From the Editor in Chief

Yuko Kitagawa

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I am very pleased to be able to launch this unique issue of *Gastric Cancer* in which we have compiled 16 review articles on the perioperative management of gastric cancer. The great efforts and achievements made by Dr. Natalie Coburn and her team are highly commended.

The comprehensive review articles in this issue were produced in the process of extensive literature searches undertaken to establish guidelines for the best care of gastric cancer patients in Canada. The team of enthusiastic surgical oncologists conducted extensive and absolutely objective literature searches concerning current issues in gastric cancer without bias toward any expert's experience. The contents of the review articles are truly evidence-based and reliable. Also, Dr. Coburn and her team have invited global leaders in this field to join an expert panel to discuss numerous clinical scenarios in gastric cancer management. This panel included some editorial board members of *Gastric Cancer*: Professor Sung Hoon Noh from Yonsei

University, Korea; Professor Paul Mansfield from the MD Anderson Cancer Center, USA; and Dr. Takeshi Sano from the Cancer Institute Hospital, Japan. These panelists made a significant contribution to this challenging project.

The members of the Editorial Committee of *Gastric Cancer* from the Japanese Gastric Cancer Association also contributed greatly to the review process to strengthen the scientific value of the articles from practical points of view. As Dr. Coburn has mentioned in her foreword, this is a really unique and novel type of international academic collaboration.

As the readers of our journal are well aware, there are considerable differences between the Western and Eastern worlds in the field of gastric cancer management. Although it may not be easy to establish practical global standards in this field, I believe that this special issue will provoke discussion and identify important problems to be solved for the future.

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