

# ARISE Asian clinical trial platform NEWSLETTER

## Message from the Chief Representative of ARISE

#### Hideyo Miyazaki

Dr Hideyo Miyazaki is a urologist graduated from Tokyo University. He finished his post-doctoral training at the University of California before joining the National Center for Global Health and Medicine where he has been appointed as the head of the Department of Urology and Deputy Director for one year, before he takes his current position.



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As of 1 July 2024, I assumed the position of Director at the Center Hospital of the National Center for Global Health and Medicine (NCGM), Chief Representative of ARISE, and at the same time was entrusted with the role of Chief Representative for ARISE. I am also leading the AMED Clinical Research and Clinical Trial Promotion Project, which focuses on building a clinical research and trial network for infectious diseases in Asia.

The COVID-19 pandemic served as a reminder of the need for a unified global approach in research and development to respond promptly to the medical needs of the population. To achieve this goal, the National Center for Global Health and Medicine, in collaboration with major research institutions in Asia, launched the ARO Alliance for Southeast and East Asia (ARISE) in 2021.

ARISE aspires to be a leading network for clinical research and trials on infectious diseases, emphasizing the promotion of high-quality trials throughout Asia. In light with the forthcoming establishment of the Japan Institute of Health Security (JIHS) in April 2025, following the merger of the National Center for Global Health and Medicine with the National Institute for Infectious Diseases, ARISE will continue to prioritize its targeted projects.

#### From the Secretary General

#### Koji Wada, MD, MSc, PHD

We would like to acknowledge and thank Dr. Haruhito Sugiyama, former Director of the Center Hospital, for his leadership as the Chief Representative of ARISE until the end of June 2024. We will continue to formulate and implement new projects with the support of the Center for Clinical Sciences under the leadership of the new Hospital Director, Dr. Hideyo Miyazaki.

#### Editorial

April marked the start of Japan's fiscal year and the Academic Research Organizations (AROs) Alliance for Southeast and East Asia (ARISE) has acknowledged several changes and implemented some of activities.

In this second volume, we highlight the appointment of the new ARISE Chief Representative, the working visits to ARISE member organizations in Japan and Thailand, and upcoming events within the network.

## Working visits with ARISE members

ARISE Secretariat staff are being dispatched to investigate the clinical trials capacity of members and to discuss the possible solutions for safe conduct of quality trials and better pandemic preparedness.

#### Visits in Thailand

## Vaccine trials during Covid-19 pandemic

Mr. Tomotsugu Naoki, Head of the Thailand Collaborative Office, and Ms. Marlinang Siburian, Research Coordinator, visited Thailand from 27 May to 7 June to interview Thai clinical trial experts and gather various information on experiences and lessons learned regarding vaccine clinical trials during pandemic.

Thailand has established itself as a leading country in clinical trials within ASEAN, demonstrating its capabilities particularly during the COVID-19 pandemic. Thailand has been selected as the regional hub for the ASEAN Centre for the Prevention and Control of Infectious Diseases (ACPHEED), helping to improve the region' s capacity to control and respond to infectious diseases.



Mr. Naoki Tomotsugu, Prof. Kulkanya Chokephaibulkit (SICRES) and Ms. Marlinang Diarta Siburian (from left to right)

### Visits for Annual meeting preparation

From 10 to 19 July, Dr Koji Wada, Dr Muchanga Sifa Marie Joelle and Mr. Katsumi Ishii held a series of meetings to prepare for the 3rd Annual Meeting to be hosted by the Faculty of Medicine Siriraj Hospital, Mahidol University. The working group was able to agree on the scientific and logistical contents of the event.



