



Short Bio/CV

Motoko Yanagita, M, PhD

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Motoko Yanagita, M.D., Ph.D., the first Chair and Professor of the Department of Nephrology at Kyoto University, is also the Deputy Dean of the Graduate School of Medicine at Kyoto University. She holds the position of Vice President of the Japanese Society of Nephrology and Senior Scientific Research Specialist for the Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science, and Technology in Japan. Internationally, Dr. Yanagita serves on the Executive Committee of KDIGO and is an elected member of the American Society for Clinical Investigation (ASCI). She is also an ASN Editorial Board member, an Editorial Board member of KI and an Advisory Board member of Nature Reviews Nephrology. She is also a Honorary Fellow at RWTH Aachen University, Germany, and a Honorary member of ANZSN.

Dr. Yanagita is a physician-scientist who conducts both basic and clinical research. Her innovative basic research has shed light on the fundamental mechanisms of fibrosis and kidney regeneration, and she has published numerous papers in high-impact journals such as JCI, Science, KI, and JASN. This year, she was awarded the "Bywaters Award" from ISN for her research on AKI to CKD transition. Dr. Yanagita has been actively involved in international collaborative research and has received various awards and recognition, as previously mentioned.

In the field of clinical research, Dr. Yanagita specializes in OncoNephrology and has published numerous papers and developed the guidelines that she presented at this year's ISN Webinar. These guidelines clarify the treatment strategies for cancer patients with kidney dysfunction and improve clinical practice. Additionally, her group published a series of papers on AI-based kidney pathology diagnosis, AKI prediction, and classification of kidney impairment after the use of checkpoint inhibitors. These publications have facilitated the medical implementation of AI technology.

Since her first appointment to ISN Young Nephrologist Committee, she has been actively involved in various activities in ISN, such as ISN North and East Asia Regional Board (since 2021), ISN Nominating Committee (2021-23), WCN'24 Scientific Working Group, and WCN'25 Scientific Program Committee.

She has consistently contributed to the training of young nephrologists and internationalization in this region, joining the Young Nephrologist Committee of the ISN and contributing early in her career to the organization of the ISN Frontiers meeting and ISN Nexus, which were held in Japan. Notably, she organized the "Meet the Professor Breakfast" at ISN Nexus in Japan, providing an opportunity for many young nephrologists to interact with distinguished professors. As the first chair of the Diversity and Equity Committee of APSN, she collected demographic data on the members of society and analyzed the diversity of the members, faculties, and speakers at annual meetings. She also serves as the first chair of the Diversity Committee of the Japanese Society of Internal Medicine and established the Young Physicians Committee to promote diversity within the society and to ensure that the voices of young physicians are reflected in its management.

Candidate's Statement

The contemporary era has witnessed significant advancements in kidney disease management. It is crucial for countries and societies to collaborate closely and share knowledge of the characteristics of new treatments and the populations for which these agents are effective in improving overall kidney disease management. In particular, for diseases and conditions prevalent in this region, I would like to facilitate discussion of clinical practice differences between countries and societies.

Apart from this, I aim to foster active engagement with other fields, as is evident from the growth of OncoNephrology, where nephrologists can actively contribute to other areas of practice. I believe that communication between nephrologists and the broader medical community will lead to improved patient care.

Finally, I aspire to promote diversity in this region and showcase exceptional young talents to the rest of the world. I envision creating a platform that provides opportunities for talented young nephrologists to play an active role and facilitates communication and collaboration among them across different societies. I firmly believe that this will result in continued cooperation and progress in the region.