

# FIBRINOLYSIS IN HEALTH AND DISEASE

with special reference to  
Haemorrhage, Thrombosis and Inflammatory Reactions

Edited by

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## PREFACE

It seems somewhat unusual that, in the recent two decades, medical knowledges on the fibrinolysis — fibrin-removing process by plasmin — have been much accumulated in the Far East; a discipline to control the fibrinolysis using the synthetic chemical inhibitors, i. e., the antiplasmin therapy, was nearly founded and grown up rapidly in Japan without revealing its whole picture to the western medical people. In fact, despite of the academic activities made by hundreds of Japanese investigators, most of their papers written in their own language have been covered by "the mist" of the Far East, that is, the language barrier. It is far difficult to overcome this barrier beyond word-by-word translation, because of the fundamental differences of the grammar, of the idiom and of the way of thinking-process of Japanese; such characteristics of this language, I think, maybe historically originated from the old poetry and literature of this country.

\* \* \* \*

A trial to challenge the barrier to the information-exchange was "the International Symposium on Fibrinolysis in Health and Disease" held at the International House in Tokyo, Japan, Sept. 10th, 1965. As the organizer of this symposium, I should like to express my hearty gratitude to my respective friends from abroad and the domestic participants who tried to exchange the information, facing the linguistic difficulties. Through this meeting, I think, it was more obviously realized by the participants that the shortage of the information exchange could not be overcome without the able and thoughtful linguistic assistants having the specialized medical knowledges. It is a task of worthy to do in this case to facilitate the information exchange linguistically. Through the discussions in the symposium, the promising views of these investigations were variously suggested such that the fibrinolysis would be connected not only with the fibrinolytic haemorrhage or throm-

bosis-treatment, but more broadly with inflammations, allergic reactions and so on. The participants perhaps paid a keen attention to the possibility that the fibrinolysis-controlling is highly likely to be available to treat the patients of leprosy (Hansen's disease), the number of which in the world is still over millions even in this modern era.

\* \* \* \*

The academic book written in English, but originally written in Japanese, should be readily acceptable and easily understandable by the western people. This was my principle when I decided myself to publish the proceeding in English. I have to confess that the task to improve the English written by the domestic workers is so time-consuming one far beyond expectation. In fact, this kind of book would never appear without the able technical assistants come from abroad and the domestic linguistic specialists too. Miss Claudia Lutz, medical secretary come from Switzerland, endeavoured throughout this task in Kobe. Besides Mr. Andrew Smith, English biologist, staying in my laboratory, kindly rewrote some papers. Dr. M. E. Zimmalin, M.D., my pupil, partly assisted the business. Without their pro-Japanese feeling trying to understand what way of thinking Japanese people are generally to prefer, this book would remain within the mist of the Far East. Also I owe to Miss S. Hirohata much for her patient proof-reading.

\* \* \* \*

Years have elapsed in this way; however, I do hope that this book is still fresh with novelty, utility and unexpectability, enough stimulating the present workers in this field. It would be certain that the keen eyes of western workers in this field. It would be certain that the keen eyes of western workers will find something unique or something like a clue to their future developments from this volume through the mist of the Far East, which, I am afraid, may still remain.

\* \* \* \*

This book thus appeared contains a number of papers and discussions by leading workers from SWEDEN, U. S. A., USSR, and JAPAN. It seems worthy of note that this is in fact the first publication of its kind, covering an overall picture of the fibrinolytic system, which through its controlling effect on the rate of fibrin-removal within the body has a modifying influence upon haemorrhage, thrombosis, and inflammatory or allergic reactions. Of special interest perhaps, to the practitioners, is the final chapter, "Experimental and Clinical Control of Fibrinolysis", which concerns activation or inhibition of fibrinolysis by the administration of chemical compounds, with a view to the establishment of new therapeutic principles. Elsewhere, promising approaches are given to other challenging problems, such as fibrinolysis in haemophiliacs, local disturbance of fibrinolysis in joints, and treatment of leprosy. From the reason above mentioned, the contents are divided into the following four sections for readers' convenience: Part I. Fibrinolytic Components of Blood and Tissues, Part II. Local Fibrinolysis in Health and Disease, Part III. Haemorrhage and Systemic Fibrinolysis, Part IV. Experimental and Clinical Control of Fibrinolysis.

