IgA Nephropathy Today
Contributions to Nephrology

Vol. 157

Series Editor

Claudio Ronco, Vicenza
Contributions to Nephrology
(Founded 1975 by Geoffrey M. Berlyne)

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Library of Congress Cataloging-in-Publication Data
International Symposium on IgA Nephropathy (11th : 2006 : Tokyo, Japan)
IgA nephropathy today / volume editor, Yasuhiko Tomino.
p. ; cm. -- (Contributions to nephrology, ISSN 0302-5144 ; v. 157)
“11th International Symposium on IgA Nephropathy, October 5–7, 2006,
Tokyo, Japan”--Foreword.
Includes bibliographical references and index.
1. IgA glomerulonephritis--Congresses. I. Tomino, Yasuhiko, 1949-- II.
Title. III. Series.
Glomerulonephritis, IGA--therapy--Congresses. W1 CO778UN v.157 2007 / WJ
353 16085i 2007]
RC918.I351585 2006
616.6'1--dc22
2007011107

Bibliographic Indices. This publication is listed in bibliographic services, including Current Contents® and Index Medicus.

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www.karger.com
Printed in Switzerland on acid-free paper by Reinhardt Druck, Basel
ISSN 0302–5144
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Almost 40 years have passed since Dr. Jean Berger first described primary IgA nephropathy as a new disease entity. This disease may lead to end-stage renal disease (ESRD) with its enormous economic impact on healthcare everywhere. Since the pathogenesis of IgA nephropathy is still obscure, specific treatment is not yet available. However, efforts by many investigators around the world have gradually clarified various aspects of the pathogenesis and treatment of this disease.

The objectives of the 11th International Symposium on IgA nephropathy (October 5–7, 2006) are (1) to discuss the most up-to-date findings on pathogenesis and treatment of IgA nephropathy and (2) to build friendship among us. This symposium is truly a small specialized meeting with the participation of international nephrologists and basic scientists involved in the large topic of IgA nephropathy. This article is a summary of the topics presented in the 11th International Symposium on IgA nephropathy.

This symposium was made possible by the generosity of our sponsors. Thanks go to the members of the Organizing and Scientific Committees, my colleagues in the Division of Nephrology at Juntendo University and the sponsors.

Autumn 2006

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Acknowledgments

We sincerely thank the people mentioned below for their collaboration with the 11th International Symposium of IgA Nephropathy in Tokyo, and with the editing of this book. In addition, we especially appreciate the excellent and dedicated assistance by Mr. Makishima and Dr. Hidaka.

**Medical Toyu Co. Ltd.**
Nobukazu Kai  
Syunta Aramaki  
Shigehiro Makishima  
Nana Harada  
Hiroyuki Miyazawa  
Michiko Kai

**Juntendo University School of Medicine**
Satoshi Horikoshi  
Isao Ohsawa  
Toshinao Tsuge  
Noriyoshi Kobayashi  
Hitoshi Suzuki  
Teruo Hidaka  
Masao Kihara  
Eri Izumida  
Hirofumi Ohba  
Rei Kuze  
Terumi Shibata  
Kazutaka Yoshida