implementation of a day/evening course system for both programs allowed us to offer the course to mature students not from only the medical and health science fields, but also from related fields. However, we were still unable to accept graduates from facilities other than medicine, veterinary, or dentistry directly to our medical sciences course.

In response to increasing demand, and to broaden our intake of graduates from other faculties, we have established a Biomedical Science Course (Master’s program) within the Graduate School of Medicine. This program aims to educate non-medical school graduates in the fundamental knowledge and skills needed to engage in the type of independent research that increasingly underpins medical and life sciences, and to foster leadership in medical-related fields on the part of health professional experts.

2 Research conducted in Biomedical Sciences

Biomedical Sciences is a general term for the life sciences field, which overlaps medicine, life sciences, and other medical interdisciplinary fields. The Biomedical Sciences Course is designed to draw together life sciences and traditional basic medicine/clinical medicine as educational and research subjects to promote the elucidation of biological processes from a medical perspective and to establish Biomedical Sciences as a discipline that is aimed at the creation of new medical care: not only diagnosis and treatment, but also the promotion of health and improvement of quality of life.
3 Career options after earning Master’s Degree

This Master’s course will train students in the biomedical sciences. It is hoped they will acquire basic knowledge of medicine, and come to understand the relationship between medicine and life sciences. We hope graduates will become researchers who can propose and conduct original research in biomedical sciences and academic medicine.

Graduates of this Master’s Program can expect to become:
1. Educators and/or researchers in the area of biomedical sciences (e.g., life sciences or medical science related fields)
2. Highly trained experts in the fields of medicine, welfare, pharmacology, biology-related industries
3. Those who continue their education in Medical Sciences (Doctoral program) course

- Educators and researchers in biomedical sciences
- Highly trained experts in respective fields

(Career possibilities)
Research institutions, educational institutions, clinical pathology facilities, health care facilities, pharmaceutical companies, clinical research and development companies, biotechnology associated industries, hospital and medical facilities, etc.

- Educators and researchers in medical and/or life science fields
- Health care providers

Course of Biomedical Sciences (Master’s Program)

Course of Medical Sciences (Doctoral Program)
4 Curriculum

1) Subjects are categorized as Basic Subjects, Practical Subjects, and Research Subjects.
2) Basic Subjects are taken in the 1st year. In “required subjects”, basic knowledge on life sciences and medical sciences, and basic techniques necessary in biomedical research will be acquired. In “required elective subjects,” basic biomedical knowledge needed in multiple fields will be acquired (9 credits of required subjects, 4 credits of required elective subjects <10 or more credits for Medical Physics Course>.
3) Practical Subjects are electives selected according to research theme and/or postgraduate career. Practical and applied knowledge needed for specialization and/or research in chosen fields will be acquired (4 or more credits of Practical Subjects<10 or more credits for Medical Physics Course>.
4) In Research Subjects, students will conduct biomedical research in their chosen field and compose a master’s thesis. They will acquire knowledge and techniques needed to propose and conduct research, and present research findings (13 credits of Research Subjects).

Requirements for degree award
- Acquisition of required credits
- Successful completion of Master’s thesis review process and passing final examination
### Curriculum

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Subdivision</th>
<th>Subject</th>
<th>An academic year</th>
<th>Credits</th>
<th>Teaching methods</th>
<th>Remarks</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Required subjects</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Basic</td>
<td>Introduction to Clinical Sciences</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>Lecture</td>
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<td>Philosophy</td>
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<td>2</td>
<td>Lecture</td>
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<td>2</td>
<td>Lecture</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Statistical Informatics</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>Lecture</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Bio-Scientific Training</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Anatomy</td>
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<td>2</td>
<td>Lecture</td>
<td>○</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Analytical Physiology</td>
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<td>2</td>
<td>Lecture</td>
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<td>Biomolecular Chemistry</td>
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<td>2</td>
<td>Lecture</td>
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<tr>
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<td>Socio-Environmental Medicine</td>
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<td>2</td>
<td>Lecture</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Laboratory Animal Science</td>
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<td>9</td>
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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Subject</th>
<th>Exective subjects</th>
<th>Technical Course</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Molecular and cellular biology</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>An Introduction to Pathology</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>○</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bacteriology &amp; Infection Control</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>○</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Neuroscience lecture</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>○</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Reproduction, Regeneration and Development</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>○</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Informational Management</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>○</td>
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<tr>
<td>International Public Health</td>
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<td>○</td>
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<tr>
<td>Ion beam technology for bioengineering</td>
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<td>○</td>
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<tr>
<td>Drug Discovery</td>
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<td>○</td>
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<tr>
<td>Clinical Trial and Research</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>○</td>
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<tr>
<td>Exercises in Genomic Medicine</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>○</td>
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<tr>
<td>Rehabilitation Medicine &amp; Sociology</td>
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<tr>
<td>Subtotal (12 subjects)</td>
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<tr>
<td>International Public Health</td>
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<tr>
<td>Ion beam technology for bioengineering</td>
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<td>○</td>
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<tr>
<td>Drug Discovery</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>○</td>
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<tr>
<td>Clinical Trial and Research</td>
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<td>2</td>
<td>○</td>
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<tr>
<td>Exercises in Genomic Medicine</td>
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<td>2</td>
<td>○</td>
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<tr>
<td>Rehabilitation Medicine &amp; Sociology</td>
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<th>Elective subjects</th>
<th>Technical Course</th>
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<tr>
<td>Biomedical Sciences Methodology</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Biomedical Sciences Research</td>
<td>1~2</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>○</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Research Discussion Seminar</td>
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<td>1</td>
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<tr>
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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Subject</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Total (25 subjects)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Degree Master (Biomedical Science)</td>
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### Remarks

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Remarks</th>
<th>Credits</th>
<th>Teaching methods</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Take all these required subjects</td>
<td>○</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Take more than 2 out of 5 subjects for 4 credits or more.</td>
<td>○</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>※[Analytical Physiology] corresponds to “Integrative Physiology” or “Neurophysiology”</td>
<td>○</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
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</table>

### Remarks

- Take 2 subjects for 4 credits or more.
- Required subjects

### Required

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Degree Master (Biomedical Science)</th>
<th>Required</th>
<th>terms</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Students should 1) obtain credits described above, 2) write a dissertation with mentors’ guidance, and 3) pass the thesis defense.</td>
<td>22 terms per year</td>
<td>two terms</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>school weeks per term</td>
<td>15 weeks</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>time of one class</td>
<td>60-90 minutes</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
~The Biomedical Sciences course is looking for the following candidates.~

<Aims in Human Resources Development>
Our program aims to cultivate scientists who will pursue medical science, medical ethics, and medical skills. We hope our graduates will integrate these pursuits and contribute to the progress of medical research and education, and become leaders in health care and medical science.

