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4th Congress of Asian-Australasian Society for Pediatric Neurosurgery (AASPN 2023 Yokohama, Japan) Theme: Controversies in Pediatric Neurosurgery

Welcome Message

Dear Friends and Colleagues,





Reizo Shirane

Nobuhito Morota

On behalf of the Organizing Committee, we warmly welcome you to the 4th Congress of Asian-Australasian Society for Pediatric Neurosurgery (AASPN) 2023 in the beautiful city of Yokohama. While we regret that the COVID-19 pandemic prevented us from holding the Congress in 2021 and 2022, we are excited about the opportunity of holding the Congress face to face with you here in Yokohama in 2023.

The theme, Controversies in Pediatric Neurosurgery, has been carefully chosen to mark our reunion. From basic to top-notch, our vision is to reflect upon our past accomplishments, discuss important issues, share ideas and information, accelerate innovation, and jointly explore current and future research directions through discussions and lectures. More importantly, we will renew friendships and extend our networks around the world.

The Organizing Committee has made a tremendous effort in planning the Congress which covers a wide range of critically important sessions, including the following symposiums:

- Congenital Anomalies
- Brain Tumors
- Functional Diseases
- Cerebrovascular Disease
- Trauma and Hydrocephalus

Another focus of the Congress is to introduce the Japanese Guideline of the Pediatric Brain Tumor published in 2022. The Guideline covered major pediatric brain tumors and aimed to provide guidance for neurosurgeons and neurooncologists to perform standardized practice anywhere in Japan. We hope that this Guideline will promote rich discussion during the Congress and bring additional insights for AASPN members in daily practice worldwide following the Congress.

Additionally, we will have a special session regarding female pediatric neurosurgeons under the name of Mami Yamasaki Memorial Session for young female neurosurgeons in Asia-Australasia, as well as a special session entitled the AASPN in the Global Pediatric Neurosurgery. These topics cover the current status of the AASPN, the role of the AASPN in the ISPN, and the use of modern technologies such as AI, metaverse, and robotics in pediatric neurosurgery.

We believe that it is extremely important for the AASPN and its members to collaborate with the global pediatric neurosurgery community and wish the AASPN members all continued success in the future. Through our interactive format, we would be delighted if these programs

could offer all attendees an excellent opportunity to review fundamental to updated information and discuss clinical management with the AASPN's experienced faculties as well as our guest experts from across the world.

When Japan's Edo-Samurai Government abandoned its closed-door policy to open the border more than 150 years ago, the Port of Yokohama, formerly a small rural fishing village, rose to the historical stage as one of the five open ports. Western culture and technology landed in Yokohama, were introduced in Tokyo, and spread throughout Japan. It was the beginning of Japan's modernization. As such, Yokohama provides a more cosmopolitan environment than Tokyo. Yokohama and the surrounding areas are home to numerous historical structures, monuments, and tourist attractions. A half-day tour will take you to Kamakura, the first capital of the Samurai government, which is home to many ancient temples, including the Great Buddha of Kamakura. A renowned hot spring region named Hakone is located at the base of the Tanzawa mountain range. In addition to the Hakone hot spring spa, Mt. Fuji is also accessible via day trip. "Omotenashi" shows the Japanese attitude to appreciate tourists. We are pleased that you may experience the flavor of "Omotenashi" here in Yokohama along with the scientific excitement from the Congress.

We sincerely hope you will benefit from the Congress of AASPN 2023 in Yokohama at or beyond your expectations. It offers all AASPN members fantastic opportunities to grow and develop friendships. It will be important for the future of the AASPN to expand and advance pediatric neurosurgery globally. We look forward to seeing you face to face in Yokohama this coming December.

Reizo Shinane

Reizo Shirane, Miyagi Children's Hospital

Nobuhito Morota, Kitasato University Hospital

Co-Presidents of the 4th Congress of Asian-Australasian Society for Pediatric Neurosurgery

