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Preface

The 26th Annual Meeting of the Japanese Society for Biomedical Mass Spectrometry (JSBMS) was held on September 27, 2001, at Juntendo University School of Medicine and from September 28–29, 2001, at Kowa Co., Ltd. in Tokyo. The main topics of this meeting were diabetes and renal diseases. This meeting featured a special lecture, two symposia and 21 oral presentations.

Nagayasu Toyoda has given a special lecture entitled "Diabetes mellitus and pregnancy."

Keynote Address was "Health control in aged society with fewer children" by Yasushi Fukuwatari, the chairperson of this meeting.

In the first symposium "Prevention and medical control of diabetes and application of mass spectrometry," under the chairpersons, Akira Shimizu (Osaka Medical College) and Ryuzo Kawamori (Juntendo University), five Japanese speakers presented "Early diagnosis of gestational diabetes mellitus and borderline diabetes mellitus during pregnancy," "Evaluation of routine HbA1c measurements of hemoglobin variants by mass spectrometry," "Relationship of urinary polyols and glycemic control measured by GC/MS," "Metabolic abnormalities induced by diabetes mellitus," and "Identification of oxidized lipids in the patient with diabetes."

In the second symposium, "Application of mass spectrometry to the investigation of renal disease," under the chairpersons, Kenji Maeda (Nagoya University) and Toshio Miyata (Tokai University), five Japanese speakers presented "Post-genome research for glomerular disease," "Hypoglycosylated human IgA1 and its self-aggregation phenomenon," "Oglycan structure of glomerular IgA1 in IgA nephropathy and its origin," "3-Deoxyglucosone and imidazolone in patients with chronic renal failure," and "Carbonyl stress in chronic renal failure."

The topics of the oral presentations were new technologies of Turbo V source and analysis of 8-hydroxydeoxyguanosine, chemical diagnosis of urea cycle disorder, screening of amino acids in human urine using GC/MS, analysis of sphingolipids, a simple method for analysis of 4-hydroxybutyric acid using GC/MS, simple analysis of haloperidol and its metabolites, LC–MS analysis of cholesterol hydroperoxide and so on.

Approximately 100 scientists participated in the meeting. We believe that it would be a tribute to the exciting growth of JSBMS. Papers from this meeting are published in this special issue.

Yasushi Fukuwatari, Chairperson of 26th Annual Meeting of JSBMS

> Toshimitsu Niwa, Editor-in-chief of JSBMS

> > Tohru Kojima, President of JSBMS