<Attributes of Desired Candidate>
We will accept students who wish to gain knowledge and skills in biomedical sciences through our program, and become highly-skilled professionals or researchers. Specifically, we will accept those who:
1. strive to gain the ability to perform research independently based on high ethical values and profound academic knowledge.
2. strive to contribute to the society in medical science, health care and welfare filed as highly-skilled professionals by making use of the knowledge and skills they acquired.
3. strive to further develop the knowledge and skills they acquire, and continue to the PhD program to become researchers and/or educators in Biomedical Sciences field.

<Screening Process>
In order to enroll candidates consistent with our admission policy, we will comprehensively evaluate the results of the entrance examination (written test and interview) and undergraduate academic transcripts. We will take the variety in academic backgrounds of applicants into consideration, and allow applicants to select questions from either the biomedical field or the medical physics field for the written examination. We offer October admission in addition to the traditional April admission to increase educational opportunity.
Introduction of Major Field

**Basic Medicine**

The basic medicine consists of 14 fields. Research and education of biomedical sciences will be conducted based on basic medicine.

**Clinical Medicine**

The clinical medicine consists of 35 fields (Including 7 Internal Medicine and 6 General Surgical Science). Research and education of biomedical sciences will be conducted based on clinical medicine.

**Cooperative and joint Department**

The cooperative department and joint department consist of 11 fields of Institute for Molecular and Cellular Regulation, 2 clinical division of University Hospital, 2 fields of Heavy Ion Medical Center, and 1 field of Takasaki Advanced Radiation Research Institute, Japan Atomic Energy Agency.

**Anatomy**

**Anatomy and Cell Biology**

**Molecular and Cellular Neurobiology**

**Biochemistry**

**Integrative Physiology**

**Neurophysiology and Neural Repair**

**Neurobiology and Behavior**

**Genetic and Behavioral Neuroscience**

**Molecular Pharmacology and Oncology**

**Bacteriology**

**Infectious Diseases and Host Defense**

**Public Health**

**Legal Medicine**

**Medical Philosophy and Ethics**

**Internal Medicine**

**Cardiovascular Medicine**

**Respiratory Medicine**

**Gastroenterology and Hepatology**

**Endocrinology and Metabolism**

**Nephrology and Rheumatology**

**Hematology**

**Neurology**

**(General Surgical Medicine)**

**Cardiovascular Surgery**

**General Thoracic Surgery**

**Gastroenterological Surgery**

**Breast and Endocrine Surgery**

**Hepatobiliary and Pancreatic Surgery**

**Pediatric Surgery**

**Radiation Oncology**

**Diagnostic Radiology and Nuclear Medicine**

**Psychiatry and Neuroscience**

**Anesthesiology**

**Emergency Medicine**

**General Practice Medicine**

**Rehabilitation Medicine**

**Clinical Laboratory Medicine**

**Human Pathology**

**Diagnostic Pathology**

**Pediatrics**

**Obstetrics and Gynecology**

**Urology**

**Neurosurgery**

**Ophthalmology**

**Otology and Head and Neck Surgery**

**Dermatology**

**Plastic Surgery**

**Orthopaedic Surgery**

**Clinical Pharmacology and Therapeutics**

**Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery**

**Quality and Safety in Healthcare**

**University Hospital**

**Clinical Trials and Regulatory Science**

**Medical Informatics**

**(Institute for Molecular and Cellular Regulation)**

**Molecular Traffic**

**Medical Neuroscience**

**Secretion Biology**

**Molecular Membrane Biology**

**Molecular Endocrinology and Metabolism**

**Developmental Biology and Metabolism**

**Metabolic Signaling**

**Laboratory of Epigenetics and Metabolism**

**Molecular Genetics**

**Genome Sciences**

**Laboratory of Integrated Signaling Systems**

**(Heavy Ion Clinical Medicine)**

**Medical Physics and Biology for Ion Therapy**

**Heavy Ion Clinical Medicine**

**(Takasaki Advanced Radiation Research Institute, National Institute for Quantum and Radiological Sciences and Technology)**

**Quantum Biology**

Note: Inquiries about admission should be made directly to supervisors in desired Major Field of Study (from page 8 on) prior to the actual application process. Major Department can be changed at the end of the 1st semester of the 1st year.
## Description of Research Objectives

### Basic Medicine

#### Anatomy (Under Selection)

Research themes of our laboratory are 1) molecular cell biology of functional proteins of the skeletal muscle and 2) expression and function of cell adhesion molecules during early development. For the former, we are now concentrating on studying cytoskeletal anchoring systems to the sarcolemma and vesicular sorting systems. For the latter, we are studying cadherin-superfamily proteins with in situ hybridization technique using zebrafish embryos that are characterized by transparency in early development.

**Keywords** skeletal muscle, cytoskeleton, vesicular sorting system, embryogenesis, cell adhesion proteins

#### Anatomy and Cell Biology

We are interested in membrane channel proteins and transporter proteins, especially in water channel aquaporins. Our goal is to understand their physiological functions and relationships between these proteins and diseases. To understand the physiological functions of these proteins, we investigate their tissue distributions and cellular localizations as well as their changes by using bio-imaging techniques such as immunofluorescence microscopy and immunoelectron microscopy, as well as techniques in molecular biology.

**Keywords** membrane protein, water channel, transporter, immunofluorescence microscopy, immunoelectron microscopy, molecular biology

#### Molecular and Cellular Neurobiology

We are studying the cells in the CNS from their birth to death. We aim to elucidate the molecular basis of the control of proliferation, differentiation, and survival of neural precursor cells, hoping that our results will contribute to the treatment of intractable CNS diseases in the near future. We are also studying the interaction between neural cells and vascular cells in the CNS.

