

Editorial



Glimpses of the life journey of Prof. Sohei Makino, MD, PhD

Ruby Pawankar ^{1,*,+} and You-Young Kim^{2,‡}

¹Department of Pediatrics, Nippon Medical School, Tokyo Japan

²Department of Internal Medicine, Seoul National University College of Medicine, Seoul, Korea

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*Correspondence to

Ruby Pawankar

Department of Pediatrics, Nippon Medical School, 1-1-5, Sendagi, Bunkyo-ku, Tokyo, Japan.

Email: pawankar.ruby@gmail.com

[†]President of Asia Pacific Association of Allergy, Asthma and Clinical Immunology (APAAACI).

[‡]Past President of APAAACI.

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ORCID iDs

Ruby Pawankar

<https://orcid.org/0000-0002-3091-7237>

This editorial is specially dedicated in memory of a great clinician-scientist, friend, and a wonderful human being Prof. Sohei Makino, MD, PhD, Past President of Asia Pacific Association of Allergy Asthma and Clinical Immunology (APAAACI) (1997-1998) and a leader in the field of allergy, asthma and clinical immunology in Japan, Asia and worldwide (**Fig. 1**). Prof. Makino passed away on August 4th, 2020, at the age of 89 years and is survived by his wife, a son, and a daughter.

Prof. Makino served as the Professor/Chairman of the Internal Medicine, Department of Allergy and Clinical Immunology, Dokkyo Medical University until his retirement after which he served as Professor Emeritus. He subsequently worked at the Jobu Hospital of Respiratory Medicine as the Director of the hospital.

In addition to his role as the President of APAAACI to which he contributed a lot, Prof. Makino also served as the President of the Japanese Society of Allergology where he pioneered the Japanese guidelines for allergic diseases, published in 1993. This formed the framework for guidelines for other disease areas, in Japan. The introduction of these guidelines made a significant impact on the reduction of asthma mortality, in Japan. He was also active in several global organizations besides APAAACI, including the West Pacific Allergy Symposium (WPAS), INTERASMA, Global Alliance against Chronic Respiratory Diseases (GARD), World Allergy Organization (WAO), Global Initiative on Asthma, Guidelines on Obstructive Lung Diseases, the Japan-Korea Allergy Symposium (J-KAS), and the Workshop

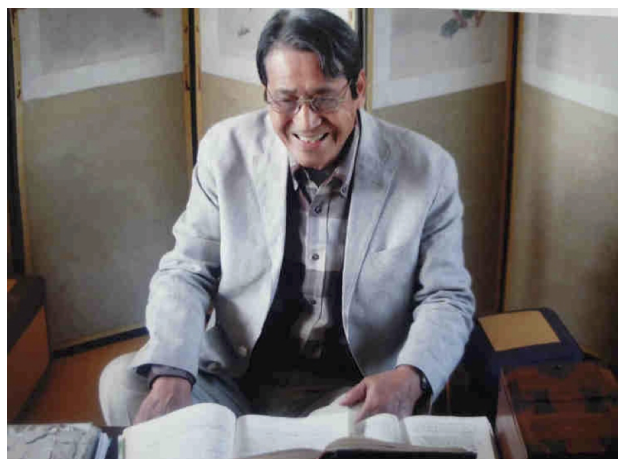


Fig. 1. Prof. Makino with his enigmatic smile of kindness.

on Eosinophils in Allergy and Related Diseases (which he established) (Figs. 2–4). Indeed, we had the pleasure of working together with him especially in APAAACI, INTERASMA, GARD, GINA, WAO, J-KAS, and WPAS.

Professor Makino had an outstanding scientific career, conducting fundamental research that defined asthma pathophysiology especially focusing on eosinophils. His scientific work especially on bronchial hyperresponsiveness and the development of the Inhalation



Fig. 2. (A) INTERASMA, North Asia/Korea Chapter Conference, January 2000, Seoul, Korea. (B) INTERASMA, North Asia/Japan Chapter Conference, July 2004, Tokyo, Japan. (C) 4th West Pacific Allergy Symposium (WPAS), February 1994, Utsunomiya, Japan. Prof. T. Ishizaki (in center) founded WPAS together with Prof Seock-Young Kang. (D) 5th West Pacific Allergy Symposium & 7th Korea Japan Allergy Symposium, June 1997, Seoul, Korea.



