Japanese Urological Association (JUA) —Present and Future—

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Though JUA established in 1912 is one of important medical societies controlled by the Japanese Ministry of Education and holds 7,612 membership (5,754 board-urologists including 3,352 instructor-urologists) and 801 educational hospitals authorized by the Education Committee, many problems, including functional central administration using IT system, educational course of Japanese Board of Urology, scientific and financial management of annual meeting of JUA, must be settled in near future. Especially, "how to think about basic research in JUA?", and decreasing surgical treatments replaced by medical and radiation therapy "What we study and have physical practices as professional urologist?" are main subjects.

The Annual Meeting of JUA has been designed to provide update technologies and meaningful basic researches to the members by lectures of many domestic and over-sea guests. The 92nd Osaka Meeting 2004, composed of 5,624 Japanese urologists and 73 over-sea guests, had 22 plenary lectures and 31 symposiums and 1,057 free papers including 6 postgraduate courses without industry support, and additionally with industry support, 11 symposiums and 34 seminars. The 93rd Tokyo Meeting 2005, had more expansive contents than that of 2004, and almost 6,000 JUA members participated.

Japan is one of Asian countries, and JUA has kept many collaborations with Asian urologists. Urological Association of Asia (UAA) was started by Professor Joichi Kumazawa in 1990 at Fukuoka, JUA has invited young Asian urologists, about 10 doctors in each year, for clinical practices including update technology. As to scientific collaboration, more than one hundred Asian urologists are staying at urological departments of each university as a student or a fellow of basic research by support of government or industry. To International Journal of Urology, official journal of JUA which is affiliated with UAA, 989 articles was submitted during 2005 from all over the world.

The subjects for next ten years in JUA are the progression of education including basic research by the excellent administration of central office, and more intense collaborations with UAA, AUA and EAU.