**Keywords** neural stem cells, neuronal precursor cells, glial precursor cells, glial cells, vascular cells, regenerative medicine

#### Biochemistry (Under Selection)

Our research projects aim to clarify turnover of cell membrane phospholipids on various kinds of stimulation, production of bioactive lipids (lipid mediators), signal transduction through their GPCRs, and function of these bioactive lipids, using methods of biochemistry, molecular biology and cell biology. Lipid mediators may be involved in various pathological processes such as inflammation, allergic reactions, neurological disorders, and cancer proliferation. We are also working on analysis of signal transduction through DNA double strand break, and exhaustive analysis of protein and metabolite by mass spectrometry.

**Keywords** lipid mediator, GPCR, signal transduction, DNA double strand break, proteome, metabolome

#### Integrative Physiology

Small lipophilic hormones such as steroid and thyroid hormones play a crucial role in the development and functional maintenance of various organs including the central nervous system. On the other hand, there are drugs and environmental chemicals whose structures are similar to those of such hormones. Such chemicals may disrupt endogenous hormone actions as either an agonist or antagonist. We study the effect of small lipophilic hormones on organ development and plasticity, and modulation by environmental chemicals and drugs on such process, using various techniques including behavioral analysis with gene modified animals, and cellular and molecular biological techniques.

**Keywords** hormone, development, plasticity, regeneration, environmental factors, endocrine disruption

#### Neurophysiology and Neural Repair

We are studying the mechanism underlying memory, learning and motor control as well as brain disorders and aging in terms of molecular, cellular, network and behavioral aspects. Our challenge includes development of novel therapies effective for the brain disorders. To pursue these aims, we are developing cutting-edge techniques such as novel viral vectors, genome editing technology and disease model non-human primates. Our laboratory has sufficient experimental setup to perform world top-level research.

**Keywords** memory; learning; motor control; regenerative medicine; viral vector; neurodegenerative disease; marmoset; non-human primate model; aging; stem cell therapy; gene therapy; patch clamp.

#### Neurobiology and Behavior

To understand the regulatory mechanisms of synapse morphology and function, we have studied the actin cytoskeleton in postsynaptic sites. For this research, primary cultured neurons, human iPS cells-derived neurons and knockout mice have been used with various experimental techniques including cell biology, biochemistry, molecular biology, neuronal cell culture, histochemistry, imaging and behavioral analysis. In addition, we have also studied about the effects of radiation on the synapses. These studies will shed light on the mechanisms of brain function and development of new diagnostic and therapeutic methods for neurological and psychiatric disorders.

**Keywords** synaptic morphology and function, actin cytoskeleton, imaging techniques, human iPS cells-derived neurons, radiation damage, high-throughput
Genetic and Behavioral Neuroscience  
Yuchio Yanagawa

We are studying the role of neurotransmitter GABA in brain functions such as emotion and the properties of GABAergic neurons through the generation and analyses of genetically engineered rodents such as conditional knockout mice and transgenic rats. We are also interested in the relationship between the deficits in GABAergic neurons and neuropsychiatric disorders. We have established model mice for schizophrenia or epilepsy and are characterizing them to elucidate the pathogenesis and/or pathophysiology of these disorders.

[Keywords] neurotransmitter, GABA, knockout mice, transgenic rats, neuropsychiatric disorders, model mouse

Molecular Pharmacology and Oncology  
Masahiko Nishiyama

The development of molecular targeting drugs has accelerated advances in drug treatment for cancer. Students study the interaction of drugs in the levels of molecular, cellular, tissue, organ and an individual in order to better understand the mechanisms, and challenge translational research that facilitates the translation of findings from basic science to practical applications, which might lead to new drug discoveries, identification of novel biomarkers, and development of novel anticancer therapies. Students experience a variety of research processes of drug development from genome-wide screening of novel medical seeds to mega-clinical trial to evaluate the efficacy and toxicity of new drugs or therapies.

[Keywords] cancer, translational research, drug action mechanisms, genome-based drug discovery, oncology biomarker

Bacteriology  
Haruyoshi Tomita

Nosocomial infections caused by multi-drug resistant (MDR) bacteria have increased and become a worldwide social problem. Our research is focused on the major causative MDR bacteria including methicillin-resistant Staphylococcus aureus (MRSA), vancomycin-resistant enterococci (VRE), MDR Pseudomonas aeruginosa and MDR Acinetobacter baumannii. The drug resistances and pathogenicities of MDR bacteria are examined by molecular biological methodology. The molecular mechanisms of bacterial genetic exchange system which is a significant factor for the spread of drug resistance and virulence genes are also studied.

[Keywords] multi-drug resistant bacteria, VRE, MDRP, enterococcus, bacteriocin, conjugative plasmid, transposon

Infectious Diseases and Host Defense  
(Under Selection)

This department was newly founded in April of 2018 to study parasitology or virology. We are now selecting a candidate for the professor of this department. Refer to Professor Ishizaki, Dean of Graduate School of Medicine.

Public Health  
Hiroshi Koyama

Public Health is the art and science to delineate the environmental and social determinants of health, and to reduce the harmful factors and to promote the supportive factors for health through the organized community efforts. Our research topics include, the protective effect of trace elements on the development of cancer and metabolic syndrome, analytical studies of trace elements using HPLC-ICP-MS method, depression screening-test for the suicide prevention, and the epidemiology of the relationship between QOL and insurance system and community organization. We also examine health equity and public health ethics.

[Keywords] trace element, selenium, cancer prevention, depression screening, and epidemiology, public health ethics

Legal Medicine  
Yoshihiko Kominato

Legal medicine is essentially the application of scientific methods and techniques to matters involving the public that covers a lot of ground. Every science from chemistry to medicine, from biology to statistics, from dentistry to anthropology, can be a forensic science if it has some applications to the law or public matter. Especially, our group has been focusing on personal identification, which is one of the important matters of legal medicine in Japan. We have performed researches on ABO blood group, which is one of the important genetic markers in human identification. Recently, we have succeeded in identifying the erythroid cell-specific enhancer and found the deletion or impairment of the enhancer element in variant blood type Bm, leading to the development of valuable methods for the genetic diagnosis of Bm based on PCR analysis.

