



## Editorial



Fig. 1

Welcome to the Journal of Dermatological Science (JDS), which will be using a completely revised and updated format, and a new Chief Editor. I have been appointed as Chief Editor from January 2003 for the next 5 years. JDS is the official journal of the Japanese Society for Investigative Dermatology (JSID) comprising more than 1100 scientifically active members. Our thanks goes to the superb and tireless efforts of our former Chief Editor, Prof. Yoshiki Miyachi; through his efforts, JDS has obtained an impact factor exceeding 1.0.

As you might have noticed from glancing at this new issue, there are several dramatic improvements to the journal. From 2003, JDS has changed its size from B5 to USA4, because as the saying goes “the bigger the better”. Thanks to a kind offer from Elsevier, we can publish free color figures (when the understanding of the figure is improved by color printing) to increase the quality of the articles. In addition, I hope you will appreciate not

only the new cover page, but also our new printing typeface, which I believe, is more attractive and makes it easier to understand the message of the original articles.

Although JDS is a society journal that originated from Japan, the scope of the Journal is more than just regional, rather JDS aims to contribute to the further development of investigative dermatology on a global scale. For this purpose, I have invited two international associate editors, Dr. Akira Takashima (USA) and Dr. Mike Tidman (UK) to join us. Our editorial team, including the scientifically active editorial board members, two associate editors and myself, promise to do our utmost to increase the scientific impact of JDS.

Let me briefly introduce myself. I was born in Tokyo in 1954, graduated from Keio University School of Medicine in 1979, and worked at Keio University until 1999 when I was appointed as Chairman at Hokkaido University, Sapporo. Whilst working at St. Thomas' Hospital in London, UK, between 1997 and 1999, I made many friends from many countries, who are now highly valued assets in my life. Now the JDS office has moved to Sapporo on the northern most island of Japan, a large, sophisticated and cosmopolitan city surrounded by superb natural scenery and where the 1972 Winter Olympic Games were held. If you have any inquiries or comments for the JDS, please do not hesitate to contact us at the JDS office. We, at the JDS office, look forward to receiving your interesting and high-quality research articles in the near future and we hope you enjoy the new format JDS.

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