

Preface

The Japanese College of Angiology was established in 1960 and has now over 3000 members who are researchers in various fields of medicine and dentistry, and also in the field of physics. They are studying now on the basis of the concept of 'body fluid circulation', in place of the concept of 'blood circulation'; though most researches are naturally being done on the blood vascular system, studies of tissue spaces and lymphatic system should be emphasized from now on.

Research groups on tissue spaces have not been organized yet, however, groups of lymphology researchers were organized since 1972 in the seven areas throughout Japan, i. e., Hokkaido, Tohoku, Kanto, Chubu, Kinki, Chugoku-Shikoku and Kyushu. In 1976, on the occasion that the postcongress meeting of lymphology was held in Hiroshima following the 10th International Congress of Angiology in Tokyo, organization of a Japanese society of lymphology was proposed, and its inaugural meeting was held in Matsumoto, with a membership of about 300. The Society aims to study lymphatic system and tissue spaces from the standpoint of the concept of body fluid circulation.

There are many who think the lymphatic system to be a drainage and that body fluid flow does not exist in tissue spaces, because of their standpoint of the concept of blood circulation. This might be one of the reasons which has retarded the study of lymphology.

Mechanisms of nerve reflex control in the blood and lymphatic systems are being ascertained, and also being disclosed is the interrelation between the blood and lymphatic systems for the regulation of blood pressure, blood volume, tissue space edema, etc.

The members of the Society will make efforts to investigate the structure and functions of the lymphatic system and to find out diseases which may be related to the lymphatic system. For these purposes we think it most important to pay attention to devising new experimental methods.

I would like to express, in the name of the Japanese Society of Lymphology, our deep appreciation for the opportunity given to our members to publish their papers in this Journal.

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President
The Japanese Society of Lymphology