

Department of Public Health

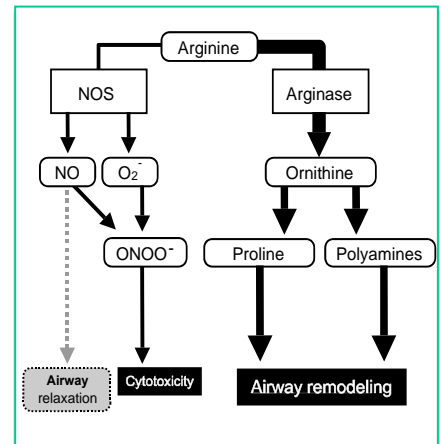
Public health is based on the concept of preventive medicine. Our goals are the prevention of diseases and health promotion as well as the elucidation of the mechanisms of diseases, by collectively assessing the evidence from biological study, such as animal experiment and cell culture, and epidemiological study.

Our interests:

Preventive medicine

- Evaluation of mechanism and development of preventive and therapeutic approach for asthma, other respiratory diseases, and lifestyle-related diseases
- Risk assessment of lifestyle-related diseases using a new inflammatory biomarker, arginase

We have examined the pathophysiology of chronic and low level inflammation, such as asthma, other respiratory diseases and lifestyle-related diseases, in terms of the nitric oxide (NO) and oxidative stress, especially arginase. Increased expression of arginase leads to the decreased production of NO by consuming the L-arginine, which may contribute to the pathological condition of these diseases. Thus, we are investigating the availability of arginase as a preventive and therapeutic target and a biomarker for early diagnosis.



Environmental health

- Particulate matter (PM_{2.5}) and diseases

We have for the first time demonstrated that some proteins in ambient PM could play an important role for an increase and airway hyperresponsiveness and airway inflammation in mice. Now, we are studying on the identification of causative substance and the evaluation of mechanism for the occurrence of health damage induced by PM.

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