

TAKASHI UKAI, MD, PhD



Dr. Takashi Ukai graduated from Osaka University Medical School on March 1963, and trained as a general surgeon in several hospitals including Osaka University Hospital from 1964 to 1972. He was assigned to Chief of the newly established Emergency and Critical Care Unit of Kansai Rosai Hospital in June 1972, where he was the head of Emergency Department and worked as one of the pioneers of modern emergency medicine in Japan. He initiated the discussion of establishing the Japan Poison Information Center, which was later founded in 1986. After Kansai Rosai Hospital, he also worked as Chief of Emergency Department of Senri Critical Care Medical Center and Osaka City General Hospital. He was invited to be the Director of Hyogo Prefectural Nishinomiya Hospital in 1998, later retiring from that position in 2003.

In 1980, he voluntarily joined to Japan Medical Team for Cambodian Refugees and worked in refugee camps in Thai-Cambodia border for six months, where he developed his interest on International Medical Cooperation and Disaster Medicine. After returning home, he took leadership for the establishment of Japan Medical Team for Disaster Relief (JMTDR) and was assigned to Ethiopia in 1984 for the relief work of famine affected IDPs in the first dispatch team of JMTDR. Since then, he was dispatched several times as the leader of JMTDR to many countries after disasters. He established a NGO Humanitarian Medical Assistance (HuMA) with his colleagues in 2002. He has long been the editorial board member of *Prehospital and Disaster Medicine* and was former Editor-in-Chief of the *Japanese Journal of Disaster Medicine*.

Dr. Ukai is currently a Senior Consultant at the Hyogo Emergency Medical Center, Director Emeritus of the Hyogo Prefectural Nishinomiya Hospital, and President of HuMA.