



Japanese Society of Neutron Capture Therapy

August 4, 2016

Dear Colleagues,

Dr. Yutaka Mishima, Professor Emeritus at Kobe University, 87, passed away on the morning of August 3rd, 2016. Dr. Mishima made an enormous contribution to Boron Neutron Capture Therapy (BNCT). In 1987 he succeeded in being the first in the world to treat patients presenting with malignant Melanoma by applying BNCT with BPA, an amino acid derivative. Subsequently, he devoted himself to developing ¹⁸F-BPA to analyze Positron Emission Tomography (PET) use. With the development of ¹⁸F-BPA, it emerged that BPA could be used for not only melanoma, but also for glioma and head and neck cancers. As we are all aware, today's successful application of BNCT to different cancers owes much to his BNCT research.



Dr. Yutaka Mishima

In Japan, the phase II clinical trials with accelerator-based BNCT installed in hospitals started targeting glioma and head and neck cancers in February 2016. Without Dr. Mishima's devotion and successes, we could not have come this far.

We would like to pay our profound respect to Dr. Mishima and his achievements, and offer my deepest sympathy to his family.

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President of JSNCT