

Division of Molecular Epidemiology

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General Summary

Despite having the same disease diagnosis, some patients may be cured but others may not. This difference cannot be understood with experimental medicine. On the other hand, clinical practice might also not provide the answer. We combined molecular biology and epidemiology to create the Division of Molecular Epidemiology, to clarify the etiology of disease and to predict factors affecting survival.

Research Activities

The Jikei clinical research course

We held 20 seminars about strategies for clinical studies for healthcare practitioners at The Jikei University. In 2014, small-group study courses targeting postgraduate students will be started from the principles of epidemiology and biostatistics by reading textbooks and by analyzing real clinical data with STATA software (StataCorp LP, College Station, TX, USA) and designing clinical studies. Our goal is for postgraduate students to develop the skills to construct hypotheses, design protocols, monitor trials, and analyze data.

Original studies

1. Randomized trial of vitamin D supplement
2. Genome and epigenome clinical studies and lead findings
3. Elective class on global health
4. Randomized trial to prevent food allergy

Publications

Matsumoto A, Ishibashi Y, Urashima M, Omura N, Nakada K, Nishikawa K, Shida A, Takada K, Kashiwagi H, Yanaga K. High UBC10 protein expression as a marker of poor prognosis in esophageal squamous cell carcinoma. *Anticancer Res.* 2014; **34**: 955-61.

Norizoe C, Akiyama N, Segawa T, Tachimoto H, Mezawa H, Ida H, Urashima M. Increased food allergy and vitamin D: randomized, double-blind, placebo-controlled trial. *Pediatr Int.* 2014; **56**: 6-12.

Mitobe J, Ikegami M, Urashima M, Takahashi H, Goda K, Tajiri H. Clinicopathological investigation of lymph node metastasis predictors in superficial esophageal squamous cell carcinoma with a focus on evaluation of lympho-vascular

invasion. *Scand J Gastroenterol.* 2013; **48**: 1173-82.

Urashima M, Hama T, Suda T, Suzuki Y, Ikegami M, Sakanashi C, Akutsu T, Amagaya S, Horiuchi K, Imai Y, Mezawa H, Noya M, Nakashima A, Mafune A, Kato T, Kojima H. Distinct effects of alcohol consumption and smoking on genetic alterations in head and neck carcinoma. *PLoS One.* 2013; **8**: e80828.

Reviews and Books

Urashima M. Guidelines in Japan and in the world (in Japanese). *Nihon Naika Gakkai Zasshi.* 2013; **102**: 2313-8.