[Keywords] legal medicine, personal identification, ABO blood group, enhancer

Medical Philosophy and Ethics  
Kenji Hattori

Medical practices in the clinical setting as one of existential situations are fraught with troublesome problems in terms of actual human ways of life. Clinical ethics is tackling them by, not applying some general principles or abstract doctrines mechanically to every case, but paying close attention to the individual circumstances of each case. We have been involved in the groundwork for the methodology of clinical ethics from the perspective of hermeneutics and philosophy of literature. Ethical problems in preventive medicine, the method of teaching medical ethics, meta-ethical approaches to medical ethics, and critically examining the fundamental concepts such as health and disease, are also of our core concern.

[Keywords] clinical ethics, medical ethics, philosophy of medicine, medical ethics education

Description of Research Objectives

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Graduate School of Medicine
Admission Guide
2019
Clinical Medicine

Cardiovascular Medicine

According to the change of life style and an increase in aged population, the prevalence of hypertension, diabetes, and metabolic syndrome is rapidly increasing. These changes lead to the increase in cardiovascular disease such as myocardial infarction, stroke and heart failure. This department has been interested in the pathogenesis of atherosclerosis and heart failure. In addition, this department aims to identify the molecular target to prevent or treat the fatal arrhythmia. Furthermore, we are interested in the molecular mechanism of pulmonary fibrosis. Since the completion of human genome sequence determination, life science enters into post-genome era that make possible development of tailor-made medicine, and advances in high-throughput genotyping herald a rapid expansion of genomic information in human disease. Recently, this department has been interested in the identification of biomarkers that have incremental value for prevention of cardiovascular and pulmonary disease, and key molecules that are targetable by drugs. With identification of putative risk alleles for heart failure or pulmonary fibrosis, the next step will be exploration of the function of the genes and prospective clinical trials evaluating the benefits of genotype-directed treatment of cardiovascular and pulmonary disease.

[Keywords] vascular biology, atherosclerosis, heart failure, myocardial infarction, transcription factors

Respiratory Medicine

Clinical and basic researches for allergy and respiratory diseases are needed more than ever in our aging society. We try to investigate the pathogenesis of these diseases to make them clear. Our oncology unit is focusing on the basic and clinical research for lung cancer. Using genetically modified mice, research for refractory respiratory diseases such as asthma, COPD and lung fibrosis have been investigated.

[Keywords] lung cancer, allergic respiratory disease, COPD, lung fibrosis, infectious lung disease

Gastroenterology and Hepatology

In Gastroenterology Unit, we investigate the development of endoscopic diagnosis and therapy for gastrointestinal tumor and pathophysiology of gastroesophageal reflux disease (GERD), esophageal motility disorder, using high resolution manometry (HRM) and intraluminal impedance & pH monitoring and “association between inflammatory bowel disease and cellular stress response”. In Hepatology Unit, we investigate the pathogenesis of viral hepatitis, hepatocarcinogenesis, liver fibrosis and non-alcoholic steatohepatitis, using animal models such as knockout mice, and analyzed clinical samples to establish new methods of the diagnosis and therapy.

[Keywords] gastrointestinal tumor, GERD, esophageal motility disorder, high resolution manometry, hepatocarcinogenesis, non-alcoholic steatohepatitis

Endocrinology and Metabolism

Cancer, and apoplexy and myocardial infarction due to arteriosclerosis, which account for two thirds of deaths in Japan, are caused by abnormalities of endocrine and metabolic systems, various gene mutations, and/or viral infection. We have investigated the pathogenesis of these disorders using animal models such as knockout mice, and examined gene abnormalities of samples obtained from the surgery to establish new methods of the diagnosis and therapy.

[Keywords] lifestyle-related diseases, endocrine-metabolic disorders, diabetes mellitus, respiratory allergy disorders, hepatometabolic-digestive disorders

Nephrology and Rheumatology

We are studying the molecular mechanisms of glomerular and tubulointerstitial injuries and renal tubular regeneration and trying to develop the way to control renal injuries and regeneration. We are also examining the role of dendritic cells in renal diseases and autoimmune diseases. To investigate these research questions, we are using genetically modified animals and animal models of human diseases in vivo and several kinds of cultured cells in vitro. In addition, we are exploring and evaluating biomarkers for diagnosis or prognosis of renal and rheumatic diseases, using patients’ urine and tissue samples.

[Keywords] nephrology, rheumatology, autoimmune disease, regeneration medicine, biomarkers

Hematology

We study genetic polymorphism and epigenome, comprehensive analysis of RNA, non-coding RNA, microRNA by Next Generation Sequencing (NGS), the carbohydrate metabolism to elucidate the mechanism of the development and the progression of hematologic malignancies. We also conduct study about genetic polymorphism relevant to opportunistic infection in HIV patients, genome wide analysis in congenital coagulation disorder in cooperation with other institutions including in foreign countries. Student will learn NGS, gene introduction into tumor cells and methods of clinical statistics to search a factor associated with disease development, taking advantage of hematologic disorder to be easy to obtain a specimen from human.

[Keywords] hematologic malignancy, genome, epigenome, coagulation disorder, HIV, next generation sequencer
Neurology
Yoshio Ikeda (Internal Medicine)

To develop early diagnostic tools and establish useful biomarkers for Alzheimer disease, we are inves-ranging the Aβ-amyloid imaging (PIB-PET) and CSF biomarkers. To unravel a pathogenesis of the biggest intractable neurological disease, amyotrophic lateral sclerosis (ALS), we are investigating the autopsy tissues of ALS subjects. Microsatellite-repeat expansions of CAG, CTG, or GGCCTG repeat units are common genetic mutations of the hereditary neurological disorders such as spinocerebellar ataxia (SCA). We are trying to establish cell culture or animal models which are affected by these mutations. We hope to develop a novel disease-modifying therapy for SCA by analyzing these models.

[Keywords] Alzheimer disease, dementia, amyotrophic lateral sclerosis (ALS), spinocerebellar ataxia (SCA), microsatellite-repeat

Cardiovascular Surgery
Tomonobu Abe (General Surgical Medicine)

According to an increase in aged population, the prevalence of arteriosclerotic diseases and heart failure are rapidly increasing, and part of such patients need surgical treatment. In cardiovascular surgery, organ ischemia occurs in almost all patients, and then the reduction of the ischemia-reperfusion injury is important to the surgical results. It is still controversial in the methods of myocardial protection and brain protection, and we study more effective methods for organ protection.

