

MESSAGE FROM THE NEW EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

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The front page of the Nagoya Journal of Medical Science (NJMS) Vol. 56 (1/4) in 1993 celebrated our 70th anniversary since 1924. In our library at the Nagoya University Graduate School of Medical, every issue since Vol. 2 (1) published in 1927 is preserved. The editors or editors-in-chief after the Second World War are listed in Table 1. Before 1964, three to five editors were in charge of editing NJMS, with the first editor-in-chief appointed in 1964. I am the 11th editor-in-chief of the Journal and, among professors of Department of Preventive Medicine, the 3rd following Professors Okada and Aoki. The annual number of published articles has ranged from 41 in 1953 to 3 in 1975 and 1977, as shown in Fig. 1. That trend may reflect its reputation among researchers, mainly those in the Nagoya University Graduate School of Medicine, as well as the efforts of the editors.

As many readers realize, researchers generally want to submit their papers to the more famous journals with a high impact factor. This is very natural since the impact factor is used in an evaluation of the scientific achievement of the researchers. Although all journals accepted in PubMed have an equal chance to be found by PubMed users, papers appearing in such high-impact factor journals have a better chance of being read and cited. In addition, research published in those journals would be regarded as a highly reliable study, notwithstanding that the true value of any study can never rise or fall depending on the journal in which it appears.

In this competitive environment, NJMS stands at a difficult position. The great majority of the researchers in the Nagoya University Graduate School of Medicine may not consider submitting their papers to NJMS. As a result, the number of articles in each issue is fewer than in better journals. I have been a supporter of NJMS; up to now, seven articles printed and one in press, while the total number of published articles in NJMS from 1951 to 2005 was 940, and 317 from 1980 to 2005, the period after my graduation from Nagoya University School of Medicine.

Although NJMS is in many ways a typical scientific journal, I would like to point out one aspect that sets it apart. I refer to its mission to provide valuable medical information not readily available elsewhere concerning the socio-medical situation of Asian countries. The Nagoya University Graduate School of Medicine has a unique course leading to provide a master's degree in medical administration for young leaders from Asian countries. The information they have is often very unique and important to specialists, policymakers, and high officials in their relevant fields, though it is sometimes in a form insufficiently corroborated for inclusion in a scientific paper due to limitations in data collecting. Fortunately, NJMS has a category called "Note" for just such useful information. I would like to expand this category to accommodate reports that contain important but incomplete information such as those that often originate from Asian countries.

In this issue of my first editionship, 8 papers, which were submitted during Professor Kojima's term, have been printed. In keeping with my responsibility to expand NJMS, I invite any of our readers engaged in relevant medical research to consider submitting a paper to the Journal.

Table 1 Post-World War II editors or editors-in-chief of the Nagoya Journal of Medical Science.

Year	Vol (Number)	Editor or Editor-in-chief	Specialty
1951–51	14 (1)	K. Hotta	Biochemistry
		K. Nobechi	Public Health
		T. Muramatsu	Psychiatry
1951–53	14 (2) – 16 (4)	K. Hotta	Biochemistry
		K. Nobechi	Public Health
		S. Hibino	Internal Medicine
		T. Muramatsu	Psychiatry
1954–56	17 (1) – 18 (5/6)	K. Hotta	Biochemistry
		C. Togari	Anatomy
		K. Nobechi	Public Health
		S. Hibino	Internal Medicine
		T. Muramatsu	Psychiatry
1957–57	19 (1) – 19 (4)	K. Hotta	Biochemistry
		S. Sugiyama	Anatomy
		S. Hibino	Internal Medicine
		T. Muramatsu	Psychiatry
1957–62	20 (1) – 24 (4)	Yoshio Hashimoto	Surgery
		Susumu Hibino	Internal Medicine
		Zengo Kanda	Pharmacology
		Shooichi Sugiyama	Anatomy
1962–64	25 (1) – 26 (3)	Yoshio Hashimoto	Surgery
		Susumu Hibino	Internal Medicine
		Ryo Ito	Physiology
		Shooichi Sugiyama	Anatomy
1964–64	26 (4)	Susumu Hibino	Internal Medicine
		Ryo Ito	Physiology
		Kazuo Ogasawara	Bacteriology
		Shooichi Sugiyama	Anatomy
1964–66	27 (1) – 28 (2)	Ryo Ito	Physiology
1966–69	28 (3/4) – 32 (1)	Masasumi Miyakawa	Pathology
1970–72	32 (2) – 34 (4)	Shooichi Sugiyama	Anatomy
1972–75	35 (1) – 37 (3/4)	Hiroshi Okada	Preventive Medicine
1975–79	38 (1/2) – 41 (1/4)	Nobuo Kumada	Physiology
1979–83	42 (1/2) – 45 (3/4)	Kunio Aoki	Preventive Medicine
1984–91	46 (1/4) – 53 (1/4)	Kiyohide Kojima	Cancer Biology
1993–97	54 (1/4) – 60 (1/2)	Izumi Nakashima	Immunology
1997–01	60 (3/4) – 64 (3/4)	Yukihiro Nishiyama	Virology
2002–06	65 (1/2) – 68 (1/2)	Seiji Kojima	Pediatrics
2006–	68 (3/4) –	Nobuyuki Hamajima	Preventive Medicine

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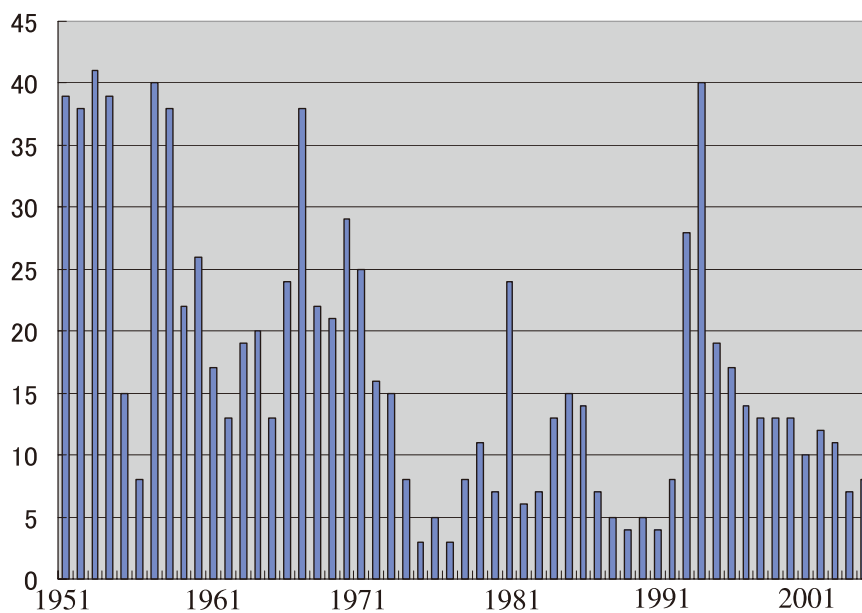


Fig. 1 Number of articles (original papers, reviews, and others) published in Nagoya Journal of Medical Science from 1951 to 2005.

