

# MESSAGE FOR THE 50TH VOLUME

## A salute to the Keio Journal of Medicine on its 50th volume

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At the dawn of the 21st century, the Keio Journal of Medicine celebrates its 50th volume. On behalf of Keio University, I am so honored to send a genuine salute to the Journal for its continuous publication over the past five decades.

The journal is the official publication of Keio University School of Medicine that was established 1917. When the journal was founded in 1952, our medical school was in the midst of renovation following the ruinous damage caused by the World War II. During this difficult time, we had successfully reconstructed not only our medical school campus and the hospital, but also our academism. I must recognize that it was with keen foresight that the late Yoshio Kusama, MD, the first editor of the Journal, launched the medical school journal published in English, when the main language used for medical research in Japan had been German, even after the War.

Since its inception, the Journal has been continually striving to carry out the spiritual legacy of Yukichi Fukuzawa, the founder of Keio and a pioneer of Japan's modernization in the mid 19th century, by encouraging medical researchers and physicians to have a more global outlook. In addition to publishing original communications, the Journal has been publishing

important review-articles authored by many distinguished visiting scholars attending the Keio Medical Society meetings. Recently, papers from the Commemorative Lecture of the Keio Medical Science Prize awardees became one of the Journal's most important features. We are proud of the fact that the Keio Journal of Medicine is one of the few Japanese school journals indexed in the *Index Medicus* and MEDLINE.

Upon entering the 21st century, we expect a scientific explosion in biotechnology and medicine concurrent with the rapid accumulation and integration of new knowledge about biology, diseases, patient care, and public health. The role of the Journal as a media to disseminate this new knowledge is therefore becoming more important than ever. The Journal is currently received by more than 350 overseas medical schools and their libraries in 48 different countries. When visiting an overseas university as the President of Keio University, it is really a great pleasure to find our Journal displayed in their medical library.

With this distinguished history and tradition of the Keio Journal of Medicine, I congratulate the editors and contributors of the Journal on its 50th volume, and look forward to its Golden Anniversary to be celebrated next year.