Preface

The 14th Annual Meeting of the Japanese Society for Hemodiafiltration (JSHDF) 2009, held in Nagoya, Japan, February 14–16, 2009, emphasized the new developments in both technology and processes while examining hemodialysis and hemodiafiltration (HDF). The theme of the meeting was ‘Value of innovation for the patient in hemodiafiltration therapy’. The focus of the JSHDF mainly concentrated on the increase of dialysis dosage with convection therapy and dialysis fluid quality.

In Japan, the central dialysis fluid delivery system (CDDS) is mainly used not only for hemodialysis but also online HDF. CDDS are prepared through multiple processes performed by various apparatuses connected in series. These apparatuses are selected and arranged by each dialysis facility. In such a manufacturing system, a validation concept is necessary for process management and product quality assurance. These issues were discussed at the symposium on ‘Current status and perspective of dialysis fluid delivery system related with purification of dialysis fluid’. The current supplement of *Blood Purification* incorporates many of the papers presented at the symposium. Richard Ward respectively provided an update on the worldwide guidelines and aspects of dialysis fluid quality. Hideki Kawanishi and Ikuto Masakane informed about the Japanese guidelines for dialysis fluid and the national survey, respectively. Ingrid Ledebo and Ralf Schindler also informed about the historical background and perspective for dialysis fluid purification and its clinical effects, respectively.

Other Japanese members discussed the technical issues and new developments of CDDS. Yutaka Koda discussed the advances and advantages in CDDS, and Kenji Tsuchida informed about the issues of the endotoxin retentive filter (ETRF). The details of validation and technique of dialysis quality in CDDS in Japan were discussed by Tadashi Tomo and Tadayuki Kawasaki, respectively. The central online HDF system is only used in Japan. Akihiro Yamashita portrays the management of water quality and practice of central online HDF in Japan. Hideki Kawanishi describes the unique system of a fully automated dialysis system based on the CDDS. Junji Uchino presents new information of a prospective observation study on purification of dialysis water in CDDS in Japan. Sang-Woong Han reviews the central concentrate delivery system (CCDS), which is a different central dialysis system used in Korea and elsewhere in the world.

Finally, we express our profound gratitude to Dr. Kazuo Ota, Honorary President of JSHDF, the committee members of JSHDF, and the 1,000 participants for their contributions to the 14th JSHDF. We are also grateful to the various dialysis and pharmaceutical companies that supported the Nagoya Meeting. We hope that you will enjoy this issue of papers from the JSHDF and that you will consider attending next year’s Japanese Society for HDF.

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