

Ayato Takada, D.V.M., Ph.D.

Director, Hokkaido University International Institute for Zoonosis Control

Professor, Division of Global Epidemiology

Dr. Ayato Takada is a Japanese virologist specializing in emerging zoonotic diseases, particularly filoviruses such as Ebola and Marburg viruses. Born in Tokyo on December 16, 1968, Dr. Takada earned his B.S. in Veterinary Medicine from Hokkaido University in 1993, followed by his D.V.M. and Ph.D. in Veterinary Science (1996) from the same institution.

His scientific journey began with a research fellowship from the Japan Society for the Promotion of Science, followed by a postdoctoral appointment at St. Jude Children's Research Hospital in Memphis, Tennessee. Upon returning to Japan, he held academic positions at Hokkaido University and the University of Tokyo before being appointed Professor at Hokkaido University's Research Center for Zoonosis Control (now International Institute for Zoonosis Control) in 2005. In 2023, he became the Director of the Institute, where he continues to lead global efforts in zoonotic disease control and research.

Dr. Takada has engaged in numerous international collaborations, including roles as a visiting scientist at the Canadian Science Centre for Human and Animal Health in Winnipeg and as a special volunteer at the Rocky Mountain Laboratories (NIAID, NIH) in Montana. Since 2007, he has also served as a visiting professor at the University of Zambia, contributing to capacity-building efforts in Africa. He also served as the Chief Advisor for a Science and Technology Research Partnership for Sustainable Development (SATREPS) project focusing on Zambia and the Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC), where he played a leading role in international joint research and capacity building.

He is an active member of several professional societies, including the Japanese Society of Veterinary Science, the Society of Japanese Virologists, and the American Society for Microbiology. His editorial contributions span across a wide range of journals, including *Archives of Virology*, *Scientific Reports*, *PLoS Neglected Tropical Diseases*, and *Viruses*.

Dr. Takada's work has earned multiple accolades, such as the Sugiura Memorial Incentive Award from the Japanese Society for Virology (2005) and the Hokkaido University President's Award for Outstanding Research (2014, 2015, 2016, and 2021).

Publication

Original Articles

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