COMMENTARY



Fulminant type 1 diabetes: nationwide effort to elucidate genetics, etiology, and pathogenesis since 2000

Hiroshi Ikegami¹ · Akihisa Imagawa² · Akira Shimada³

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Since the first report on fulminant type 1 diabetes by Imagawa et al. in 2000 [1], Japanese research led by the Committee on Type 1 Diabetes, Japan Diabetes Society, has revealed the disease's genetics, etiology, and pathogenesis. As current chairpersons of the committee, we would like to take this opportunity to thank all the participants

and members actively involved in the nationwide studies orchestrated by the committee. We also thank the Japan Diabetes Society for its continuous support and encouragement. The knowledge presented in this special issue could only be obtained with the shared effort of all these individuals and institutions.

Table 1 Studies on fulminant type 1 diabetes conducted by the Committee on Type 1 Diabetes, Japan Diabetes Society

| Committee chairpersons | Year | Title | Journal |
|---|------|--|--|
| 2000–2007 Makino H | 2003 | Fulminant type 1 diabetes: a nationwide survey in Japan | Diabetes Care 2003; 26:2345–52 |
| | 2005 | Different contribution of class II HLA in fulminant and typical autoimmune type 1 diabetes mellitus | Diabetologia 2005;48:294–300 |
| | 2006 | Clinical and immunogenetic characteristics of fulminant type 1 diabetes associated with pregnancy | J Clin Endocrinol Metab 2006; 91:471-6 |
| 2007–2012 Hanafusa T, Kobayashi T (co-chair) | 2007 | Fulminant type 1 diabetes as a high risk group for diabetic microangiopathy-a nationwide 5-year-study in Japan | Diabetologia 2007; 50:531-7 |
| | 2008 | Uniformity in clinical and HLA-DR status regardless of age and gender within fulminant type 1 diabetes | Diabetes Res Clin Pract 2008; 82:233–7 |
| | 2008 | Nationwide survey to compare the prevalence of transient elevation of liver transaminase during treatment of diabetic ketosis or ketoacidosis in new-onset acute and fulminant type 1 diabetes mellitus | Ann Med 2008; 40:395–400 |
| | 2009 | Differential association of HLA with three subtypes of type 1 diabetes: fulminant, slowly progressive and acute-onset | Diabetologia 2009; 52:2513–21 |
| | 2010 | Serum glycated albumin to haemoglobin A(1C) ratio can distinguish fulminant type 1 diabetes mellitus from type 2 diabetes mellitus | Ann Clin Biochem 2010; 47:313–7 |



[☐] Hiroshi Ikegami ikegami@med.kindai.ac.jp

Department of Endocrinology, Metabolism and Diabetes, Kindai University Faculty of Medicine, 377-2 Ohno-higashi, Osaka-sayama, Osaka 589-8511, Japan

Department of Internal Medicine (I), Osaka Medical College, 2-7 Daigakucho, Takatsuki, Osaka 569-8686, Japan

Department of Endocrinology and Diabetes, Saitama Medical University, Saitama, Japan

Table 1 conutinued

| Committee chairpersons | Year | Title | Journal |
|---|------|--|---|
| 2012–2018 Hanafusa T, Kobayashi T (co-chair) | 2012 | Class II HLA genotype in fulminant type 1 diabetes: A nationwide survey with reference to glutamic acid decarboxylase antibodies | J Diabetes Invest 3:62–69, 2012 |
| | 2012 | High frequency of HLA B62 in fulminant type 1 diabetes with the drug-induced hypersensitivity syndrome | J Clin Endocrinol Metab 2012; 97:E2277-81 |
| | 2012 | Report on the committee of the Japan Diabetes Society on the Research of fulminant and acute-onset type 1 diabetes mellitus: new diagnostic criteria of fulminant type 1 diabe- tes mellitus (2012) | J Diabetes Investig 2012; 3:536–9 |
| | 2013 | The glycated albumin to HbA1c ratio is elevated in patients with fulminant type 1 diabetes mellitus with onset during pregnancy | J Med Invest 2013; 60:41–5 |
| | 2015 | Risk factors for sudden death and cardiac arrest at the onset of fulminant type 1 diabetes mellitus | Diabetol Int 2015;7:281–288 |
| 2018- Ikegami H | 2018 | Diffusion-weighted magnetic resonance imaging in the pancreas of fulminant type 1 diabetes | Diabetol Int 2018; 9:257–265 |
| | 2018 | Characteristics and clinical course of type 1 diabetes mellitus related to anti-programmed cell death-1 therapy | Diabetol Int 2018; 10:58–66 |
| | 2019 | Genome-wide association study confirming a strong effect of HLA and identifying variants in CSAD/lnc-ITGB7-1 on chromosome 12q13.13 associated with susceptibility to fulminant type 1 diabetes | Diabetes. 2019; 68:665–675 |

A prominent trait of fulminant type 1 diabetes is the evident variation in disease incidence among different populations [2]. The majority of patients belong to East Asian populations, while in Europe, only a limited number of cases have ever been reported. The lack of European fulminant type 1 diabetes cases indicates that the disease can only be studied in East Asian populations. In Japan, nationwide studies led by the Committee on Type 1 Diabetes have greatly contributed to the fundamental knowledge of the disease's epidemiology, clinical characteristics, genetics, etiology, and pathogenesis (Table 1) [3-7]. Although a large amount of information on fulminant type 1 diabetes is now available, much remains to be clarified. Thus, the continuation of the Japanese nationwide research effort is essential to establish effective methods for disease prediction, prevention, and intervention. Finally, we would like to ask all the people in the field of diabetes research and the Japan Diabetes Society for their continued support.

Compliance with ethical standards

Conflict of interest Hiroshi Ikegami is the Chairman of the Committee on Type 1 Diabetes, Japan Diabetes Society. Akihisa Imagawa and Akira Shimada are Vice-chairmen of the Committee on Type 1 Diabetes, Japan Diabetes Society. A.S. has received lecture fees from Astellas Pharm Inc., Eli Lilly Japan K.K., Ono pharmaceutical Co., Ltd., Terumo Corporation and Sanofi K.K. A.S. has received research funding from Astellas Pharm inc. and Mitsubishi Tanabe Pharma Cor-

poration. A.S. has received scholarship grants from Astellas Pharm inc., Daiichi Sankyo Co., Ltd., and Kyowa Kirin Co., Ltd., MSD K.K., Novo Nordisk Pharma Ltd. and Ono Pharmaceutical Co., LTD. The other authors declare that they have no financial conflict of interest.

Ethics policy This article does not contain any studies with human or animal subjects performed by any of the authors.

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