

VAY LIANG & FRISCA GO AWARD FOR LIFETIME ACHIEVEMENT

Tooru Shimosegawa, MD, PhD Professor Emeritus, Tohoku University



Dr. Tooru Shimosegawa is a professor emeritus of Tohoku University, and is currently working as the Executive Director at the South Miyagi Medical Center, located in Japan. In 19 years as a professor, he supervised 189 graduate students in doctoral course, and published 618 original articles and 62 reviews. He received his degree from Tohoku University in 1979, followed by a residency at the Tokyo Metropolitan Komagome Hospital and a senior residency within their department of gastroenterology. He was deeply interested in the pancreas, commonly referred to as the unknown and mysterious organ, and decided to specialize in pancreatology aiming to advance early detection efforts in pancreatic cancer by ERCP; an emerging modality at that time.

In 1989, he was appointed as an assistant professor of Tohoku University School of Medicine. Thereafter, he was engaged in research of not only gut hormones but in pathophysiology of the pancreas and clinical research of pancreatic diseases. In 2002, he was appointed Vice President of Tohoku University Hospital, serving two terms from 2002 – 2004 and 2009 – 2012 until his election as President of Tohoku University Hospital. He was subsequently appointed as Dean of the Department of Medicine of Tohoku University School of Medicine and Director of the graduate school in 2015 where he worked enthusiastically to develop his alma mater. Dr. Shimosegawa's research covers a wide range of gastroenterology and pancreatology topics, having vigorously studied the pathogenesis and pathophysiology of acute pancreatitis (AP), epidemiology of AP, and developing the criteria for judgment the severity of AP and clinical practice guidelines of AP. He also conducted validation studies on the usefulness of continuous regional arterial infusion (CRAI) of trypsin inhibitor and antibiotics for severe AP and made great advancements towards our knowledge of chronic pancreatitis (CP) by developing clinical diagnostic criteria and practice guidelines for CP. Most notably, he proposed novel diagnostic criteria for early detection CP. Concerning autoimmune pancreatitis (AIP), he played important roles in the classification of AIP into type 1 and 2, and with Dr. Suresh Chari, established the International Consensus Diagnostic Criteria (ICDC) for AIP, which founded a global basis for the clinical practice and research of this disease. In the area of pancreatic cancer (PDAC), he was involved in the formation of practice guidelines for pancreatic cancer in Japan, and studied the molecular mechanism of PDAC, advancing the study of biomarkers as a method for early detection.

Among his countless prestigious appointments, Dr. Shimosegawa has served as President of the Japan Pancreas Society (JPS) from 2012-2016, President of the Japanese Society of Gastroenterology (JSGE) from 2014 – 2018, and current Honorary President of JSGE. Internationally, he served on the council of the International Association of Pancreatology (IAP) from 2000 - 2008 and 2013 - 2014, President of IAP from 2014 – 2016, associate editor of the *Pancreas* journal since 2001, Editor-in-Chief of *Suizo* from 2006 - 2010, and vice Editor-in-Chief of Pancreatology from 2009 to 2010. Without a doubt, Dr. Shimosegawa has been integral to advancing the field of pancreatology both in Japan and internationally, and he considers his role in solidifying the partnership between APA and JPS as “sister organizations” a lasting testament of his legacy. Both the APA and the JPS were established in 1969 and as we celebrating 50 years, we also celebrate a warm and friendly atmosphere of collaboration made possible by the tireless efforts of Prof. Go, Prof. Takeuchi and many others.

Dr. Shimosegawa wishes to express his gratitude to the APA for this prestigious honor, and Bill and Frisca Go for their generosity. He wishes to share this award with all members of the JPA and APA and thanks all who have continuously supported him, most notably, his wife Yasuko for her long-time support and his family for their unchanging love.



Maui, Hawaii

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