

Keio University International Kampo Medicine Fellowship

Keio University Medical School, Department of Oriental Medicine, announces the availability of fellowships for United States physician medical faculty, or faculty candidates, to study Traditional Japanese Herbal Medicine (Kampo) in Tokyo, Japan. This fellowship represents a unique opportunity to apprentice with master Kampo practitioners in one of Japan's foremost academic medical centers. Up to three fellowships will be awarded each year. The period of time will be one year. The stipend will be provided to supplement other grants or sources of sabbatical funding. Affordable Keio University Medical School housing will be made available.

For further information, please read below and contact Kenji Watanabe, MD, PhD at: toyokeio@sc.itc.keio.ac.jp.

Kampo is traditional Japanese herbal medicine.

Kampo is the unique system of traditional medicine developed in Japan from Chinese origin. The word "Kampo" is a compound of two words: "Kan (Han)", the old name for the Han-Dynasty in China; and "Ho", meaning "medicine" or "way of treatment".

Beginning in the 5th century, Japan began to adopt Chinese medical theory and its multi-herb formulas. Since then, this knowledge has been transformed in the context of Japanese culture and history. In particular reformations in the 16th and 17th centuries set Kampo's development along an evolutionary trajectory that diverged significantly from that of traditional Chinese medicine.

Kampo is Japanese Integrative Medicine.

More than 70 % of Japanese physicians routinely prescribe Kampo medicine.

In Japan, only physicians trained in Western medicine can prescribe Kampo herbal medicines. Since 1972, Kampo medicines have been covered by the Japanese national health care plan. Currently, 148 formulas have been approved for coverage based on documentation of pharmacologic activity, safety, tolerability and historical efficacy. Kampo is practical for both primary and tertiary care including: allergic disorders/atopic disease, menopause/women's health, functional disorders, chronic disease and more. All Japanese medical schools now teach Kampo herbal medicine.

Keio University Medical School is Japan's foremost private medical school.

Keio University was recognized in 2002 by the Japanese government as a "Center of Excellence" in life-sciences. The Keio University Hospital is an 1100 bed facility that sees approximately 5,000 outpatients per day. It is the flagship hospital for a 40 hospital network. At this facility, advanced therapies such as solid organ and bone marrow transplants are routinely performed.

Kampo is integrated into Keio University Medical School.

The Department of Oriental Medicine at Keio University was established in 2001. Its mission is to conduct research, foster education and provide patient care in Kampo medicine. Kenji Watanabe, MD, PhD, FACP, directs the department. He received both his medical training and PhD in Immunology from Keio University His post-doctoral studies were in Genetics at Stanford University. He is a Fellow of the American College of Physicians and fluent in English.

The Department is composed of approximately 6 full-time academic faculty, 10 staff members. There are currently three post-doctoral students and a visiting associate professor from the University of Minnesota Medical School and the Center for Spirituality and Healing, Gregory A. Plotnikoff, MD, MTS, FACP,

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Faculty and fellows participate in the Kampo Medicine Clinic which routinely sees over 1200 patients per month. Both general care clinics as well as specialty clinics focused on atopic disease, women's health and anti-aging exist.

Current departmental research projects include: 1.) Kampo-induced redox (reduction-oxidation) regulation; 2.) Synergistic effects of Kampo formulas using 3-Dimensional HPLC analyses; 3.) Kampo herbal medicine to prevent infections in subjects with esophageal stomach and colon cancer; 4.) Kampo medicine use to alter intestinal immunology; and, 5.) Kampo medicine to prevent complications of diabetes mellitus.