Global Challenge of AIDS
— Ten Years of HIV/AIDS Research

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Proceedings of the Tenth International Conference on AIDS/International Conference on STD
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Preface by Y. Shiokawa

The Tenth International Conference on AIDS International Conference on STD took place 7-12 August, 1994, in the Pacifico Yokohama complex in the city of Yokohama, Japan.

Although there were initial worries that the conference would be poorly attended because of the great distances between Japan and Western countries, coupled with Japan's high prices and strong currency, we were very fortunate to welcome 12,623 participants from 143 countries to what proved to be a large, productive international conference. Although AIDS continues to spread worldwide at a rapid pace, we have yet to develop a drug cure or preventive vaccine for the disease despite intensive and ongoing research efforts. Consequently, AIDS now presents humanity with one of its most formidable challenges. Furthermore, those infected with HIV or living with AIDS (PWAs) are being subjected to discrimination and prejudice in many countries. Clearly, AIDS has become more than a medical issue; it has evolved into a multifaceted social issue related to politics, economics, ethics, education, and other domains.

Internationally, we invited the World Health Organization (WHO) and the International AIDS Society (IAS) to participate as sponsors, and the Global Network of People Living with AIDS/HIV (GNPL) and the International Council of AIDS Service Organizations (ICASO) to take part as cosponsors. To enlist support from organizations in the field of sexually transmitted diseases (STD), we requested that the International Society for STD Research (ISSTDR), and the International Union Against the Venereal Diseases and Treponematoses (IUVDT) become involved as cooperating research organizations.

The conference proved to be unique in the extent of participation of people with AIDS/HIV and the cooperation of NGOs from around the world, despite the great distances involved. Within the Organizing Committee, the Community Liaison Committee was established to support NGO activities and persons living with AIDS/HIV while encouraging the representation of all related individuals and organizations.

The conference comprised 30 presentations in plenary sessions, 32 presentations in round-table sessions, 583 oral presentations of abstracts, 2,716 poster presentations, and associated exhibitions and events. To commemorate the conference's first decade, Tenth Anniversary Special Sessions were also held in which participants reviewed the progress achieved in AIDS research and prevention during the preceding decade and discussed directions for the decade to come.
This was the first International Conference on AIDS to be held in Asia. WHO predicts that the highest rate of increase in AIDS this decade will occur in Asia. The conference therefore took up, 'AIDS in Asia' as the main topic. Asian participants were invited to make an appropriate number of presentations on this issue. I believe that the participation of Asian countries led to increased global awareness of the seriousness of AIDS in Asia and inspired all participants to unite in the Asian effort against AIDS.

Although the Tenth International Conference on AIDS/International Conference on STD achieved its goals of presenting the results of recent research and providing an opportunity for the exchange of opinions, its end does not mean that our responsibilities have ended. We must avoid any sense of self-satisfaction as a result of the productive presentations and discussions held at this conference, or it will have been nothing more than a 'Midsummer Night's Dream' in Yokohama, I would like to emphasize that we must ensure that this conference marks a starting point by initiating a new global light against AIDS that affins the conference theme of 'International Cooperation in the Fight against AIDS: Together for the Future. '

Acknowledgments

The conference was made possible through the substantial support and contributions of the sponsors and cosponsors, particularly WHO and the Ministry of Health and Welfare and other Japanese ministries.

We are grateful to leading scientists and clinicians, government officials, and others for the willing acceptance of our invitations, despite their busy schedules, and for contributing generously to this conference with excellent presentations. Finally, we wish to express deep appreciation for the dedication of all the others involved in the conference whose names for limitation of space I am not able to mention here.

Yuichi Shiokawa, M.D.
Chair, Organizing Committee
The Tenth International Conference on AIDS/International Conference on STD, Yokohama, Japan

Preface by T. Kitamura

This volume, Global Challenge of AIDS: Ten Years of HIV/AIDS Research, is a collection of papers presented at the plenary and tenth anniversary sessions of the Tenth International Conference on AIDS/International Conference on STD (Xth-ICA), held 7-12 August, 1994, in Yokohama, Japan. The conference was organized and supported by numerous governmental and non-governmental organizations working in AIDS research, prevention, control and support of affected society and individuals, as described by the
Organizing Committee chair.

Under the set theme, "The Global Challenge of AIDS—Together for the Future," the programming of the Conference put special emphasis on: 1) HIV infection of women and its impact on future generations, 2) HIV/AIDS pandemic in developing countries, and 3) community-based support of people with HIV/AIDS (PWA). With increasingly larger voices of those working on the non-science side of AIDS control and PWA support, the Program Committee (PC) was put in the rather difficult position of balancing the scientific quality of the ICA and its social nature, the public relations opportunity for AIDS control and PWA support activities, and serious concerns were, indeed, expressed by a number of scientists who insisted on the tradition of ICA as a meeting place for broad aspects of HIV/AIDS research.

The Organizing Committee established the Community Liaison Committee to work in liaison activities, including communication and coordination with such support organizations, and the Program Committee entrusted this liaison committee to provide programming advice in four scientific tracks, i.e., A. basic science, B. clinical science and care, C. epidemiology and prevention, and D. impact, social response and education. The track chairs (Drs. Takashi Kurimura (A), Dr. Kaoru Shimada (B), Kenji Soda (C), and Hirotada Hirose (D) were assisted by internationally renowned cochairs (Drs. Flossie Wong-Staal, David Ho, Jean-Baptiste Brunet, Werasit Sittitrai respectively) as well as more than 80 principal HIV/AIDS researchers in- and outside Japan as Program Committee members.

The major scientific features of the Tenth ICA program can be summarized as follows:
1) epidemiology of the serious, unexpected, rapid dissemination of HIV/AIDS in developing countries, especially in Asia; 2) long-term non-progressors who have been HIV-infected for a long period without practical progression of HIV disease, a thorough study of which is giving significant insights into the protective immunity; 3) a new approach to genetic therapy by hairpin ribozyme; 4) HIV protease inhibitors as new therapeutic agents under clinical trial; 5) new approach to a protective HIV vaccine with special reference to eliciting cytotoxic T lymphocyte response; 6) synergistic effects of combined therapy with available HIV therapeutics.

In parallel with 97 sessions of nearly 1,000 oral abstract presentations of representative research reports from more than 3,500 accepted abstracts, the Program Committee invited the 30 speakers for plenary sessions to provide a state-of-the-art summary of progress in the topics of the above four tracks and 11 speakers for three sessions of Tenth Anniversary Special Sessions to review the progress in the last decade.

The editors rearranged the 26 papers presented at the plenary session: according to scientific topic. As for the four invited speakers from whom the editors did not receive
completed papers by the end of March 1995, abstracts from the conference program or excerpts given to the conference chairs have been included as alternatives. The editors express sincere gratitude for the cooperation of the authors, devoted editorial work by Ms. Shigeko Yoshida, Kodansha Scientific, and Dr. Yoshiki Sakurai, National AIDS Medical Information Center, for his hard work in program coordination during ICA and the editorial work thereafter.

As the program chair, the editor wishes to express his personal congratulations for the successful completion of Tenth ICA and scientific progress reported in both plenary and abstract sessions. The Tenth ICA should be regarded as the first ICA which dealt with HIV/AIDS in women on a scientific basis. The editors hope the present volume will serve as a scientific overview of HIV/AIDS research conducted over the ten years the ICA has been in existence.

Takashi Kitamura
Chair, Program Committee
The Tenth International Conference on AIDS/International Conference on STD, Yokohama, Japan

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