



日本医科大学  
NIPPON MEDICAL SCHOOL



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## *News Release*

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Nippon Medical School

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Japan Agency for Medical Research and Development (AMED)

- **Announcing the approval of the apolipoprotein A2 isoform index for in vitro diagnostics in Japan**

The C-terminal ends of amino acid sequences of apolipoprotein A2 homodimer consist of alanine (A), threonine (T), and glutamine (Q). The circulating forms of apolipoprotein A2 in the blood are cleaved at the C-terminal ends of the amino acid sequence.

Professor Honda (Nippon Medical School, Tokyo, Japan) and colleagues discovered the aberrant processing of the C-terminal ends of amino acids of circulating apolipoprotein A2 in the blood of patients with pancreatic cancer and individuals at high risk for pancreatic cancer.

Toray Industries, Inc. (Tokyo, Japan) obtained approval for in vitro diagnostics (IVD) for the detection of pancreatic cancer from the Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare of Japan through collaboration with Nippon Medical School and the National Cancer Center (Tokyo, Japan), and with support from the Japan Agency for Medical Research and Development.

In Japan, 44,000 people were diagnosed with pancreatic cancer in 2019 and an estimated 38,000 deaths from pancreatic cancer were reported in 2020. This newly approved IVD for the detection of pancreatic cancer is a blood test. Since the test measures a substance different from existing tumor markers, it is expected to detect pancreatic cancer patients who cannot be detected with existing tumor markers.

Nippon Medical School and the National Cancer Center will continue to cooperate

with all parties concerned to deliver diagnostic products to patients as quickly as possible.

This achievement was made possible through the utilization of results from AMED P-CREATE, AMED P-PROMOTE, and AMED Practical Research for Innovative Cancer Control. The projects of AMED provide research support in collaboration with universities and industry, from drug discovery target identification to clinical research.

### **References**

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