

## Activity Report of Asia-Pacific Medical Network Project in Kyushu University Hospital : Vol.4

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## Obituary In Commemoration of Dr Koichiro Muta

Dr. Koichiro Muta passed away aged 51 years on 30th June, 2007. He had struggled with an illness for eleven months. Dr. Muta participated in international medical volunteer activity in Cambodia as a member of ODA in his student days. It was there that he met his wife, , a Thai. They later had two boys. Dr. Muta was a truly a man for Asia-international medical relationships. He joined AQUA in August 2005 and held many telemedical network conferences related to thalassemia and gastric tumors induced by the EB virus, as the chief of the hematologic team of the Department of Medicine and Bioregulatory Science, Graduate School of Medical Science, Kyushu University. He hosted the first “Asian Healthcare Conference” as the first chief of the Division of the Asian International Medical Relationship at Kyushu University Hospital. He also contributed to the establishment of the Islam University Faculty of Medicine in Indonesia. In 2006, he obtained funding for a hematologic research exchange project with Mahidol University in Thailand.

Asia has many problems involving emergent infectious diseases, serious environmental pollution, natural disasters and terrorism; thus, Dr Muta may be worrying about us while at the same time be encouraging us. Although, he could not achieve his goal in the time allotted to him, his memory and aims remain with us. His manner for conducting international relationships was always heartwarming; this must remain with us as we carry on. We recognize his contributions and promise to contribute to the fields in Asian healthcare that were close to his heart. May he rest in peace.



The late Dr. Muta participating in the first teleconference between Gyeongsang University, Korea and Kyushu University Hospital on 15 September 2006. He was the leader of the project and was also the moderator for the conference at the Korean station. At that time, he was already struggling with his illness.

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