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### Message from the Chairperson

Chairperson, JAPhMed

Kyoko Imamura MD PhD

We pray for those who lost their lives in the Great East Japan Earthquake hit on 11<sup>th</sup> March, and send our deepest condolences to the bereaved families. As it happens, Dr Akiyoshi Uchiyama, our Councilor for JAPhMed, was participating in the 10<sup>th</sup> Tokyo University Hospital Clinical Trial Seminar as a speaker, and had a terrible experience with all other attendees. I wonder if many of our members have had to endure similar difficulties.

Despite these uncertainties, a nationwide effort has been developed toward recovery and we plan to have our second annual meeting as scheduled on 13<sup>th</sup> and 14<sup>th</sup> May. We will carefully observe subsequent developments and inform you if the meeting will be cancelled in a timely manner via e-mails and homepages. Thank you for your understanding and cooperation.

### Invitation to the second annual congress of the Japan Association of Pharmaceutical Medicine

Executive Chair: Professor Yuji Sato MD PhD (Keio University School of Medicine)

As already noticed, JAPhMed is holding its second annual congress at Tokyo University on 13<sup>th</sup> and 14<sup>th</sup> May 2011.

Following the recent devastating calamity, many academic congresses planned in March and April have

been cancelled, partly due to unstable electricity and transportation. Despite these formidable hardships, national endeavours have been made to overcome adversities towards resurrection. Under such circumstances it is our academic duty to remain steadfast through the hubbub and contribute to the future by *sacrificium intellectus*. At the moment of this writing, therefore, preparatory activities for the congress are under way as much as originally planned.

An exemplar in this regard would be Professor emeritus German E. Berrios (Univ. of Cambridge), who has sent us his condolences for this tragedy and, contrary to the exodus of expatriates from this archipelago, is willing to join us at the congress as planned.

The second annual congress will focus on the issues and challenges for clinical research in Japan, with particular emphasis on the issues involving regulatory, financial and operational conundrums, and on how to improve partnerships between academia and industry (more detailed programme available on the website). The congress is open to both of JAPhMed and non-members alike, with less onerous participation fees than the last year. Wide and enthusiastic participation is most welcome and appreciated.

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**Kansai Committee: Report of Kansai Committee Seminar**

The Kansai Committee Seminar was held at Bayer Co., Ltd. Office in Breeze Tower, Osaka on March 8, 2011. Dr. Nobutoshi Matsushita, Global Project Leader, Bayer Co., Ltd. gave a presentation titled "Asian Clinical Trials". He is a frontline project manager of Asian project in Bayer. He lectured us concisely about the recent trend of Asian Clinical Trial from a view of his excellent project management. After his talk, we had a fruitful discussion with him about practical issues of pharmaceutical development in Asia, in a friendly atmosphere. The next seminar will be held in May. 2011.

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**Medical Affairs Committee: Information about symposium**

At the 2<sup>nd</sup> annual JAPhMed meeting, MA committee will hold a symposium entitled "Practices of Medical Scientific Liaisons in Japan: Future of the medical service". MSL (Medical Scientific Liaison) is a function already established in Western countries. On the other hand, it has just been introduced and is expected to spread rapidly in Japan. We will present current and future status of MSL in Europe, Asia and Japan, followed by panel discussion on what MSL should be in Japan.

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**Medical Safety Committee: Activity report/ Lecture & Workshop at MS plenary session**

The Medical Safety Working Group is composed of Team 1, which covers the preclinical phase to the early phase, and Team 2, which covers the post-early phase to the post-marketing phase. The aim of the group is to pursue safety issues from the preclinical phase to the post-marketing phase.

Medicine has been used as an opposite substance against poison since the beginning of recorded human history; however, the high hopes for medicine to have only positive effects were dashed in 1961 by the thalidomide disaster. Since then it has been recognized that medicinal products have not only the potential to heal, but that they also have the potential to cause extremely serious harm. International

harmonization has resulted in the progression of initiatives detecting and minimizing the risks of using medicinal products, and more and more refined measures are being proposed and implemented. In addition to the ongoing initiatives, future initiatives and their associated issues will be shown in this session.

In the annual meeting, Professor Harigai will present a lecture about pharmacoepidemiology and the following two workshops will be held: “Collaboration with the Japan Society of Toxicology” and “On the risk management of medicines: The way for Japan to move in the global trend for safety”. In both workshops, we will have the opportunity to hear the views of lecturers from PMDA.

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### **Education Committee**

**Certification committee:** System of “Board Certified Member of The Japanese Association of Pharmaceutical Medicine”

As announced by previous Newsletter, the Certification system will be revised this year. Detailed information will be presented at the annual meeting in May and also on JAPhMed homepage. The next examination is planned for October this year.

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### **Public Relations Committee: Announcement of scholarly activities**

Our website is to be updated regarding scholarly activities of JAPhMed members and other related academic information on pharmaceutical medicine.

We would really appreciate it if members provide relevant information via the email below. The next issue will be out in the end of June.

E-mail: [japhmed@gmail.com](mailto:japhmed@gmail.com)

#### ■ Report : Need for physicians in the pharmaceutical industry

On 18th Feb, Dr. Kihito Takahashi from JAPhMed (ex-president, councilor) attended the 3rd subcommittee meeting which was held in the Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology in order to discuss the future management on the enrollment of medical schools, regarding the supply of doctors in Japan.

Dr. Takahashi gave a presentation and called for the necessity for the physicians who work in pharmaceutical industry. Please click the link below for download.

[http://japhmed.jp/whats\\_new/post\\_50.html](http://japhmed.jp/whats_new/post_50.html)

#### ■ An article recommendation :

An article titled "The physicians' role inside Medical Affairs division", which was written by Dr. Iwamoto appeared in the Japanese pharmaceutical journal "Clinical Research Professionals". For further details, please click on the link below.

[http://japhmed.jp/activity/ma/post\\_48.html](http://japhmed.jp/activity/ma/post_48.html)

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**JAPhMed Calendar <Upcoming Events>**

5/12-13 (Fri·Sat) 2<sup>nd</sup> annual congress of Meeting of JAPhMed (Tokyo)

6/4 (Sat) 13<sup>th</sup> Japanese Society of Clinical Pharmacological Studies (Tokyo)

6/19-23 (Sun-Thu) DIA 2011 47th Annual Meeting (Chicago, IL McCormick)

7/11-13 (Mon-Wed) 38<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting of The Japanese Society of Toxicology (Yokohama)

10/28-30 (Fri-Sun) The 6th Asian Conference on Pharmacoepidemiology (Beijing, China)

11/5-6(Sat·Sun) 17<sup>th</sup> annual Meeting of the Japanese Society for Pharmacoepidemiology (Tokyo)

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