

放射線被曝者医療国際協力推進協議会 会長

神谷 研二



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HICARE会長を務めております広島大学副学長の神谷研二でございます。

新型コロナウイルス感染が収束しない中で、ライブ配信という新しい形での開催となりましたが、多くの皆様に御参加いただき、「被爆75年・HICARE設立30年・福島事故10年国際シンポジウム～これからの30年も世界のために」を開催できますことを、大変喜ばしく感じております。開催にあたりご参加戴いた県民、市民の皆様にお礼申し上げると共に、御尽力いただいた皆様に心から感謝申し上げます。

このシンポジウムは、広島に人類最初の原子爆弾が投下されてから昨年8月で75年という節目の年を迎えたこと、今年3月に福島原子力発電所事故から10年を迎えること、また、4月にはオール広島で世界の被ばく者への医療支援を行ってきた放射線被曝者医療国際協力推進協議会

(HICARE) が設立から30年を迎えることを機に、HICAREとその構成団体のこれまでの取組を振り返り、今後の展望を示すことを目的に開催するものです。

さて、HICAREは、広島が長年にわたって蓄積してきた被曝者医療や放射線障害の研究成果を世界各地の放射線被ばく者の医療に役立てるため、チェルノブイリの原発事故などを契機として1991年に発足した広島生まれの組織です。

HICAREは、この目的を達成するため被曝医療機関、大学や研究所と地元行政機関がオール・ヒロシマの体制を構築した世界にもユニークな協議会として活動して参りました。

30年間にわたる取組の中で、37カ国から768人の医師や研究者を受け入れての研修や、世界各地への専門家の派遣、医療情報の提供など、広島の実験と技術を世界各地における様々な形の放射線被ばく者の医療に役立ててきました。

Please allow me to introduce myself. My name is Kenji Kamiya. I serve as the president of HICARE and the vice president of Hiroshima University.

It is my great pleasure to hold this symposium titled the “HICARE International Symposium: 75 years since the atomic bombings, 30 years since the establishment of HICARE and 10 years since the Fukushima Daiichi Nuclear Power Plant accident—for the world for the next 30 years.” I am particularly pleased that despite the ongoing pandemic, we have so many participants in this event, for which we have decided to adopt a live streaming method. I would like to express my deepest gratitude to all audience members, as well as related parties who have prepared for this event.

This year’s symposium is being held to commemorate the 75th anniversary of the first atomic bombing in human history in Hiroshima in August 1945, 10th anniversary of the Fukushima Daiichi Nuclear Power Plant accident, which occurred in March 2011, and the 30th anniversary of the establishment of the Hiroshima International Council for Health Care of the Radiation-exposed (HICARE) in April 1991, which has been dedicated to medical support of all radiation-exposed people in the world through joint efforts of all parties in Hiroshima. By holding this event, we hope to review the initiatives taken by HICARE and its constituent institutions and to present visions for the future.

HICARE was established in Hiroshima in 1991, on the occasion of the Chernobyl accident, with the aim of promoting the healthcare of people exposed to radiation in various parts of the world by taking advantage of the ample knowledge that has been accumulated in Hiroshima over many years through medical treatment of hibakusha and research of radiation effects on human health.

To fulfill this goal, HICARE has been dedicated to various activities since its founding. It is indeed a very unique council in the world since it involves all related parties in Hiroshima, including medical institutions, university, research centers, and local governments.

Over the past 30 years, HICARE has provided training to 768 physicians and researchers from 37 countries, dispatched its specialists to various parts of the world, and shared its research outcomes with people all over the world. In this way, HICARE has been helping medical treatment of the radiation-exposed by fully exploiting the expertise and experience accumulated in Hiroshima.

