Greetings to 16th IBRC in Japan

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It is a great pleasure to held the 16th International Biophilia Rehabilitation Conference on 14 June, 2019. I am Toshiyuki Tanaka, chairperson of Biophilia Rehabilitation Academy in Japan. I am part of the Faculty of Science and Technology at Keio University, which is a long-established private institution founded in Japan in 1858 by Yukichi Fukuzawa. Keio University is well known to researchers worldwide for the students and professors who produce high-quality research.

My research field is image analysis and machine learning, including medical image processing and computer-aided diagnosis. In recent years, hospitals have seen increases in the number of patients, in step with the aging of the population. Modern medical devices such as fMRI, fNIRS, and X-ray CT support the work of doctors, and the precision of diagnosis has risen markedly. However, it seems that the burdens on doctors have remained as big issue. We are developing a diagnosis support system using medical image processing in order to reduce their burdens.

We have promoted the construction of new rehabilitation system that one physical therapist treats several patients with easy devices, which was called “Takizawa method”. The international Biophilia Rehabilitation Academy (IBRA), which is a sisterhood institute of BRA in Japan, has worldwide revolved the promotion of new rehabilitation system. In this year, we have the 16th International Biophilia Rehabilitation Conference (16th IBRC) held in Okayama, Japan. The BRA in Japan shall be glad to serve the 16th IBRC in any way in our power.

Through a workshop and research exchange, we hope that the workshop will provide the opportunity to introduce important innovations in the field of the rehabilitation.