

## Volume 27 Outstanding papers: The editorial board has decided!!

Toshio Ohshiro MD PhD

First of all, may I welcome all our readers to this first 2019 issue of Volume 28 of *Laser Therapy* in the Year of the Boar in Japan, and of the Pig in China! As is the custom now for the first Editorial in a new volume of the journal, I am pleased to announce that the referees who are responsible for selecting the papers from Volume 27 that will receive the outstanding awards, namely the members of our International Editorial Board, have cast their votes for the **Ohshiro-Laser Therapy Best and Good Paper Awards 2018**, and the **Ming-Chien Kao Awards for Young Researchers 2018**. These have been carefully selected from all the papers published in Volume 26, and according to the adjudicators, the selection from volume 27 was even more difficult than even was the case last year because there were so many strong papers to choose from. The continuing growth of the journal has been underpinned by both the trend towards better-written papers, and a larger input from younger authors working in the field of laser dentistry. It never escapes my consideration that we could not have a journal without good papers from a large variety of fields, so on behalf of the International Editorial Board I sincerely thank every author who contributed to all the papers which comprised Volume 27.

Without further ado, the worthy winners for the 2018 Awards are as follows:

- The **Ohshiro-Laser Therapy Best Paper** category winner, attracting the prize of US \$2,000, as chosen by the Laser Therapy Editorial Board is:
  - “Association of Bioglass/Collagen/Magnesium Composites and Low Level Irradiation: Effects on Bone Healing in a Model of Tibial Defect in Rats” from Gabbai-Armelin PR, Caliaro H., Silva DF, Cruz MA, Magri AM., Fernandes KR, Renno ACM (Laboratory of Biomaterials and Tissue Engineering, Department of Biosciences, Federal University of São Paulo [UNIFESP])
- The two **Ohshiro-Laser Therapy Good Paper** category winners, attracting the prize of US \$1,000 each, are:
  - “*Helicobacter pylori* Eradication Using a Light-Emitting Diode and Methylene Blue”, from Kouji Ogasawara, (Sarufutsu Village National Health Insurance Hospital, Japan)
  - “Usefulness of Picosecond Pulse Alexandrite Laser Treatment for Nevus of Ota”, from Reiko Sakio, Takafumi Ohshiro, Katsumi Sasaki, Toshio Ohshiro (Ohshiro Clinic, Tokyo, Japan)
- The three **Ming-Chien Kao Awards for Young Researchers**, attracting the prize of US \$500 each, are:
  - “Statistical Analysis of Complications in Laser Treatment Under General Anesthesia Performed for Pediatric Inpatients” from Yumi Hirano, Tsukasa Isago, Katsuhiko Kure, Takashi Yamaki (Department of Plastic and Reconstructive Surgery, Tokyo Women’s Medical University Medical Center East, Tokyo, Japan)
  - “Early Effect of Fractional CO<sub>2</sub> Laser Treatment in Post-menopausal Women with Vaginal Atrophy” from Scott Evan Eder (The Center for Women’s Health & Wellness, Plainsboro, New Jersey, USA)
  - “A Case Control Series for the Effect of Photobiomodulation in Patients with Low Back Pain and Concurrent Depression”, from C. Philip Gabel, Samuel R Petrie, David Mischoulon, Michael R Hamblin, Albert Yeung, Lisa Sangermano, Paolo Cassano (Coolum Physiotherapy, Sunshine Coast, Queensland, Australia)

Because of the really high quality of the papers and the real difficulty in judging amongst them, the adjudicating panel would also like to give a special mention to the authors of the papers which were only one vote behind the prize-winning entries. For

the Ohshiro-Laser Therapy Good Paper category, a special mention goes to: "Reappraisal of Percutaneous Transluminal Laser Angioplasty", from Shoichi D Takekawa (Southern Tohoku Research Institute for Neuroscience, Fukushima, Japan). For the Ming-Chien Kao Awards for Young Researchers, a special mention goes to: "Evaluation of adjunctive effect of low-level laser therapy on pain, swelling and trismus after surgical removal of impacted lower third molar: A double blind randomized clinical trial", from Hosein Eslami, Alireza Majidi, Vahid Fakhrazadeh, Milad Ghanizadeh, and Sahar Khadem-Neghad (Department of Oral Medicine, Tabriz University of Medical Sciences, Tabriz, Iran). We would love to be able to give an award other than this special mention, but sadly, not at this time.

Our heartiest congratulations to the winners! For full details of the prizewinners and their prizes, and to see how you can get YOUR paper entered for this year's awards, please see the section on the awards elsewhere in this issue of the journal.

### Passing of a Respected Colleague



The Late Professor  
Kenji Yoshida DDS PhD

After the happy news of the Awards announcement, I have news of a totally different kind. A very large black hole has appeared in the world of laser dentistry. In January 29<sup>th</sup> of this year, *Laser Therapy's* Co-editor with special responsibility for dental content. Professor Kenji Yoshida, died very suddenly at the age of 64.