2012年には、HICARE創立20周年を記念し、原爆放射線の健康影響の解説書として評価の高い「原爆放射線の人体影響」を最新の知見を盛り込んで全面改訂し、放射線影響に関する知見や被ばく医療の普及啓発に努めています。

さらに、2014年には、国際原子力機関（IAEA）の協働センターに指定され、その国際ネットワークを活用して、より多くの国や地域への支援を進めています。

一方、国内においても、1999年の茨城県東海村臨界被ばく事故や、2011年の東日本大震災に伴って発生した福島第一原子力発電所事故に対して、HICARE構成機関が本協議会の国際ネットワークを活用しながら様々な支援活動を展開してまいりました。

この様なHICAREの活動は、高く評価されており、保健衛生の分野で、わが国では最も権威のある保健文化賞を始め外務大臣表彰、中国文化賞、また、福島原発事故に対する支援に対し厚生労働大臣感謝状が授与されています。

さて、本日のシンポジウムでは、国際原子力機関IAEAのメイ・アブデル・ワハブ氏から基調講演をいただきます。また、福島・長崎及び広島の実験家のみなさまにそれぞれの取組をご紹介いただき、これからのHICAREに期待することについて討論していただきます。そして最後に、中国新聞社特別顧問であられます今中亘様に、今後の広島が果たすべき役割について御提言をいただくこととなっております。

本日御参加いただいた皆様方には、この機会に、世界の放射線被ばく者への医療協力についてご理解を深めていただき、多くの被爆者の尊い犠牲の上に積み重ねてきた放射線被ばく者医療の成果が世界の被ばく者の医療の向上に役立っていることを知って戴けることを願っています。

そして、この重要な成果が次の世代に継承されるとともに、広島に行っているもっとも広島らしい世界への貢献が、より一層推進される様に今後とも関係者一同が一丸となって努力していく所存です。

最後になりましたが、皆様のますますのご健勝とご活躍をお祈りいたしまして、開会のあいさつとさせていただきます。

In 2012, on the 20th anniversary of its founding, HICARE extensively revised "Effects of A-Bomb Radiation on the Human Body" which is highly evaluated as a practical guidebook on health effects of A-bomb radiation.

The new edition, which includes the latest findings, was designed to promote knowledge on effects of radiation and therapies for the radiation-exposed.

In 2014, HICARE was designated as an IAEA Collaborating Centre. Ever since, HICARE has been promoting support in many more countries and regions by using the international network of the IAEA.

Meanwhile, even in Japan, constituent institutions of HICARE have been engaged in various support activities for sufferers, particularly those of the Tokaimura Criticality Accident occurred in Ibaraki prefecture in 1999 and those of the Fukushima Daiichi Nuclear Power Plant accident triggered by the Great East Japan Earthquake in 2011.

These activities by HICARE have been commended greatly. HICARE was honored with the Public Health Award, the most prestigious award in Japan in the area of public health and hygiene, Japan's Foreign Minister's Award, the Chugoku Cultural Award, and the Certificate of Appreciation from the Minister of Health, Labour and Welfare in recognition of its support activities for the Fukushima Daiichi Nuclear Power Plant accident.

At today's symposium, I am delighted that a Keynote Speech will be delivered by Dr. May Abdel-Wahab of the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA). Moreover, I am pleased that specialists from Fukushima, Nagasaki, and Hiroshima will introduce their activities in their respective fields and discuss what they expect of HICARE in the years ahead. Finally, Mr. Wataru Imanaka, the special advisor to Chugoku Shimbun Co., Ltd., will suggest the roles that Hiroshima is expected to fulfill in the future.

I truly hope that the participants in this symposium will deepen their understanding of the importance of medical cooperation for people who have been exposed to radiation in the world. I hope that many more people will become aware of the fact that the medical care for the radiation-exposed have been developed based on the invaluable sacrifices of many hibakusha and that sharing the outcomes of their efforts greatly contributes to the development of therapies for the radiation-exposed throughout the world.

At HICARE, we are determined to continue to make concerted efforts to pass on the essential outcomes of our activities to future generations. At the same time, we will work together to further promote Hiroshima's unique contribution to the world.

Last but not least, I would like to express my heartfelt wishes for your continued good health and success. Thank you very much.