REVIEW

History of Hashimoto's Disease

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by Junji KONISHI, Chairman, Local Organizing Committee, 12th International Thyroid Congress

2. My Father and His Teachers

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Introduction

JUNJI KONISHI

Chairman, Local Organizing Committee, 12th International Thyroid Congress

During the 12th International Thyroid Congress (President: Shigenobu Nagataki) held in Kyoto in October 2000, a special session "Historical Vignette" on "History of Hashimoto's Disease" was held in memory of Dr. Hakaru Hashimoto [1]. The presentations by three distinguished speakers at this session were so impressive that many felt this should be recorded in printed form. Therefore, I as the chairman of the session, invited each presenter of the session to contribute his manuscript to the memorial review of Dr. Hashimoto's work. All authors kindly accepted my invitation and now this review article has become available.

The review consists of three papers. In the first paper, Dr. Kazuo Hashimoto, one of 3 sons of Dr. Hakaru Hashimoto, described the story about Hakaru's teachers who had led him to the great work.

Dr. Amino edited a special version of the video, which he had directed for the International Hashimoto Symposium "80th Anniversary of Hashimoto Disease" in 1992 [2], introducing Dr. Hashimoto's life and paper using precious old films.

Finally, Dr. Sawin, an excellent historian of American Thyroid Association described how Hashimoto's disease, one of the most well-known eponyms with a Japanese name, was recognized among clinicians and researchers. In addition, I would like to mention that English translation of Dr. Hashimoto's German original paper was prepared and distributed among all participants of the Congress by Dr. Sawin. This translation made it possible for many people to appreciate the extensive description of pathological findings found by Dr. Hashimoto.

Through these excellent articles, we can learn the background of the classic work of Dr. Hashimoto as well as the history about Hashimoto's disease. I further hope these will give young researchers an insight into the future task left over for us in the 21st century.

Finally, I would like to express my hearty appreciation to the Program Organizing Committee headed by Dr. Hisao Seo for organizing this special session.

References

1. Proceedings of 12th International Thyroid Congress (2000). *Endocr J* 47: Suppl.
2. 80 Years of Hashimoto Disease (1993) Proceedings of the International Hashimoto Symposium. In: Nagataki S, Mori T, Torizuka K (eds) ICS 1028, Excerpta Medica, Amsterdam.

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