\* \* \* \*

In closing the preface, I should like to express my sincere apology for such a delay of the publication to the contributors, who immediately presented almost perfect manuscripts. Also I express my cordial gratitude to those all participants in the original symposium. I feel it my real happiness that I have a number of my old academic friends, faithful co-workers and thoughtful linguistic assistants, the names of all these friends you will find elsewhere in this book. In particular, I owe to Prof. S. Oshiba, M. D., Nippon University School of Medicine, Dr. Hisashi Mihara, Kobe University School of Medicine, who assisted me in organizing the symposium and preparing this book as the associate editors.

Finally, I ask the excuse to the Japanese readers adding here a comment which is unusual in this country. Maybe so

much westernized, I would like to express my warmest thanks to my wife, Mrs. Utako Okamoto, M. D., Professor of Kobe-Gakuin University, who has been working together almost 25 years as my "oldest" co-worker. This period covers the ignition stage of planning the antiplasmin therapy (1947-1948), the finding of EACA by our group (around 1950), the earliest clinical trials by Dr. Shoichi Sato and the late Professor Gizo Itoga, the finding of the improved antiplasmin agent t-AMCHA (1964) and the present projects which are at present aiming new targets eagerly.

This book is dedicated to my "sciences father", the late Professor emeritus Takashi Hayashi past away in 1969, who is still alive in my mind as if he were here.

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## CONTENTS

### PART I

#### Fibrinolytic Components of Blood and Tissues

Studies on Hyaline Menbrance Disease: The Ontagogeny of the Fibrinolysin System	
C.M. Ambrus, K.R. Niswander, D.H. Weintraub, and J.L. Ambrus .....	1
Discussion: D.R. Celander, C.M. Ambrus, and K.N. von Kaulla ..	.....
Fibrinolysis in Association with Thrombin	
L.E. McCoy, and W.H. Seegers .....	11
Discussion: Y. Funahara, W.H. Seegers, M. Kazama, L. Lorand, and A.L. Copley .....	.....
Urokinase – and Plasmin – Catalyzed Reactions	
L. Lorand .....	21
Influence of Proactivator of Plasminogen on Fibrinolysis, Caseinolysis and TAMe – esterolysis	
A. Takada, Y. Takada, and U. Okamoto .....	27
Discussion: C. Ambrus, A. Takada, and U. Okamoto .....	.....
Abnormally Increased Activity of Plasminogen Proactivator of Plasma in Children with Hemorrhagic Disorders	
K. Yamada, and B. Nakamura .....	37
Change of Proactivator Activity in Infantile Eczema	
K. Yamamoto .....	43
Orthogonal Array Study of Extraction of Tissue plasminogen Activator with Various Kinds of Medium	
R. Ikemori, M. Kazama, M. Matsuda, T. Abe .....	49
Physiological Infuluence of the Plasminogen Activator of Ascites Tumor Cells in Mice	
H. Mihara, Y. Funahara, K. Kinjo, and S. Okamoto .....	53
Fibrinolytic Activity in Human Erythrocytes of Venous Blood and Bone Marrow Aspirate	
N. Sakuragawa, M. Matsuoka, and J. Nomura .....	59
Discussion: L. Lorand, J.L. Ambrus, D.R. Celander and Y. Sugiyama .....	.....

## PART II

### Local Fibrinolysis in Health and Disease

A Histological Study of Tissue Fibrinolytic Activity	
H.C. Kwaan .....	63
Discussion: A.L. Copley, and H.C. Kwaan .....	
Tissue Plasminogen Activator and Cirrhosis of the Liver	
S. Yamamoto .....	73
Relation Between Synovial Joint and Fibrinolytic Activity of Synovial Fluid	
I. Aoike, T. Tominaga, and Hiroguchi .....	79
Discussion: S. Kira .....	
Fibrinolysis in Synovial Fluid	
F. Ueda, and S. Niwa .....	83
Effect of Application of Tourniquet on Plasmin System in Skeletal Muscle and Serum	
M. Nakahara, and Y. Nakanishi .....	87
Discussion: H.C. Kwaan, and J. Ambrus .....	
Plasminogen Activator in Subcellular Units of Dog Brain Cortex under Normo- and Hypothermia	
S. Awazu .....	105
Discussion: Y. Sugiyama .....	
Specific Character of Fibrinolysis in Nasal Mucosa	
Y. Sasaki .....	107
Discussion: A.L. Copley, and Y. Sasaki .....	
On Fibrinolytic Phenomenon in Eczematous Conditions	
M. Izaki, and S. Kon .....	111