[Keywords] surgery, heart, brain, ischemia, reperfusion injury, organ protection

General Thoracic Surgery
Akira Mogi (General Surgical Medicine)

The understanding of fundamental knowledge and concept of malignant diseases in thoracic surgical oncology, in particular, lung cancer, metastatic lung tumor, and thymic epithelial tumor is most important. The various factors related in each stage of carcinogenesis, proliferation, local invasion and also metastasis of tumor are reviewed with the latest knowledge. Furthermore, we make the students understand the importance of the recent advances in the diagnosis and treatment to patients with thoracic malignant disease. After clarifying the clinical problems, the students will learn the basic experimental techniques necessary for development of new diagnostic method and therapy in surgical science of future.

[Keywords] surgical oncology, mechanism of proliferation, invasion and metastasis, driver gene, diagnosis and treatment

Gastroenterological Surgery
(General Surgical Medicine)

In Division of Gastroenterological Surgery, researches for whole digestive tract are included. A wide variety of research such as mechanism of carcinogenesis, growth and invasion of tumor, metastasis of tumor, suppressive research of malignancy and gastrointestinal motility research with conscious dogs have been energetically performed and will lead to new therapeutic treatment. Moreover, several clinical researches including development of excellent diagnostic method and therapeutic method have been performed continuously for the future.

[Keywords] gastrointestinal surgery, carcinogenesis, gastrointestinal motility, excellent diagnostic method, development of therapeutic method

Breast and Endocrine Surgery
Takaaki Fuji (General Surgical Medicine)

Breast cancer is the highest incidence disease among female malignant neoplasm. We review diagnosis and treatment of breast cancer and endocrine disorders. Basic research includes 1) mechanism of therapy resistance in breast cancer, 2) tumor angiogenesis, 3) biomarker of sensitivity for breast cancer treatment, 4) an exhaustive analysis of breast cancer prognostic factors. In addition, clinical study includes 1) additional usefulness of FDG-PET in breast cancer, 2) Mechanism of lymph node metastasis, 3) analysis of navigation surgery for identification of parathyroid glands and sentinel lymph nodes. It is not necessary to focus on the specific research subject, which you belong to. We held a research conference every week and discuss everything to solve the research problems with our professor.

[Keywords] breast cancer, biomarkers, lymph node metastasis, TILs, microRNA, PET

Hepatobiliary and Pancreatic Surgery
Ken Shirabe (General Surgical Medicine)

In Department of Hepatobiliary and Pancreatic Surgery, main theme in basic research field, for overcoming refractory cancer, such as hepatobiliary and pancreatic cancer is microenvironment of cancer. In the clinical research field, important theme is new evaluation for liver function, sarcopenia, and laparoscopic surgery in hepatobiliary and pancreatic surgery in safe manner. For developing research, we will send young surgeons to outstanding research center.

[Keywords] cancer microenvironment, hepatobiliary and pancreatic cancer, liver transplantation, sarcopenia, and laparoscopic surgery for hepatobiliary and pancreatic disease

Pediatric Surgery
Makoto Suzuki (General Surgical Medicine)

We cooperate with other divisions of surgery and organize multidisciplinary research. Our main research subjects are development of new diagnostic and treatment methods with minimally invasive approach. In particular, we study the minimally invasive diagnosis using circulating tumor cells for childhood cancer, the development of new instruments in minimally invasive surgery, and the relation between gastrointestinal motility and enterobacterial flora after total colectomy for ulcerative colitis.

[Keywords] surgical oncology, circulating tumor cells, minimally invasive surgery, gastro-intestinal motility, enterobacterial flora
Radiation Oncology

The Department of Radiation Oncology practices radiation therapy for various cancers comprehensively. It undertakes basic research on radiation induced apoptosis, modulation of radiation sensitivity by cell cycle regulatory proteins, hypoxia, cell-proliferation proteins, oncogenes, and cancer vasculature. In addition, clinical researches on heavy ion radiotherapy, combination of molecular targeted therapy with radiation, image based brachytherapy, and high precision radiotherapy (IMRT, SBRT, etc.) are extensively conducted and promoted.

[Keywords] radiation therapy, heavy ion therapy, radiation biology, radiation oncology, radiation pathology

Diagnostic Radiology and Nuclear Medicine

Yoshito Tsushima

After the discovery of X-ray CT, there have been incredible advances in diagnostic imaging and it is now indispensable to modern medical care. In addition to CT, MRI, Ultrasound, PET, and SPECT, and the image-guided, minimally invasive techniques of interventional radiology and radioisotope therapy contribute to patient quality of life, and are also hoped to advance medical care. This field researches and new techniques in combining morphological and functional imaging and developing “patient-friendly” treatment methods such as interventional radiology and radioisotope therapy.

[Keywords] diagnostic radiology, nuclear medicine, CT, MRI, US, SPECT, PET, interventional radiology

Psychiatry and Neuroscience

Masato Fukuda

Development in neurosciences and brain sciences is just revealing brain dysfunctions for etiology and pathophysiology of psychiatric disorders using neuroimaging and genetic studies. Department of Psychiatry and Neuroscience endeavors to clarify etiology and pathophysiology of “mental dysfunction” employing structural neuroimaging such as MRI, functional neuroimaging such as PET and fMRI, neurophysiology such as MEG, neuroendocrine stress responses such as DST, and animal model of psychiatric disorders.

[Keywords] psychiatric disorder, neuroimaging, stress, mental illness, brain function

Anesthesiology

Shigeru Saito

Development in neurosciences and brain sciences is just revealing consciousness, pain sensation, and brain dysfunctions objectively by using neuroimaging and/or genetic studies. Department of Anesthesiology endeavors to clarify origin of consciousness and pain perception, and to modify such neuronal functions pharmacologically. In addition to classical biochemical, physiological and anatomical strategies, modern genetic and fMRI methods are employed to investigate Anesthesiology topics. Pharmaceutical, pharmacodynamic and behavioral approaches are also adopted for both of clinical and basic pain researches.

[Keywords] anesthesiology, neuroimaging, consciousness, pain, brain function

Emergency Medicine

Kiyohiro Oshima

(Basic research)
1. Experimental study for the brain prevention following cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR)
2. Experimental study to clarify the mechanism of ischemia-reperfusion injury following CPR and to reduce its injury
3. Experimental study of dynamics and usefulness of vasopressors in cardiopulmonary arrest

[Keywords] cardiopulmonary arrest, cardiopulmonary resuscitation, severe trauma, reperfusion injury, coagulation

General Practice Medicine

Junichi Tamura

In our department, we are going to study about many problems in gerontology, especially methods of nutrition for old people. We are interested in the effects of the lack of trace elements on immune systems or protection to infectious disease.

