

# Clinical Observation Report

## JUA Asian Scholarship Program 2025

**Training Site:** Yokohama City University Hospital and Yokohama City University Medical Center.

**Mentor:** Professor Kazuhide Makiyama

### 1. Clinical Training Experience

I would like to express my sincere gratitude to the Japanese Urological Association (JUA) for awarding me the JUA Asian Scholarship 2025. This unique opportunity allowed me to observe advanced robotic and urologic oncology surgeries in Japan and to learn from outstanding mentors and colleagues at Yokohama City University Hospital and Yokohama City University Medical Center. I feel extremely fortunate to have been assigned by the JUA to Yokohama City University Hospital under the supervision of Professor Makiyama. In Vietnam, I have a great interest in partial nephrectomy, and it was a tremendous honor to learn from one of the most renowned surgeons in Japan for this field. I was deeply impressed by Professor Makiyama's friendliness in communication, meticulous surgical technique, and decisiveness in complex situations.

During my stay, I observed and studied various urologic oncology procedures, including **RARP**, **RARP-NS**, **RARP-LD**, **RARC-ICUD**, **RAPN**, and **RAPP**, with detailed discussions on preoperative management and intraoperative strategies.

- **RARP, RARP-NS:** I gained a deeper understanding of trocar placement and ergonomics, dissection planes, nerve-sparing technique, and precise vesicourethral anastomosis.
- **RAPN:** With the help of 3D tumor reconstruction software and preoperative RENAL score evaluation, I was taught how to approach, dissect, and resect renal tumors safely and effectively.
- **RAPP:** Before this program, I performed ureteral reconstruction laparoscopically, but after observing Professor Makiyama's careful dissection and suturing, I realized that robotic ureteroplasty provides a truly superior anastomosis.
- **RARC-ICUD:** I learned trocar placement for optimal ergonomics, extended pelvic lymph node dissection, and intracorporeal urinary diversion with robotic approach.

In addition to clinical observation, Professor Makiyama always encouraged trainees to analyze preoperative imaging carefully and to discuss intra- and postoperative issues in depth.



*(Photo with Professor Makiyama and colleagues at the eJUA Meeting – Takasaki City)*

## **2. Participation in Scientific Meetings and Educational Activities**

Besides the department's seminars and online case discussions, Professor Makiyama kindly gave me opportunities to attend various scientific meetings in Japan, such as:

- Case presentation sessions for Young Urologists,
- Urology seminars in Yokohama,
- **The Japanese Society of Urologic Oncology (JSUO) Annual Meeting,**
- **The Eastern Section of the Japanese Urological Association Annual Meeting,**
- **The Japanese Society of Endourology and Robotics Annual Congress.**



*(Photo with professors during the advanced RAPN session at the JSER Annual Meeting – Tokyo 2025)*

Through these meetings, I learned not only new academic knowledge but also the professionalism in conference organization, the high level of discussion among presenters and moderators, and the depth of each scientific topic. I also gained valuable experience in designing academic sessions and building new relationships with Japanese colleagues.

### **3. Working and Living in a Supportive Environment**

During my first week in Japan, colleagues often asked if I was getting used to Japanese food or missed my home country. These simple acts made me feel that the department was like a big family. We worked together, shared lunch, discussed cases, and even enjoyed social gatherings outside the hospital. Some colleagues guided me to visit famous places and taste local specialties.

Beyond Professor Makiyama's guidance, my Japanese colleagues were always kind and generous in teaching me new techniques and clinical knowledge that I had never encountered before. Their warmth and teamwork created a friendly and inspiring environment - like being part of a large family.



*(Photo with Professor Makiyama and colleagues at the Department of Urology, 8th Floor, Yokohama City University Hospital – around 6:00 p.m)*

#### **4. Professionalism in Patient Care and Communication**

I observed clinical practice in outpatient clinics, multidisciplinary tumor board meetings, and daily ward rounds. I learned to perform comprehensive patient assessments and to select balanced, individualized treatment strategies — what Professor Makiyama often called the “well-balanced treatment approach”.

I was also deeply impressed by the compassionate communication between staff and patients, as well as among medical team members. This professional attitude reflects the excellence of Japanese medical culture and is something I wish to apply and share in my hospital in Vietnam.

#### **5. Sincere Acknowledgment**

I found many similarities between Japanese and Vietnamese cultures, especially in the medical field - respect, harmony, and dedication. This environment made it easy for me to learn not only surgical skills but also life values.

I would like to express my heartfelt appreciation to the Japanese Urological Association (JUA) for providing me with this invaluable opportunity for personal and professional growth. My sincere gratitude also goes to Professor Kazuhide Makiyama for his outstanding mentorship, and to all colleagues, nurses, and secretaries at YCU for their generous support throughout my stay.

I have identified several areas for continuous improvement in my clinical and academic growth and will continue learning, connecting, and sharing my knowledge with others in Vietnam.

My heartfelt thanks also go to all colleagues, secretaries, and nurses at YCU - especially **Dr. Tomoyuki Tatenuma** (YCU Hospital) and **Dr. Daiki Ueno** (YCU Medical Center) - for their constant support and kindness.



*(Photo with Professor Kazuhide Makiyama at the Japanese Society of Urologic Oncology (JSOU) Annual Meeting)*

Finally, I would like to express my deepest gratitude to my mentor, **Professor Kazuhide Makiyama**, a great teacher who has inspired me profoundly — not only through surgical mastery but also through his integrity and humanity.

**Submitted by:**  
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**JUA Asian Scholarship 2025**