

# PREFACE

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Thirteen years have passed in this year of 2005, since the National Cancer Center Hospital East (NCCHE) was opened in the city of Kashiwa on July 1, 1992. During the past years, our clinical activities have been remarkably increased. In April 1994, The National Cancer Center Research Institute East (NCCRIE) was opened at the same Campus. Many joint projects have been well done between the two in the fields of surgical pathology, molecular biology, developmental therapeutics, psycho-oncology, and clinical epidemiology. To promote the collaboration more efficiently, and to achieve the clinical translation of basic research works more successfully, NCCRIE was merged into NCCHE with its reorganization to be the "Research Center for Innovative Oncology" (RCIO) in October 1st, 2005.

In April 1997, NCCHE became the second hospital in the world to have proton therapy equipment available for patients. After long investigation at inquiry commission, it was finally approved to be applicable for the treatment of solid tumors in the end of February 2000 and about 400 patients have been well treated since that time. Positron emission tomography (PET) which came to be in operation in January 2001, disclosed its diagnostic utilities for staging and screening of cancerous lesions, and more than thousands of patients have being examined during a year. In 2005, we have equipped two PET-CT scanners, which we newly developed with an industrial company. On the other hand, the full induction of hospital information system named MIRACLE (Medical Information system for Research, Administration and Clinical Expertise) into NCCHE in the beginning of 2002 enables to unify the medical information derived from NCCH and NCCHE, and to contribute to enforce the cooperation of the two hospitals.

The NCCHE has 425 beds and consists of 9 clinical divisions described on the following pages. As of January 1, 2006, the hospital staff included 94 physicians including 21 part-timers, 10 pharmacists, 45 technicians including 7 part-timers, 257 nurses including 4 part-timers and 53 residents. During 2005, we took care of 147,362 outpatients (4% increase of that in 2004) including 7,552 newcomers and 7,815 inpatients including 2,371 cases who underwent surgery under general anesthesia. The number of patients treated are still increasing year by year, and except PCU, around 460 to 520 patients are always in the waiting list for admission, despite few increases in the number of staff members and their great effort for shortening the hospital stay of inpatients. Nevertheless, all employees are trying their best to respond to the expanding demands of treating this increasing number of patients. Having overcome many difficulties and challenges since the initial opening of the hospital, we are now confident of an integrated cancer center hospital. Actually, quite a lot of papers listed on the following pages were published in various international journals in 2005, showing that our works here are of international importance.

I would like to express my sincere appreciation for the support that we have received from the Ministry of Health, Labor and Welfare, other governmental organizations, private organizations, individuals and the Foundation for the Promotion of Cancer Research. In addition, I am grateful for the diligence of my colleagues in the hospital, especially Dr. Nagahiro Saijo (Deputy Director), Ms. Naoko Tamura, and Ms. Satomi Kajjima who have devoted their efforts and talent to publishing this report.

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Shigeaki Yoshida, M.D.

Director, National Cancer Center Hospital East