

Luncheon Seminar 3

June 29 (Saturday), 12:10-13:00

Lecture Room: Room 1 (Auditorium)

Views and Reviews of AMD

The anti-VEGF treatment, a wide spread treatment of age-related macular degeneration (AMD), has substantially improved the prognosis of AMD, a chronic vision-threatening disease.

However, now we face new issues in the daily clinic. That is, the variations of the prognosis among the individual patients.

One such difference may be related to choroidal condition; Dr. Yamashiro will present his recent genomic work on pachychoroid (thick choroid)-related choroidal neovascularization.

For the patients who have less responses to the current drugs need new approaches; Dr. Apte will review the development of anti-VEGF therapy, and show the views on the future treatments.

The session will deepen your understanding of the AMD pathogenesis and treatment strategy.

◆ Chair ◆



Yoko Ozawa, MD, PhD

Assistant Professor, Laboratory Chief
Laboratory of Retinal Cell Biology,
Department of Ophthalmology, Keio University, School of Medicine

◆ Speakers ◆ **Opposite effects of CFH in age-related macular degeneration and pachychoroid disease**



Kenji Yamashiro, MD, PhD

Director of Department of Ophthalmology, Otsu Red Cross Hospital

Recent introduction of pachychoroid disease concept has been changing the diagnosis of age-related macular degeneration (AMD). We had reported that at least 20% of previously diagnosed AMD should have been diagnosed as pachychoroid neovascularopathy. However, significance of differentiating pachychoroid disease from AMD have not been clearly demonstrated for clinical practice. Clinical phenotypes are similar between pachychoroid neovascularopathy and AMD, and these two groups do not show clinically significant difference in the response to treatment. Our recent study discovered significant differences in the effects of CFH gene to the development of AMD and pachychoroid. The CFH risk allele for AMD had protective effects against pachychoroid development while the risk allele for pachychoroid was protective allele for AMD. I would like to review the concept of pachychoroid disease and AMD from the viewpoint of CFH.

An Eye on VEGF in Discovery and Development



Rajendra S. Apte, MD, PhD

Paul A. Cibis Distinguished Professor
John F. Hardesty, MD Department of Ophthalmology & Visual Sciences
Washington University School of Medicine

The discovery of vascular endothelial-derived growth factor (VEGF) led to a more comprehensive understanding how blood vessels develop and proliferate. Since then, the mechanisms by which VEGF regulates neurovascular homeostasis have been elucidated. It is also clear that VEGF plays an important role in the pathogenesis of cancers and eye diseases. This presentation will highlight important aspects of VEGF biology including multi-target approaches in cancers and eye disease and review future challenges in developing novel therapeutic agents that complement VEGF-targeted approaches.

PP-EYL-JP-0303-01-04