



Preface for 50th anniversary

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Surgery Today, the official English Journal of Japan Surgical Society, was first published in 1972, as “*The Japanese Journal of Surgery*”. There are many journals published in English in Japan, but *Surgery Today* is the only journal of general surgery. This year is the 50th anniversary of the inception of *Surgery Today* in 1972. On behalf of the members of the Japan Surgical Society, I would like to express gratitude to all who have been involved in its publication, review, and editorial process.

The Japan Surgical Society was founded in 1899, making it one of the oldest medical societies in Japan. In 1900, we established a native language journal named “*Nihon Geka Gakkai Zasshi*”, which is one of the longest running medical journals in Japan. To promote the internationalization of our society, we began publishing the English language journal named “*The Japanese Journal of Surgery*” in 1971 and changed its name to “*Surgery Today*” in 1992. Table 1

lists the names of the editors-in-chief of *Surgery Today* from the date of its inception.

The main purpose of *Surgery Today* is to provide a journal for the publication of high-quality papers documenting recent advances and new developments in all fields of surgery, both clinical and basic research. The journal welcomes original papers, review articles, short communications, and short technical reports (“How to do it”). Vol. 48, published in 2018 contains 148 articles in 1103 pages: 13 review articles, 115 original articles, 7 “how to do it” articles, and 13 other articles. The acceptance rate in 2018 was 17.4%.

Improvement of the impact factor (IF) has always been strong desire. In 2009, the IF exceeded 1.0 for the first time, and the current IF is 2.077. According to InCites Journal Citation Reports, *Surgery Today* is ranked 87th of 203 surgical journals. We will continue to publish excellent papers, which will raise the IF further.

I believe that the ongoing publication of important papers in *Surgery Today* will contribute to social welfare, give the readers broad insights, and facilitate future progress over next 50 years.

Table 1 Editors-in-chief of *Surgery Today* 1992–2019

Year	Name
1970–1986	Kiyoshi Inokuchi
1987–1988	Takao Hattori
1986–1993	Yoshio Mishima
1994–1997	Keizo Sugimachi
1998–1999	Seiki Matsuno
2000–2005	Morito Monden
2006–2007	Masao Tanaka
2008–2011	Yoshihiko Maehara
2012–2014	Yoshiki Sawa
2014–2017	Yuichiro Doki
2017–now	Michiaki Unno

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Legend of photo: Editorial board members (Photographed on August 8, 2019).

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