[Keywords] general medicine, gerontology, primary care, nutrition

Rehabilitation Medicine

Naoki Wada

Rehabilitation medicine is a transverse field of diagnostic as well as therapeutic medicine for infant-to-elder patients with a great variety of diseases. The course of rehabilitation medicine consists of basic knowledge of rehabilitation medicine, which are kinesiology, central and peripheral nerve system, respiratory, cardiac systems and psychiatry. The students discuss the methods for evaluation of disabilities and the equipment for the measurements. The indications of scales, rating scores and other evaluation methods for functional and mental disorders will be studied. Biological and cytological methods are also applied to the analysis, and the cellular reaction by physical stimulation will be observed. Statistical analysis will be indicated for the measurements and evaluations. Investigation of the results and publishing some conclusions in the journal is the purpose of the courses.

[Keywords] disability medicine, diagnostic medicine, therapeutic medicine, kinesiology
Clinical Laboratory Medicine  
Masami Murakami

Modern medicine and preventive medicine aim at the evidence based medicine (EBM). Clinical laboratory medicine plays a key role in EBM. Therefore the research field of clinical laboratory medicine extends to every field. We are investigating sports medicine and pathophysiology of diabetes, thyroid diseases, atherosclerosis and infectious diseases using gene analysis and new methods.

**Keywords** gene analysis, diabetes mellitus, thyroid disease, atherosclerosis, infectious diseases, sports medicine, clinical laboratory medicine, lifestyle-related disease

Human Pathology  
Hideaki Yokoo

Pathology has dual aspects, one is basic science that aims to investigate causes of diseases, and the other is pathological diagnosis and classification of diseases. We shed light on neuropathology for years, and investigate pathogenesis, pathological diagnosis, and novel therapy of various diseases of the nervous system. Especially, our research group consistently plays a central role of brain tumor pathology of Japan for decades. We chiefly handle human samples, and also possess original transgenic animals prone to brain tumors.

**Keywords** neuropathology, brain tumor, molecular and cytogenetics of tumor, glial cells, translational research

Diagnostic Pathology  
Tetsunari Oyama

Cancer is a “genetic disease” and oncogene and tumor suppressor genes have a great influence on carcinogenesis. Most cancers develop by multi-step accumulation of genetic mutation with environmental and morphological changes. The main purpose of the course is to clarify the genetic change from morphological change or gene-related protein expression during cancer development and feedback to the diagnostic tumor pathology.

**Keywords** cancer morphology, multi-step carcinogenesis, oncogene, tumor suppressor gene, protein expression

Pediatrics  

Chromatin is the most gigantic intra-cellular structure, which consists of genomic DNA with a length of more than 2 meters and associated proteins. Understanding of how this gigantic structure is organized and stored in the nucleus with a radius of ~10 micro meters while being ready to exert a wide variety of its coordinated functions is a central question. Our aim is to reveal regulatory mechanisms of gene expression in differentiating neural cells and post-mitotic neurons to understand brain development and its functions. We specifically focus on sub-nuclear spatial organization and post-translational modifications of chromatin, and their relevance in gene regulation in the nervous system.

**Keywords** chromatin, nuclear organization, epigenetics, transcription, neural cells

Obstetrics and Gynecology  
Akira Iwase

Our research field includes reproductive medicine & biology, gynecology and obstetrics. Main research interests are hypothalamus-pituitary-ovarian axis and endometriosis in the field of reproductive medicine & biology, uterine and ovarian cancer in gynecology, and obstetrics complications. We adopt up-to-date techniques of molecular biology and epidemiology.

**Keywords** reproductive endocrinology and biology, endometriosis, gynecologic malignancies and obstetrics complication

Urology  
Kazuhiro Suzuki

Our department has focused on understanding of the pathophysiology of prostate cancer. Basic studies cover genetic analysis, the role of lipids and intratumoral hormonal environments. Clinical studies cover the role of the tumor marker PSA and screening of prostate cancer.

**Keywords** urological tumor, prostate cancer, androgen dependency, screening

Neurosurgery  
Yuhei Yoshimoto

Neurosurgical science had been evolved remarkably for recent 10 years with the introduction of new devices, including an endovascular catheter, an endoscope, and intraoperative monitoring systems, etc. These technical innovations make it possible to approach neurosurgical diseases with minimally invasive way. We will understand more deeply central nervous system, anatomically, pathologically, and biochemically, and develop pre-and-intraoperative neurophysiological, and imaging studies. Then, we pursue the truly sophisticated treatment for neurosurgical diseases.

**Keywords** micro-neurosurgery, interventional radiology, endoscopic neurosurgery, intraoperative imaging, intraoperative neurophysiology

Ophthalmology  
Hideo Akiyama

We are investigating 1) the mechanisms of pathogenesis in fundus diseases with optical coherence tomography (OCT) and 2) the lifetime of phosphorescence from iridium complex to develop a new system which can measure oxygen partial pressure in retinal tissue. Furthermore, our concern is also 3) the molecular mechanisms of damages in photoreceptor after retinal detachment using animal models.

**Keywords** optical coherence tomography, iridium complex, phosphorescence, oxygen partial pressure, retinal detachment
**Description of Research Objectives**

**Otolaryngology Head and Neck Surgery**

Kazuaki Chikamatsu

Antitumor immunity plays an important role in protection against the development of malignancy. However, with a developing tumor, tumor cells acquire various mechanisms to corrupt the host antitumor responses, escape from immunosurveillance system, and grow in the host. The followings are current studies being conducted. 1) Immunological analysis of T cells in patients with head and neck cancer 2) Analysis of interaction between tumor cells and stromal cells in head and neck cancer.

**Keywords** head and neck cancer, immunosuppression, cancer vaccine, tumor microenvironment

**Dermatology**

Osamu Ishikawa

Our research goal is “Bedside to Bench and Bench to Bedside” to cure and care patients suffering from diseases of unknown etiology or intractable diseases. Our experienced staff supervises and assists you to publish the high quality paper to the world. Our main research themes are as follows: systemic sclerosis, dermatomyositis, viral infection, wound healing, cutaneous malignant neoplasms, and hereditary disease.

