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INVITED EDITORIAL

Prostate Cancer

The 14th International Prostate Forum

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The International Prostate Forum (IPF) originally started with three urology departments in Japan, Turkey, and the United States. The forum focused on talks and presentations with discussions covering almost all areas of prostatic diseases, including both benign prostatic conditions and prostate cancer, their diagnosis, imaging, multidisciplinary treatment, and preventive care. The meeting has been organized every 2 years in the United States, Japan, and Turkey with new colleagues joining the team.¹ In the recent years, the IPF meetings have attracted further attention and were organized with the American Urological Association congress, the Japanese Urological Association of Urology congress, and the Turkish Association of Urology congress. Table 1 summarizes the dates of the meetings, locations, and chairmen.

The 14th International Prostate Forum was held on October 7, 2016, in conjunction with the 25th Turkish Urological Association congress, which was held between October 6 and 9, 2016, in Turkish Republic of Northern Cyprus. The organization committee of the IPF included Atif Akdas (Turkey), Ziya Kirkali (USA), Derya Balbay (Turkey), and Erdem Canda (Turkey). There were six sessions on benign prostatic hyperplasia (BPH) and chronic prostatitis, screening and imaging for prostate cancer, molecular markers and pathology of prostate cancer, localized prostate cancer, metastatic prostate cancer, and challenging cases in prostate cancer.

Prominent scientists from all around the world including Atif Akdas, Ziya

Table 1: History of International Prostate Forum (modified from reference 1)

Location	Date and year	Chariman
Houston, TX, USA	May 12–13, 1993	Richard Babaian (USA)
Kyoto, Japan	July 14–15, 1994	Hiroki Watanabe (Japan)
Istanbul, Turkey	June 15–16, 1996	Atif Akdas (Turkey)
Tokyo, Japan	July 3–4, 1998	Kiyoki Okada (Japan)
Houston, TX, USA	April 27–29, 2000	Richard Babaian (USA)
Antalya, Turkey	October 4–5, 2002	Atif Akdas (Turkey)
Tokyo, Japan	June 3–4, 2004	Tadaichi Kitamura (Japan)
Hawaii, USA	March 4–5, 2006	Richard Babaian (USA)
Izmir, Turkey	October 8–10, 2009	Ziya Kirkali (Turkey)
Kyoto, Japan	November 18–19, 2011	Tsuneharu Miki (Japan)
Orlando, FL, USA	May 18, 2014	John Davis (USA)
New Orleans, LA, USA	May 20, 2015	John Davis and Neal Shore (USA)
San Diego, CA, USA	May 8, 2016	John Davis (USA)
Turkish Republic of Northern Cyprus	October 7, 2016	Derya Balbay (Turkey)
Boston, MA, USA	May 14, 2017	John Davis (USA)
San Francisco, CA, USA	May 20, 2018	John Davis (USA)
Tokyo, Japan	October 13, 2018	Satoru Takahashi (Japan)

Kirkali, Christopher Chapple, Badar Mian, Peter Albers, Omer Kucuk, Paolo Gontero, Rodolfo Montironi, Arnulf Stenzl, Derya Tilki, John Davis, Hendrick von Poppel, and Michel Bolla were invited.

The topics discussed during this meeting were NIH perspective on benign prostatic disease, innovations in medical and surgical treatment of BPH, prostate biopsy, prebiopsy imaging in prostate cancer, prevention and early detection of prostate cancer, new molecular markers in prostate cancer, genomic classifiers in prostate cancer, Gleason scoring to prognostic grade grouping, circulating tumor cells and their role in prostate cancer, update on histopathological evaluation of lymphadenectomy specimens from prostate cancer patients, androgen deprivation therapy in localized prostate cancer, radical prostatectomy in patients older than 75 years, focal treatment in prostate cancer, role of open radical prostatectomy, continence increasing measures at radical prostatectomy,

surgery for high-risk prostate cancer, role of chemotherapy in advanced prostate cancer, how to handle surgical margin positivity, timing of antiandrogens in metastatic prostate cancer, current concepts of treatment of bone metastasis in prostate cancer, mechanisms and treatment of castration resistance in prostate cancer, multimodal treatment in prostate cancer, immunotherapy in prostate cancer, and who should treat castration-resistant prostate cancer: urologist or medical oncologist?

The last session was on challenging cases in prostate cancer that was chaired by Tarik Esen. The panelists were Arnulf Stenzl, Badar Mian, Hendrik van Poppel, John Davis, Omer Kucuk, and Paolo Gontero.

In this special issue of the *Asian Journal of Andrology*, a total of seven articles selected from topics discussed at the 14th International Prostate Forum are being published.

This meeting attracted interest of many colleagues that constituted an international

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platform where challenging subjects were presented and discussed with the participation of worldwide known faculty. This platform is expected to carry out multicenter international studies that would be a one step forward to increase further collaboration between the institutions and

also expand to include additional centers as participants of future International Prostate Forums.

REFERENCE

- 1 Davis JW, Miki T, Akdas A, Watanabe H, Kirkali Z, *et al.* The international prostate forum introduction and history. *Asian J Androl* 2015; 17: 863.

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