

Kouichi Morita MD & Ph.D.

Director, Dejima Infectious Diseases Research Alliance(DIDA), Nagasaki University

Director, Vaccine Research and Development Center (VRDC)

Professor Emeritus,

Head, WHO Collaborating Centre for Research and Reference on Tropical and Emerging Tropical Viral Diseases

I have been working in the field of Tropical Medicine with particular focus on arthropod-borne viral diseases that include dengue fever, Zika fever, Japanese encephalitis, chikungunya virus infection and Sever Fever with Thrombocytopenia Syndrome for the past forty years. During the last three years, I also have also conducted extensive COVID-19 research. My overall research objectives cover molecular, epidemiological and operational research in disease control. I am currently assisting several global tropical disease programs as head of the WHO Collaborating Centre on Tropical and Emerging Viral Diseases. I also have extensive experience in vaccine development and led a research group that developed West Nile virus, dengue virus and SARS vaccine candidates. Based on my experience, I was appointed director of Dejima Infectious Disease Research Alliance (DIDA) at Nagasaki University in April 2022 where we have recently started a new vaccine development project funded by SCARDA /AMED to produce new dengue, COVID-19, Ebola and other priority infectious diseases vaccines.

Seclected publications

1. Khine M.N. et al., Pathogens 11(5):558, 2022
2. Pandey B. D. et al., BMJ 377: o1434, 2022
3. Mya Myat Ngwe Tun, et al., PLoS One 16(6): e0251314, 2021
4. Luvai E.A.C. et al., PLoS Negl Trop Dis 15(12): e0009961, 2021
5. Buerano C. C.,et al., Emerg Infect Dis 26(9): 2300-2301, 2020
6. Bastola A., et al., Lancet Infect Dis 20(3): 279-280, 2020.
7. Wijesooriya SL, et al., Lancet Infect Dis. 2020 Vol: 20(2):168-169.
8. Kyaw A. K., et al., Emer Infect Dis 26(11): 2741-2745, 2020
9. Yamane D. , et al. Nat Microbiol, 4(7): 1096-1104, 2019.
10. Inziani M., Int J Infect Dis 8(9):104-110, 2019.

Honors

Award of Excellence, Japanese Society of Tropical Medicine (2013)