**Keywords** skin, autoimmune rheumatic disease, cutaneous malignant neoplasms, wound healing, hereditary diseases

**Plastic Surgery**

Satoshi Yokoo

We are investigating in collaboration with department of Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery and Dermatology. Present research theme are

1) Clinical and experimental study wound healing.
2) Clinical and experimental study of free flap reconstruction.
3) Evaluation of breast, head and neck reconstruction with brainscience using MRI images.

**Keywords** reconstruction, free flap, wound healing, breast reconstruction

**Orthopaedic Surgery**

Hirotaka Chikuda

Nowadays, it is important to facilitate the maintenance and improvement of bone and joint function. The aim of our department contributes further to the development of musculoskeletal medicine through research, maintenance of health, prevention of diseases, development of public health in both mind and body mainly through sports medicine, support for the handicapped, and extension of social welfare services for the aged.

**Keywords** osteoarthritis, spondylotic deformans, joint arthroplasty, sports injury, musculo-skeletal tumor

**Clinical Pharmacology and Therapeutics**

Koujirou Yamamoto

Recently, many new drugs with novel mechanisms have produced to improve the clinical efficacy of drug therapy, however, the development of new drugs also have produced a lot of new problems to be solved. In the pharmacotherapy, the choice of appropriate therapy or drugs for each individual patient is imperative. To establish safe and effective pharmacotherapy, we focus on the variation factors for clinical efficacy of drug therapy for several diseases with gene analysis and pharmacokinetic approaches.

**Keywords** clinical pharmacology, pharmacokinetics, genetic polymorphisms, individualization of drug therapy

**Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery**

Satoshi Yokoo

Present research theme

1) Epithelialization in oral mucous wound healing in terms of energy metabolism.
2) Cytological evaluation in odontogenic cyst-lining keratinocyte.
3) Oral and maxillofacial reconstruction with vascularised free flaps.
4) Evaluation of treatment strategy of oral cancer.
5) Effects of pilocarpine and isoproterenol on aquaporin-5 expression in salivary gland
6) Clinical and experimental study of endodontic microsurgery for extensive radicular cyst.
7) Surgical study of jaw deformity

**Keywords** oral mucous wound healing, oral and maxillofacial reconstruction, oral cancer, salivary gland, jaw deformity

**Quality and Safety in Healthcare**

Yasuhiro Komatsu

Discipline of healthcare quality and safety aims to promote evidence-based, patient-centered quality healthcare through education, practice, and research utilizing multidisciplinary approach. Areas of interests include application of quality and safety indicators, studies of decision making process including shared decision making, development of methodology for analysis and prevention of medical errors, and promotion of interprofessional collaboration.

**Keywords** healthcare quality, patient safety, quality indicator, shared decision making, interprofessional collaboration

**Cooperative Department**

(University Hospital)

**Clinical Trials and Regulatory Science**

Tetsuya Nakamura

Clinical trials and research are advanced very rapidly and changed dramatically in recent years. We conduct and support a variety of clinical trials in our hospital and in our community to establish highly qualified clinical evidence. We continuously improve our knowledge and skills about trial design, data management, statistical methods, regulatory science or ethical issues in daily practice. We are trying to open a door for new world of clinical research science.

**Keywords** clinical research, study design, statistics
Medical Informatics

Yuichiro Saito (Associate Professor)

Today’s rapid growth of hospital information systems produces huge amount of data and excellent infrastructure to let clinicians to access them. This seminar aims to learn methodology contributing human health care using medical information system. It has been exploring and presenting required data via hospital information system using ubiquitous computing technologies.

[Keywords] medical information, health care, hospital information system

(Institute for Molecular and Cellular Regulation)

Molecular Traffic

Ken Sato

Membrane trafficking plays essential roles not only in secretion and nutrient uptake but also in various physiological processes such as the endocrine system, the metabolic system, the nervous system, and animal development. In our laboratory, we study the molecular mechanisms and physiological functions of membrane trafficking in multicellular organisms by using the nematode Caenorhabditis elegans and mice as model systems.

[Keywords] membrane trafficking, secretion, metabolism, development, C. elegans, knockout mouse

Medical Neuroscience

Akiko Hayashi-Takagi

The deterioration of the synapses has attracted attention as the pathophysiology of neuropsychiatric disorders. Thus, we examine the relationship between the structural and functional property of synapse and behavioral manifestations by utilizing in vivo 2-photon imaging. Furthermore, we also utilize novel optogenetic tools, which can manipulate the plasticity of the synapse in order to alter neurocircuits by extension changing the behaviors. By these two strategies, we pursue the cellular mechanism of neuropsychiatric disorders to identify a novel therapeutic target for disorders.

[Keywords] europsychiatric disorders, synapse, 2-photon imaging, signal transduction, drug discovery

Secretion Biology

Seiji Torii (Associate Professor)

With the decrease of neuroendocrine function, a variety of diseases increase, which include metabolic syndrome and neuronal disorders. To understand fundamental mechanisms on such human diseases, we investigate the biosynthesis and secretion of peptide hormones, and the regulation of cell survival and death, with use of molecular and cellular technical approaches. In a collaborative study with some engineering researchers, we are also developing fluorescent or luminescent probes for analyzing cancer, diabetes, and ischemia.

[Keywords] peptide hormones, insulin, fluorescent probes, molecular imaging, tumor cells, cell death

Molecular Membrane Biology

Miyuki Sato (Associate Professor)

Eukaryotic cells are composed of several membrane-bound organelles. The shape and composition of organelles are dynamically regulated during cell differentiation and are also influenced by various changes in the extracellular environment. We are interested in the regulation of organelle dynamics during animal development and use C. elegans as a model system. In particular, we explore the mechanisms and physiological roles of autophagy and endocytosis in fertilized eggs by using genetic and cell biological approaches.

[Keywords] C. elegans, embryonic development, organelle, autophagy, endocytosis

Molecular Endocrinology and Metabolism

Tetsuro Izumi

To understand the physiopathology of multicellular organisms, it is important to know how differentiated cells communicate with each other to regulate their function as a whole body. We especially focus on the basic biology of pancreatic beta cells, adipocytes, and immune cells, because of their involvement in the pathogenesis of endocrine, metabolic, and allergic diseases such as diabetes, obesity, and asthma. We approach these themes at multiple levels from molecules to whole body, and by using varying techniques of molecular biology, biochemistry, cell biology, and genetics.