## PART III

### Haemorrhage and Systemic Fibrinolysis

Relative Value of Fibrinogen and Fibrin as Substrates for the Assay of Activators and Fibrinolysin	
D.R. Celander, and E. Celander .....	115
Discussion: A. Takada, and U. Okamoto .....	
Studies on Immunological Procedures for the Determination of Fibrinolysis	
M. Murakami, and H. Sekimoto .....	131
Discussion: S. Okamoto, and L. Andersson .....	
Fibrinolysis in Surgical Patients	
T. Sunada, H. Shimizu, S. Morimoto, H. Shigemoto, and M. Ozaki .....	137
Discussion: K.N. von Kaulla, T. Sunada, D.R. Celander, and L. Andersson .....	
Haemorrhage in Fibrinolysis	
M. Hasegawa, S. Ozawa, Y. Ando, H. Sakurai, Y. Matsuki, H. Okubo, H. Sugita, and N. Shirakura .....	149
Discussion: K. Yamada, M. Hasegawa, A.L. Copley, and L. Andersson and L. Andersson .....	
Fibrinolytic Activity in Cases of Hemophilia	
G. Kosaki, K. Tanaka, and K. Inoshita .....	157
Discussion: B. Kudrjashov, G. Kosaki, K.N. von Kaulla, and L. Andersson .....	
Hemostatic Studies on Hemophilia	
O. Katsumi, A. Shimada, M. Shioya, H. Saito, and S. Hibino .....	165
The Fibrinolysis in Cerebral Vascular Disease	
T. Aizawa, Y. Goto, and K. Murakami .....	191
A Pathological Approach to Cerebral Apoplexy: A Clue to the Role of the Fibrinolytic System	
Hiroshi Mihara, H. Suto, and Hisashi Mihara .....	195
Studies on Fibrinolysis in Prostatic Surgery	
K. Kuroda, H. Hisazumi, Y. Korai, and T. Nakamura .....	205

## PART IV

### Experimental and Clinical Control of Fibrinolysis

- Inhibitory Mechanism of the Trans-Form of Aminomethyl-Cyclohexane Carboxylic Acid in Fibrinolysis  
U. Okamoto, A. Takada, and Y. Takada ..... 223
- Effect of AMCHA and EACA as inhibitors of Urokinase and Tissue Activator  
L. Andersson, I.M. Nilsson, S. Colleen, B. Granstrand,  
and B. Melander ..... 233
- Variation of Fibrinolytic Components of Urine and Circulatory Blood  
in Patients of Essential Renal Bleeding  
Y. Yonase ..... 319
- Antiplasminic Agents in Caseinolysis and Fibrinolysis  
Y. Yamamura, A. Takahashi, A. Yamada, H. Hayashi,  
and A. Nagamatsu ..... 247
- Treatment of Chronic Fibrinous Bronchitis with Glucocorticoid and  
Mitomycin C  
T. Abe, F. Inazuki, and S. Obuchi ..... 251  
Discussion: U. Okamoto, M. Hasegawa, and T. Abe .....
- Non-Enzymatic Induction of Fibrinolysis in Vivo and in Vitro Studies with  
Man and Animals  
K.N. von Kaulla ..... 261
- Study of the Treatment of Coronary Occlusion with Urokinase Activated  
Human Plasmin  
J. Ambrus, E.J. Lippschutz, G. Constant, J.E. Sokal, A.C. ReKate,  
and C.L. Collins ..... 277  
Discussion: D.R. Celander, and J. Ambrus .....
- Experimental Studies on Fibrinolytic Treatment of Carotid Thrombosis  
in Dogs  
H. Handa, K. Yoshida, and A. Kondo ..... 317