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Introduction

THE HOKKAIDO University Picture Archiving and Communication System (HU-PACS) Symposium was held December 14 and 15, 1989 in Sapporo, Japan. About 200 participated.

The symposium was inspired by the first 6-month performance of our HU-PACS as a clinical tool at Hokkaido University Hospital. Also, we were eager to learn about the HU-PACS' performance as it grew to a complete PACS system.

This supplement is arranged in three parts. The first part consists of articles by those who designed and implemented HU-PACS at Hokkaido University Hospital. The next section consists of articles by people who have used HU-PACS in their clinical routines. The final part consists of articles by invited foreign authors who are well known

in the field of PACS research and who are also interested in HU-PACS.

I sincerely hope that the publication of these proceedings represents a significant phase in history and the future of PACS.

Finally, I wish to express my heartfelt gratitude to Dr Roger A. Bauman of Massachusetts General Hospital, Editor-in-Chief of the *Journal of Digital Imaging*. Without his help, these proceedings would never have been published.

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