Dr.Nattadech Choomplang, Dr.Koji Wada, Assoc. Prof. Winai Ratanasuwa, Dr.Muchanga Sifa Joelle Marie, Mr.Katsumi Ishii and Ms. Pornsuda Nipathakosol (from left to right) at SICRES

#### **Visits in Vietnam**

## Visiting Bach Mai Hospital in Vietnam

On 13 June, Dr. Koji Wada and Ms. Le Mai Phuong, accompanied by the Embassy of Japan' s representative in Vietnam, visited Bach Mai Hospital in Hanoi. The Hospital Director, Assoc. Prof. Dao Xuan Co, warmly welcomed Dr. Koji Wada and expressed the longstanding relationship between NCGM and Bach Mai Hospital, and their strong interest in exploring potential collaborative opportunities. Dr. Wada highlighted ARISE' s commitment to fostering collaboration in clinical research and trials. Following the meeting, the NCGM delegation briefly met with the Medical Coordination Committee (MCC), NCGM' s co-office in this hospital.



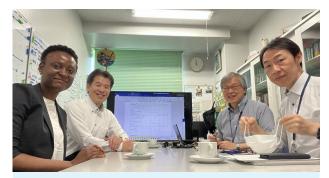
NCGM Delegation and the first secretary of Japanese Embassy visited Bach Mai Hospital

#### Visits in Japan

## Visiting Nagasaki University

On 17 May, Dr Koji Wada and Dr Sifa Muchanga visited the Institute of Tropical Medicine Nagasaki University, member of the ARISE.

Prof. Kenji Hirayama, the Director of the center and Dr Naoki Hosogaya are part of the working group that focusses on pandemic preparedness. We had fruitful discussions aimed at establishing a pandemic preparedness platform.



Prof. Kenji Hirayama (back right), Dr. Naoki Hosogaya (front right) at Nagasaki University

## Visiting Kyushu University Hospital Center

The Secretariat team led by Dr. Koji Wada, the Secretary General, visited the Kyushu University Hospital Center for Clinical and Translational Research Information.

Professor Koji Todaka, Dr Kota Funakoshi and other staff discussed with the delegation the use of technology for clinical trials in Asian countries and with ARISE members.

From the NCGM, Mr. Naoki Tomotsugu and Dr Muchanga Sifa attended also the meeting.



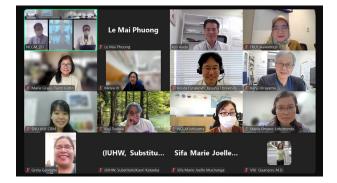
Prof. Koji Todaka (front row, center), Dr. Kota Funakoshi (back row, from 3rd from left) at Center for Clinical and Translational Research, Kyushu University Hospital

## ARISE regular meeting

The ARISE Committee will meet regularly online to share experiences and deepen ties and cooperation between members.

The first regular online meeting was successfully held on 8 August. The meeting was attended by 10 representatives in addition to the members of the ARISE Secretariat.

The next meeting will be held in September.



## Upcoming events and announcements

#### September 5, 2024

#### The 17th International infectious **Diseases** Forum

The 17th International infectious Diseases Forum with the theme "The forefront of Diagnosis & Treatment of Viral Hepatitis, and Future Prospects" will be held online on 5 September from 15:00 to 17:30 (JST).



Simultaneous translation Japanese-English will be provided during the forum.



#### September 24-27, 2024

The 1st Annual Clinical Trials and **Translational Science Meeting** 

The University of the Philippines Manila will have its 1st Annual Clinical Trials and Translational Science Meeting with the theme: "Enhancing capacities and collaborations towards patient-

centered trials" on 24-27 September. This will be a 4-days event of workshop on modules developed for clinical research professionals and seminar on vaccine trials for infectious diseases. The event is co-organized by the National Center for Global Health and Medicine.

Registration details will be shared soon.

#### November 21-22, 2024

The 3rd ARISE Annual Meeting / The Joint SIRIRAJ-NCGM Symposium and 5th NCGM symposium on Clinical **Research and Trials** 

The Faculty of Medicine Siriraj University Hospital will host the 3rd ARISE Annual Meeting on 21-22 November. The meeting will focus on vaccine trials for pandemic preparedness.

In addition to the network activities, the Joint SIRIRAJ-NCGM Symposium and 5th NCGM symposium on Clinical Research and Trials will be held on 22 November.

Details will be shared soon.

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