Fig. 3. The 1st Global Alliance against Chronic Respiratory Diseases (GARD) General Meeting in March 2016, Beijing, China.



Fig. 4. (A) Past Presidents and great contributors of Association of Allergy, Asthma and Clinical Immunology (APAAACI), November 2010, Singapore. From left: Dr. Sohei Makino, Dr. Kevin Turner, Dr. Felicidad Cua-Lim, Dr. Karnen Baratawidjaja, Dr. Ronald Walls, Dr. You-Young Kim. (B) Prof. Makino at 68th Japanese Society of Allergology meeting, Tokyo 2019 (organized by Prof. H. Sagara) with Past President, APAAACI Frank Thein and President, APAAACI Ruby Pawankar.

Acetylcholine Test led to several new scientific evidences and he was one of the pioneers of the concept that asthma is an inflammatory disease of the airways. He mentored many current leaders in allergy and clinical immunology in Japan and also across Asia-Pacific. He was passionate to help educate and train colleagues in developing countries especially in Mongolia, the Philippines, Cambodia, and Laos.

He established the World Health Organization Collaborating Center for the Prevention and Control of Chronic Respiratory Diseases at Dokkyo Medical University and conducted collaborative research projects in the Asian countries especially on air pollution and chronic respiratory diseases.

In 2009, he was awarded the WAO Outstanding Clinician Award at the XXI WAO Congress, held in Buenos Aires. It was indeed a memorable Congress for us as it was at that congress Korea won the bid to host World Allergy Congress 2015 Congress and Ruby Pawankar, officially took over the role as President-Elect of WAO (2010–2011).

In 2019, he contributed to the APAAACI History book launched at the 30th Anniversary celebration of APAAACI in Beijing, September 2019. He was extremely pleased to be awarded the APAAACI Outstanding Recognition Award for his contributions to the establishment of the organization and as Past President.

Besides his marvelous career, he was well known for his humaneness and humility. He touched the lives of many patients, communities, and friends in profound ways as a clinician-scientist, a leader and friend. We personally had many opportunities to interact with him. We in APAAACI and all the Asian countries remember him as a great leader not only in Japan but also in the Asia-Pacific region and globally.

As a mark of dedication to Prof. Makino, this issue carries articles as the proceedings of the The Workshop on Eosinophils in Allergy and Related Diseases 2020, which has been held annually since he established it in 1988. Miyabe et al. [1] have elegantly reviewed eosinophil-mediated inflammation in the absence of eosinophilia while Miyauchi et al. [2] discusses the relation of Japanese cedar pollinosis (JCP) in upregulating eosinophil effector function. Kouzaki et al. [3]

discuss the anti-inflammatory roles of interleukin-35 in JCP and Kobayashi et al. [4] describe the effect of mepolizumab on serum galectin-10 and eosinophil cationic protein in asthma, and Uchida et al. [5] discuss rush immunotherapy in house-dust mite allergic asthmatics. Ito et al. [6] describe the L-type amino acid transporter 1 inhibitor in suppressing murine Th2 cell-mediated bronchial asthma and Koyama et al. [7] describe the effect of dexamethasone on murine Th9 cell-mediated nasal eosinophilic inflammation. Sano et al. [8] describe a case of eosinophilic sialoadenitis in a severe asthmatic. These are complimented with case reports on eosinophilic pneumonia and eosinophilic annular erythema [9, 10].

Prof. Makino's national and international legacy to asthma and allergy was truly phenomenal. We in APAAACI will continue do our very best to take forward his legacy and that of our other predecessors to establish a very strong leading organization in the region that meets the needs of its membership and the wider APAAACI community at the highest scientific and clinical level [11]. We will have a Makino Memorial Lecture in honor of him at the APAAACI Congress 2022 (PSAAA@50) and we will continue to mentor many young allergists in Asia-Pacific and develop a robust future leadership of APAAACI.

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