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Introduction of the *K-INT*: How was the *K-INT* formed?

Announcement at the 1st K-INT

I am the executive director of the first Kure International Medical Forum (K-INT) and have arranged it with the great help of many friends. I would like to explain how the K-INT came about.

Japan's training and education system for medical doctors has dramatically changed in recent years. Young doctors have started to select the hospital in which they will learn medical techniques. Smaller cities now have fewer of these younger doctors than large cities do. Kure MC/ Chugoku CC has the disadvantage of being located in one of Japan's less urban regions. I believe that Kure MC/ Chugoku CC has to do more to attract young doctors.

My idea was to sponsor an international event that would showcase the hospital. I consulted two of my best friends in the cytopathology field, Prof. Wee in Singapore and Dr. Kuakpaetoon in Thailand, and both gave me very warm support to connect to Singapore University Hospital and Rajavithi Hospital in Thailand, respectively. Prof. Lee, Prof. Wee's husband, gave me excellent advice on building the K-INT. Therefore, these two hospitals and Kure MC/ Chugoku CC have become the core of the K-INT. Those friends are the guest speakers at the first K-INT.

K-INT is still in its formative stage. Although its influence is now limited to Kure and Hiroshima, it has great potential to introduce younger doctor's to participation in international medical activities. I hope that medical activities in Kure and Hiroshima will increase as the K-INT grows.



* Currently, the KINT aids to facilitate the academic activity and to accelerate the international communication skills of all staff in KMCCCC as well as the members of local medical community.