We were in active communication the week before he died regarding the next meeting of the World Federation for Laser Dentistry, (WFLD) of which Prof Yoshida was the outgoing President. Although most regularly associated with dentistry, Prof Yoshida was a renowned plastic surgeon, specializing in maxillofacial surgery, and until his death he was professor in the Department of Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery in the School of Dentistry at Aichi Gakuin University, Nagoya, Japan. With a close connection to *Laser Therapy*, in addition to his role as Co-editor of the journal which he had held since 2016, Prof Yoshida was a Board member of the Japanese Society of Laser Surgery & Medicine (JSLMS) and a Board member of the Japanese Laser Therapy Association (JaLTA). His passing has been mourned by the Executive of the WFLD, particularly so since they had just invited him to honour them at this year's congress, and as they were preparing to host

him as a key guest speaker at the International Convention of the Lebanese University this coming May. He will be sadly missed by family, friends and colleagues, and our thought and prayers are with those he has left behind.



Hisashi Watanabe,  
DDS, PhD

We must, however, move on and I have approached Prof. Hisashi Watanabe to be Prof Yoshida's successor as *Laser Therapy* Co-editor for dentistry. A scholar and researcher with many posts both national and international behind him, Prof Watanabe was, until his retirement, Associate Professor, Department of Periodontology, Graduate School of Medical and Dental Sciences, Tokyo Medical and Dental University (TMDU), Tokyo, Japan, and has been associated strongly with TMDU all his very active working life, having gained his DDS and PhD there in 1977 and 1981, respectively. He maintains his links with TMDU as an Adjunct Instructor Lecturer, a post he has held since his retirement in 2017. Despite my personal grief at the untimely passing of Prof Yoshida, I am happy to say that Prof Watanabe has graciously accepted my invitation, and has pledged to support the aims and goals of the journal as our new Co-editor. I am sure that you all join with me in welcoming him into our *Laser Therapy* family. Here is his message to you:

Dear All,

It is very honorable for me to be appointed as a co-editor of *LASER THERAPY*.

I would like to support Dr. Toshio Ohshiro, Founding Editor and Editor-in-Chief for keeping up the standard of *LASER THERAPY*.

I am looking forwards to meeting your article which matches the Journal aim and scope.

Thank you,

Sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Hisashi Watanabe". The signature is stylized with a large, sweeping initial 'H'.

Hisashi Watanabe, DDS, PhD

## World Medical Laser Congress 2019

I need to remind you that June 28th – 30th of this year will see the magnificent World Medical Laser Congress 2019, which will be held in the opulent Taipei International Convention Center under the leadership and guidance of Professors Cheng-Jen Chang and Ming-Chien Kao. At this not-to-be-missed meeting the congresses of the 23rd International Society for Laser Surgery and Medicine (ISLSM), the 5th World Federation of Societies for Laser Medicine and Surgery (WFSLMS) and the 8th International Phototherapy Society (IPTA) will be combined under the one roof, and Prof Chang has already started preparations for holding our next IL-LiS (International Laser Licensing Service) building on the momentum of the excellent one held in Thailand last year. Please go to <http://www.wlmc2019.com/> and get all the up-to-date information to enable you to participate in this important multi-meeting. The social programme is bound to be excellent with the promise of delicious Taiwanese delicacies, and will balance what I am certain will be a world-class scientific programme. Don't miss it!

## End Notes

When you read this it will be the beginning of April, and the cherry blossoms will be working their way up from the southern islands of Japan. As I write, there are indeed some signs of spring. This winter was not as harsh as the previous one, at least in the Kanto area, and we are now at that period of the year known when the weather phenomenon known in Japan as '*san kan shi on*' [三寒四温] occurs, when the weather fluctuates from a few days of cold weather to some of almost spring-like warmth. Today is a case in point. From grey days with temperatures just above freezing only a few days ago, we awoke today to blue skies, sunshine, and temperatures forecast to be in the upper teens Celsius! This happens every year, although it may

have been getting a little warmer each year, but I am not complaining. Last year I was bemoaning the really un-spring-like weather at this time of 2018, so I will take my balmy days gratefully.

That brings us to the end of this first Editorial for 2019 and Volume 28. That is a very respectable number of volumes for any journal, and I am really pleased that not only have we reached it, we can clearly see that we will carry on strongly into our 30s. But that of course depends on you, dear readers, so please spare a thought for *Laser Therapy* when you have a research project to report, a clinical study to unveil, or even a case series to interest us. We will publish any of these either as full Original Articles, as Brief Communications or even as Letters to the Editor. We look for research or clinical work from all specialities in the medical, dental and veterinary fields, and from all paramedical specialists including nurses, physical therapy practitioners and physiotherapists. The articles don't have to be long, a single case report, if it is of sufficient interest, will most certainly be published. However, please remember we have our distinct instructions regarding style and content, so kindly always follow the **Notes for Contributors**, which you can find online,<sup>[1]</sup> and before that, please make sure that your work falls within the scope of the journal.<sup>[2]</sup> In these two sets of information you will find everything you need to submit your work, and be on your way to be in the running for one of our Best or Good Paper awards.

Have a wonderful spring (or autumn for those of you in the Southern Hemisphere), and I look forward to receiving good communications from you! Happy writing!!

Tokyo, March 2019

- 1: [http://www.jmll.co.jp/lasertherapy/img/pdf/submit\\_your\\_paper.pdf](http://www.jmll.co.jp/lasertherapy/img/pdf/submit_your_paper.pdf)
- 2: [http://www.jmll.co.jp/lasertherapy/img/pdf/journal\\_aim\\_and\\_scope.pdf](http://www.jmll.co.jp/lasertherapy/img/pdf/journal_aim_and_scope.pdf)