

**Asia Pacific Association of Ophthalmology International Fellowship Program (APAO IFP):  
Department of Ophthalmology, Osaka University Graduate School of Medicine, Osaka,  
Japan.**

**Subspecialty: Glaucoma (Pediatric and Adult)**

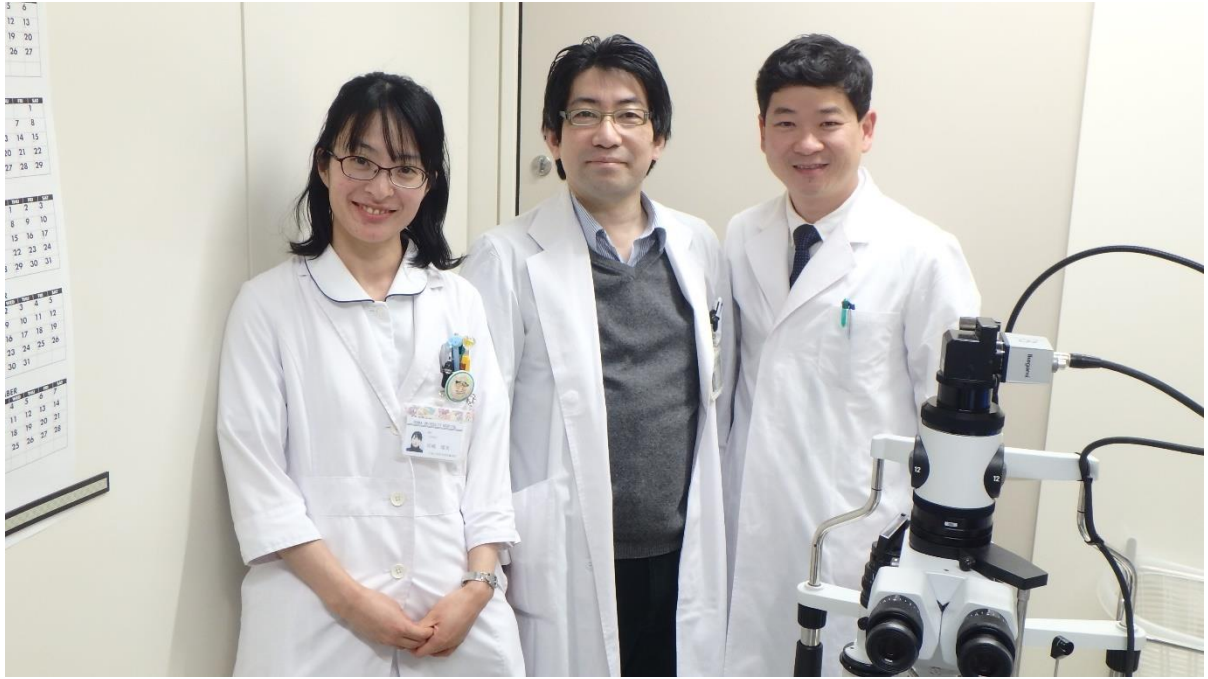
It is a great honor to be selected for the APAO IFP. This was a great opportunity for me to broaden my horizon in Department of Ophthalmology, Osaka University Graduate School of Medicine, Osaka, Japan.



(Osaka University Hospital)

During the IFP I had a great opportunity to join the excellent team of ophthalmologists in both clinical duties and research in Osaka University Hospital. My objective of the APAO IFP was to deepen my knowledge in both Pediatric and Adult Glaucoma. Attending glaucoma clinic was an exciting experience for me as I could participate in the discussion and management of both pediatric and adult glaucoma patients. Each management plan of a glaucoma patient was unique. I also had the opportunity to visit the Cornea, Uveitis and Retina clinic during my spare time.

The operating session was quite fruitful. The state-of-art operating theater in Osaka University Hospital provides the best surgical service to patients and excellent teaching opportunity to trainees. It was fully equipped with high-resolution operating microscope, cataract surgery suite, state-of-art micro-instrument and real-time on-table optical coherence tomography. I was amazed by the outstanding surgical skill of Clinical Professor Matsushita Kenji who performs trabeculectomy, glaucoma drainage device, ab-interno and ab-externo trabeculotomy; Dr Usui who performs Ex-Press shunt; Dr Kawashima who is an ophthalmologist scientist; Dr Fukushima and Dr Kawasaki, who are experienced specialists in medical retina; Dr Hashida and Dr Maruyama, who are the experts in uveitis; Dr Nishida, Dr Oie, Dr Soma, Dr Nakao, Dr Koh and the cornea team; and also Dr Sakaguchi, Dr Shiraki and the vitreo-retina team.



(Glaucoma Clinic; Right to left: me, Dr. Matsushita Kenji, Dr Kawashima Rumi)



(Prof. Matsushita Kenji performing daycare glaucoma procedure)

In addition, I had an opportunity to participate in a research project where I observed and discovered a very important clinical observation which resulted in a paper entitled: "Nasociliary port-wine stain: a predictor of surgical intervention in Sturge-Weber Glaucoma?".

In this retrospective clinical case series, we observed an association of nasociliary port-wine stain in Sturge-Weber patients who had a high risk of surgical intervention in glaucoma. This finding piqued our curiosity to explore further about the relationship of port-wine stain in nasociliary area with the severity of glaucoma.

Upon completion of the APAO IFP, I returned to my home country with a broader perspective in glaucoma. I will be positioned in a peripheral hospital for setting up a glaucoma service after assessment by my peer experts and senior consultants in glaucoma. With the surgical pearls I have learnt during the program, I have more clinical management and treatment options and my surgical knowledge has also improved. The training encouraged me to “think out of the box” and “transform surgical shortcoming into advantage” in my clinical and surgical management for the benefits of patients, instead of rigidly following clinical guideline and textbook recommendation. The APAO IFP is certainly a good beginning to promote exchange and collaboration between Malaysia and Japan.