Dear Colleagues,

The 80th Annual Scientific Meeting of the Japanese Circulation Society (JCS 2016) will be held in Sendai on March 18–20, 2016 (Congress Chairperson, Hiroaki Shimokawa, MD, PhD). The Circulation Journal rapidly publishes and announces JCS 2016 activities as follows:

1. **Late Breaking Clinical Trials / Late Breaking Cohort Studies Papers**
Papers selected for presentation in the Late Breaking Clinical Trials (LBCT) / Late Breaking Cohort Studies (LBCS) sessions in JCS 2016 will be rapidly published, after peer review, in the April and May issues of the Journal. In addition, these LBCT / LBCS papers (JCS 2016) will be published online along the presentation in order to attract widespread attention of the attendees, as well as readers worldwide.

2. **JCS 2015 Awards**
We are pleased to announce the following JCS Awards to be presented during the JCS 2016 meeting:

1. **Sato Award by the Japan Heart Foundation and the JCS (41st)**
   Masaki Ieda, MD, PhD
   *(Department of Cardiology, Keio University School of Medicine)*
   “Heart Development and Regeneration”

2. **CPIS (Cardiovascular Pharmacotherapy International Symposium) Award (24th)**
   Satoshi Araki, MD, PhD
   *(Department of Cardiovascular Medicine, Graduate School of Medical Sciences, Kumamoto University)*
   “Sirt7 Contributes to Myocardial Tissue Repair by Maintaining Transforming Growth Factor-β Signaling Pathway”

3. **Cardiovascular Surgery Award (11th)**
   Kazuaki Okuyama, MD
   *(Department of Cardiovascular Medicine, Tomishiro Central Hospital)*
   “Alternative Access for Balloon-Expandable Transcatheter Aortic Valve Replacement: Comparison of the Transaortic Approach Using Right Anterior Thoracotomy to Partial J-Sternotomy”
4. **Pediatric Cardiology Award (11th)**

Hirofumi Saiki, MD, PhD  
*(Circulatory Failure Laboratory, Cardiovascular Diseases, Mayo Clinic)*  
“Ventricular-Arterial Function and Coupling in the Adult Fontan Circulation”

5. **Cardiovascular Regeneration Medical Science Award (10th)**

**Experimental Investigator**

Hiroyuki Yamakawa, MD  
*(Department of Cardiology, Keio University School of Medicine)*  
“Stem Cell Reports Fibroblast Growth Factors and Vascular Endothelial Growth Factor Promote Cardiac Reprogramming Under Defined Conditions”

**Clinical Research Investigator**

Teruhiko Imamura, MD, PhD  
*(Department of Therapeutic Strategy for Heart Failure, Graduate School of Medicine, The University of Tokyo)*  
“Improved Clinical Course of Autologous Skeletal Myoblast Sheet (TCD-51073) Transplantation When Compared to a Propensity Score-Matched Cardiac Resynchronization Therapy Population”

6. **Woman Researcher’s Award (9th)**

Eri Watanabe, MD, PhD  
*(Department of Cardiology, Aoyama Hospital, Tokyo Women’s Medical University)*  
“Infarct Tissue Heterogeneity by Contrast-Enhanced Magnetic Resonance Imaging Is a Novel Predictor of Mortality in Patients With Chronic Coronary Artery Disease and Left Ventricular Dysfunction”

7. **Cardiovascular Clinical Research Investigator’s Award (5th)**

**Clinical Research Investigator**

Hiroyuki Morita, MD, PhD  
*(Department of Cardiovascular Medicine, The University of Tokyo)*  
“Comprehensive Genomic Analysis for Diagnosis and Treatment of the Cardiovascular Diseases”

**Case Report**

*[First Place]*

Kenya Kusunose, MD, PhD  
*(Cardiovascular Medicine, Tokushima University Hospital)*  
“Serial Imaging Changes During Treatment of Immunoglobulin G4-Related Disease With Multiple Pseudotumors”
Rapid Publication and Announcement of the 2016 JCS Meeting Activities

[Second Place] (in alphabetical order)
Yuki Ikeda, MD
(Cardiovascular Medicine, Kitasato University, School of Medicine)

Teruhiko Imamura, MD, PhD
(Department of Therapeutic Strategy for Heart Failure, Graduate School of Medicine, The University of Tokyo)
“Biventricular Failure With Low Pulmonary Vascular Resistance Was Managed by Left Ventricular Assist Device Alone Without Right-Sided Mechanical Support”

8. Cardiovascular Imaging Award (3rd)
[First Place]
Kenya Kusunose, MD, PhD
(Cardiovascular Medicine, Tokushima University Hospital)
“Prediction of Future Overt Pulmonary Hypertension by 6-Min Walk Stress Echocardiography in Patients With Connective Tissue Disease”

[Second Place] (in alphabetical order)
Hirotsugu Mihara, MD
(Department of Cardiology, Yokkaichi Municipal Hospital)
“Assessment of Post-Procedural Aortic Regurgitation After TAVR An Intraprocedural TEE Study”

Yasufumi Nagata, MD
(The Second Department of Internal Medicine, University of Occupational and Environmental Health)
“Prognostic Value of LV Deformation Parameters Using 2D and 3D Speckle-Tracking Echocardiography in Asymptomatic Patients With Severe Aortic Stenosis and Preserved LV Ejection Fraction”

The final results of the Young Investigator Awards (YIA) Competition, those of the International YIA Competition and those of Comedical Awards will be announced in the May issue of the Journal.

Hiroaki Shimokawa, MD, PhD
Editor-in-Chief
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