[Keywords] genetically modified mouse, regulated exocytosis, endocrine, metabolic, and allergic disease, live cell imaging, cell sorting

Developmental Biology and Metabolism

Yoshio Fujitani

The dysfunction of pancreatic cells or brown adipocytes can cause diabetes and metabolic syndrome. We aim to elucidate the mechanism involved in the maintenance of homeostasis in these higher-order function cells, which is the key to glucose metabolism, from a variety of viewpoints, including developmental biology, molecular biology, and physiology. Recent studies have indicated that zinc not only plays a crucial role in the maintenance of protein structure, but is also involved in intracellular and extracellular signal transduction. Our second aim is to clarify the role of zinc signaling in diabetes and obesity. Furthermore, using our findings from basic medical research, we aim to establish a groundbreaking treatment for diabetes and obesity.

[Keywords] pancreatic β cell, development, autophagy, brown adipocyte, zinc biology, glucose metabolism

Metabolic Signaling

Tadahiro Kitamura

In this laboratory, we are trying to elucidate the molecular mechanism by which metabolic syndrome occurs, using genetically manipulated animal models, such as knockout mice or transgenic mice. We hope that our research will contribute to the development of new strategies to treat or prevent diabetes and obesity.

[Keywords] diabetes, obesity, metabolic syndrome, transcription factor, knockout mouse, insulin, glucagon
Laboratory of Epigenetics and Metabolism  Takeshi Inagaki

Epigenetic regulation of gene expression is independent of genomic sequence and therefore can flexibly respond to environmental factors. We are currently investigating various epigenetic mechanisms by which the environmental factors are linked to metabolic diseases. Main focus of our research is histone modification which regulates gene expression through changing chromatin structure and cofactor recruitment. Using techniques of transcriptomics, epigenetics, proteomics and animal models, we intend to elucidate the detail mechanisms of epigenetic regulations of energy metabolism and adipose cell development.

[Keywords] epigenome, metabolic diseases, energy metabolism, transcription, chromatin structure

Molecular Genetics  Takayuki Yamashita

A wide variety of intrinsic and environmental stresses induce cellular senescence, apoptosis and genomic instability. These "stress responses" underlie the pathogenesis of aging-related diseases and tumor development. Specifically, we aim to clarify (i) the molecular mechanisms of oncogene-induced DNA replication stress in genomic instability and (ii) the regulatory role of HSF1, a master transcription factor of the heat shock response, in cellular senescence.

[Keywords] DNA replication stress, genomic instability, carcinogenesis, heat shock transcription factor 1, cellular senescence

Genome Sciences  Izuhno Hatada

Epigenetics is the study of heritable codes other than genetic codes written in A, G, C, and T. Monozygotic twins have the same genetic information; however, they have different epigenetic information and phenotype. DNA methylation and histone modifications (acetylation and methylation) serve as epigenetic code. Epigenetic status, namely, epigenome, is thought to be influenced by the environment, such as food, infection, and chemicals. This reprogramming of the epigenome by the environment could cause diseases such as cancer, and diabetes. We are going to clarify the role of epigenetic anomalies in diseases such as cancer, diabetes and obesity.

[Keywords] epigenetics, epigenome, DNA methylation, microarray, genome-wide analysis

Laboratory of Integrated Signaling Systems  Tohru Ishitani

Morphogen signaling systems, such as Wnt signaling, plays crucial roles in animal tissue morphogenesis and homeostasis, and dysregulation of morphogen signaling causes a variety of diseases, including cancer, metabolic diseases, and neurological diseases. Our laboratory investigates the regulatory mechanisms of morphogen signaling systems and also searches for unknown signaling systems that regulate tissue morphogenesis and homeostasis, using in vivo imaging, biochemistry, and molecular genetics. Especially, we are now focusing on “cell competition”, a new system supporting animal tissue homeostasis.

[Keywords] signal transduction, morphogen, cell competition, in vivo imaging, disease model

(Heavy Ion Clinical Medicine)

Medical Physics and Biology for Ion Therapy  Masami Torikoshi Akihisa Takahashi  (Due to retire in March 2019)

In this course, we aim to nurture researchers in the field of medical physics who are indispensable for ensuring the reliability of radiotherapy through sophisticated research and credible study of heavy ion and x-ray radiotherapies. To improve radiotherapy and to use space environment we carry out in vitro and in vivo experiments regarding a variety of radiation-induced biological phenomena. Another important purpose of this course is to increase the expertise of those radiobiology specialists involved in radiotherapy and space science.

[Keywords] radiotherapy, heavy ion radiotherapy, medical physics, accelerator, radiation biology, effect of space radiation

Heavy Ion Clinical Medicine  Tatsuya Ohno

Heavy ion radiotherapy for malignant tumors has several biophysical advantages compared with photon therapy. Heavy ion clinical medicine includes radiobiology, medical physics and engineering, tumor pathology, clinical oncology, and radiation diagnosis. This course is implemented to understand that the radiation oncology including heavy ion radiotherapy is comprehensive medical science which integrates and systematizes these wide varieties of scientific subfields to attain successful cancer treatment.

[Keywords] heavy ion radiotherapy, multimodality cancer therapy, biological response, high LET, hypofractionation, Image-guided adaptive radiotherapy

Joint Department  (Takasaki Advanced Radiation Research Institute, National Institute for Quantum and Radiological Sciences and Technology)

Quantum Biology  Yasuyuki Ishii Yasuhiro Kobayashi Kazuo Funayama

We are researching biological functions at the molecular, cellular and tissue levels using the physical and biological effects of ion beams at the ion beam irradiation facility of Takasaki Advanced Radiation Research Institute. Our final goal is the development of new methods of analyzing biological function not possible with previously established methods. The major subjects are as follows:

- Making advances in micro-PIXE (Particle Induced X-ray Emission) analysis,
- Developing a technology to target and hit a cell or a tissue with a single-heavy-ion of several hundred MeV within 1 μm spatial accuracy under microscope observation, Elucidating effects induced to normal or cancer human cells irradiated with heavy ions, and to those not irradiated (bystander effect).

[Keywords] ion beam, microbeam, micro-PIXE, single-ion hit, irradiation of targeted cell, radiomicrosurgery, bystander effect
Location
(Showa Campus)

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