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## INVITED EDITORIAL

Prostate Cancer

# The International Prostate Forum introduction and history

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**T**he International Prostate Forum (IPF) originally started with three urology departments in Japan, Turkey, and the United States. The forum emphasized discussions and presentations of new knowledge in all areas of prostate diseases with an early emphasis on ultrasound and diagnostics. The meeting has generally run every 2 years and rotated through the three sites with new leaders joining the effort. Over the years, the meeting has enjoyed a diverse locale and points of emphasis. The latter agendas now cover all aspects of the benign prostate disease, prostate cancer screening, prostate cancer diagnosis and staging, and therapies. Table 1 summarizes the dates of the meetings, locations, and chairman.

While most prior meetings have been stand-alone 2-day format meetings, 2014 was a unique year in a partnership with the American Urological Association (AUA). The AUA has graciously added the IPF as a society member and, therefore, handled

**Table 1: History of the IPF**

Location	Year	Chairman
Houston, Texas, USA	1993	Richard Babaian (USA)
Kyoto, Japan	1994	Hiroki Watanabe (Japan)
Istanbul, Turkey	1996	Atif Akdas (Turkey)
Tokyo, Japan	1998	Kiyoki Okada (Japan)
Houston, Texas, USA	2000	Richard Babaian (USA)
Antalya, Turkey	2002	Atif Akdas (Turkey)
Tokyo, Japan	2004	Tadaichi Kitamura (Japan)
Hawaii, USA	2006	Richard Babaian (USA)
Izmir, Turkey	2009	Ziya Kirkali (Turkey)
Kyoto, Japan	2011	Tsuneharu Miki (Japan)
Orlando, Florida, USA	2014	John Davis (USA)
New Orleans, LA, USA	2015	John Davis and Neal Shore (USA)

IPF: international prostate forum

the CME applications and infrastructure. We also partnered with the Asian Journal of Andrology (AJA) as a sponsor and publisher for this special edition from the 2014 IPF.

The 2014 IPF was given the theme “Solving Common Management Dilemmas with New Information” and structured on four key questions that confront practicing experts in prostate cancer: (1) elevated PSA with Negative Biopsy, (2) PSA Detected Prostate Cancer with Questionable Lethal Biology, (3) Optimal Management of Prostate Cancer with Lethal Biology, and (4) Hormone Naïve and Castrate-Resistant Disease: how to Utilize a Growing Library of Options. We had 25 presentations and several posters in this 1-day format at the AUA. Most presenters were urologist, but we

had multidisciplinary representation from medical oncology (Ken Pienta, Christopher Logothetis), endocrinology (Andrew Schally, Nobel Laureate), and pathology (Guliz Barken).

In this special issue of the AJA, selected presenters from the IPF have written an excellent series of review articles that progress through key themes from all four sessions of the meeting. Short commentaries are attached to provide additional context and future direction. I hope you value this collection of state-of-the-art reviews and can join us for a future IPF in Turkey in 2016 hosted by Derya Balbay or in Japan in 2018. We would like to acknowledge all speakers from the 2014 IPF, our collaborators at the AUA (especially Gopal Badlani, Secretary), the AJA, and the over 400 meeting attendees from all around the globe.

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