



Shoji Shimose, MD, PhD
President of the 12th K-INT
Visiting Professor, Hiroshima University

Dear Distinguished Guests and Participants,

We are pleased to welcome all of you to the 12th Kure International Medical Forum (K-INT).

In 2008, K-INT was organized at Kure Medical Center and Chugoku Cancer Center (KMC CCC) to facilitate the international academic activities of the Kure and Hiroshima areas of Japan.

KMC CCC is a referral hospital with 700 beds. It serves as a cancer center, circulatory center, emergency center, and perinatal center in Kure city. We are proud of its highly sophisticated and integrated medical services. K-INT is a special place where many international guests can establish new contacts both inside and outside of Japan while sharing novel medical knowledge and learning Japan's traditional customs.

In July of 2018, we were unable to hold the 11th K-INT due to the disaster caused by heavy rainfall. We really appreciated your kind understanding at that difficult time. This year's 12th K-INT at KMC CCC will be from July 25 to July 27. Its main theme is same as last year's: "Improving Quality of Life in Cancer Patients". Special symposia based on this theme will be held on the evening of July 26 and all day on July 27.

The following themes have been selected for K-INT in the past.

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| 2008 | Topics on Vascular Surgery in Asia |
| 2009 | Perinatal Medicine in Asia |
| 2010 | Chemotherapy in Asia: Lung and GI cancers |
| 2011 | Endoscopic Surgery in Asia: Current issues and future perspectives |
| 2012 | Emergency Medicine in Asia: How do we deal with it? |
| 2013 | Trends of Hepatobiliary and Pancreas Disease in Asia |
| 2014 | Approach to the Cancer Metastasis in Asia |
| 2015 | Team Approach in Modern Medicine |
| 2016 | Current Standards and Future Challenges |
| 2017 | Advances in Cancer Therapy Over the Next Ten Years |
| 2018 | Improving Quality of Life in Cancer Patients (not held) |

Kure is a small city of 230,000 residents and is located 20km east of Hiroshima city. It is famous for a large shipbuilding company and its beautiful view of the inland sea, *Setonaikai*.

We offer three optional tours for guest speakers and K-INT participants. One is an inspection tour of KMC CCC on the morning of July 25. The other two tours are excursions to UNESCO World Heritage sites: Hiroshima Peace Memorial Park (the morning of July 26) and Miyajima Shrine (July 28). The last excursion will be guided by KMC CCC's young medical staff and student nurses. In this setting, K-INT has an educational aspect. We hope that you will enjoy these sightseeing trips and meeting young Japanese citizens in their native land.

Sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Shoji Shimose". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style. The first name "Shoji" is written with a large, stylized 'S' and 'h'. The last name "Shimose" is written with a large, stylized 'S' and 'h'. The signature is underlined.

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