



**TOHOKU UNIVERSITY HOSPITAL**

Department of Surgery

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April 24, 2024

Supporting Letter for TTS Scientific Congress Awards

Applicant: Hiroaki Mitsugashira, MD, PhD.

Affiliation: Tohoku University Hospital, Department of Surgery

Training Program Director: Kazuaki Tokodai, M.D., Ph.D.

Affiliation: Tohoku University; Tohoku University Hospital Organ Transplantation Center, Associate Professor

Dr. Hiroaki Mitsugashira graduated from Tohoku University School of Medicine and obtained his medical license in Japan. He then joined our department after two years as a junior resident, and three-years in general surgeon training program. He has already had a Japanese Board Certified Surgeon, Board Certified Surgeon in Gastroenterology, Board Certified Hepatologist of the Japan Society of Hepatology, and Board Certified Transplant Physician by the Japan Society for Transplantation.

Since joining our department, he has been engaged in clinical research about relations between the outcome of liver transplantation and the condition of the patients in terms of sarcopenia and frail, and in basic research in the field of islet transplantation, especially subcutaneous islet transplantation. His current research theme is “The improvement of efficiency on graft viability and function of islet transplantation, mainly at subcutaneous space.” Promoting islet engraftment is an urgent issue to solve the problem of donor shortage, and his research results are a promising theme that may have a great impact not only on cellular medicine but on regenerative medicine in the future in the case of stem cell-derived beta cell replacement.

Notably, he had presented his research results at many domestic and international conferences and had published many papers. He is expected to be a leader in the research field of cell and organ transplantation not only domestically but also internationally in the future.

His presentation at TTS 2024 focuses on the impact of improving hypoxic conditions on



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graft viability in subcutaneous islet transplantation. I believe his research results are very significant for the future of basic research in the transplantation field.

I would like to nominate him for the TTS Scientific Congress Award for its academic significance.

If you have any queries regarding Dr. Mitsugashira, feel free to contact me at [tsu7ka5so8mi@med.tohoku.ac.jp](mailto:tsu7ka5so8mi@med.tohoku.ac.jp). You can also call me at +81 22 717 7214 in the case of any questions.

Sincerely yours,

Kazuaki Tokodai, MD, PhD.

Organ Transplantation Center

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*Kazuaki Tokodai*