

**U.S.-Japan Cooperative Medical Sciences Program (USJCMSP)**  
**26<sup>th</sup> International Conference on Emerging Infectious Diseases (EID) in the Pacific Rim**  
**June 23-26, 2026**  
**Venue: Monash University Campus**  
**Sunway City, Malaysia**

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MEETING DESCRIPTION

The focus of this conference is on infectious diseases of importance in the Asia-Pacific region. The objectives of this conference are to share current research findings and foster existing and potential international research collaborations that engage investigators and institutions in the Asia-Pacific region and the United States.

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Meeting Theme: Animal-Human-Environment Interface: Opportunities and Challenges to Eradicate and Cure Infectious Diseases

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**Plenary Day 1**  
**Tuesday, June 23, 2026**

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| 8:00-9:00   | <b>Registration</b>   |
| 9:00-9:20   | <b>Opening Remarks</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Representative from Malaysia Government (TBC)</li><li>• Representative from Japan Embassy (TBC)</li><li>• Representative from U.S. Embassy (TBC)</li><li>• Prof. Emeritus Dato' Dr. Adeeba Kamarulzaman, Pro Vice-Chancellor, Monash University</li><li>• Prof. Datuk Dr. Arshil Moideen, Brigadier General (R), Monash University Malaysia</li><li>• Prof. Hiroshi Kiyono, Japan USJCMSP Chair</li><li>• Prof. Richard Kuhn, U.S. USJCMSP Chair</li></ul> |
| 9:20-9:50   | <b>Shimao-Takeda Lectureship: Host-microbiota interaction in inflammatory bowel diseases</b><br><b>Kiyoshi Takeda</b> , The University of Osaka, Japan  |
| 9:50-9:55   | Q&A   |
| 9:55-10:25  | <b>La Montagne-Heilman Lectureship</b><br><b>Victor DiRita</b> , Michigan State University, United States   |
| 10:25-10:30 | Q&A   |
| 10:30-11:00 | <b>Keynote Presentation from Malaysia</b><br><b>Diana Hansen</b> , Monash University, Australia (TBC)   |
| 11:00-11:05 | Q&A   |
| 11:05-11:25 | <b>Break</b>  |
| 11:25-12:10 | <b>Flash Talks</b> (~10 Flash Talks from Poster Abstracts, 2 minutes each)  |

12:10-13:10 **Poster Session 1**

12:30-13:30 **Lunch Break**

### **SESSION 1: Antimicrobial Resistance (AMR): Challenges in Control**

Moderators: **Jeffrey N. Weiser**, NYU Langone Health, United States; **Yukihiro Akeda**, Japan Institute for Health Security, Japan

Rapporteur: **Xin-Xing Gu**, NIAID, United States

13:30-13:50 Genomic Wastewater Surveillance (Environmental dissemination of antibiotics and resistance genes)  
**Ryota Gomi**, University of Tokyo, Japan

13:50-13:55 Q&A

13:55-14:15 Unintended Consequences of Decolonization Strategies for *Staphylococcus aureus*  
**Bo Shopsisin**, NYU Langone Health, United States

14:15-14:20 Q&A

14:20-14:40 From Leishmanization to a Safe Live-Attenuated Vaccine: The *LmCen 7*<sup>-</sup> Platform  
**Shinjiro Hamano**, Nagasaki University, Japan

14:40-14:45 Q&A

14:45-15:05 Microbial Metabolism In A Changing World: Environmental Resilience and Emerging Pathogens  
**Chris Greening**, Monash University, Australia (TBC)

15:05-15:10 Q&A

15:10-15:30 **Break**

### **SESSION 2: Zoonotic Diseases**

Moderators: **Name**, Institution, Country and **Name**, Institution, Country

Rapporteurs: **Susana Mendez**, NIAID, United States and **Name**, Institution, Country

15:30-15:50 Epidemiology of *Plasmodium knowlesi*  
**Kamruddin Ahmed**, Universiti Malaysia Sabah, Sabah, Malaysia (TBC)

15:50-15:55 Q&A

15:55-16:15 Bovine Tuberculosis  
**Yasuhiko Suzuki**, Hokkaido University, Japan

16:15-16:20 Q&A

- 16:20-16:40 Control of *Salmonella* Virulence Through Interspecies Signaling  
**Craig Altier**, Cornell University, United States
- 16:40-16:45 Q&A
- 16:45-17:05 Clinical and Public-Health Perspective on Emerging Infectious Diseases in Malaysia and Borneo  
**Giri Shan Rajahram**, Queen Elizabeth Hospital Kota Kinabalu, Sabah, Malaysia (TBC)
- 17:05-17:10 Q&A

## Plenary Day 2

### Wednesday, June 24, 2026

#### SESSION 3: Microbiome and Infectious Diseases

Moderators: **Miki Nagao**, Kyoto University, Japan and **Name**, Institution, Country  
Rapporteur: **Amir Zeituni**, NIAID, United States

- 8:30-9:00 Registration
- 9:00-9:05 Opening Remarks
- 9:05-9:25 The Vaginal Microbiome, Bacterial Vaginosis, and STIs  
**David Fredricks**, Fred Hutch Cancer Center, United States
- 9:25-9:30 Q&A
- 9:30-9:50 Infection Risk Reservoirs of the Microbiome: Tales of Aging and Skin Disease  
**Julia Oh**, Jackson Laboratory, United States
- 9:50-9:55 Q&A
- 9:55-10:15 Microbiota in Immunity and Inflammation  
**Kosuke Fujimoto**, The University of Osaka, Japan
- 10:15-10:20 Q&A
- 10:20-10:40 **TBC**  
**Sasheela Ponnampalavanar**, University of Malaya (TBC)
- 10:40-10:45 Q&A
- 10:45-11:05 Tobacco, Oral Microbiome and Cancer  
**Christian Abnet**, National Cancer Institute (NCI), United States
- 11:05-11:10 Q&A
- 11:10-11:30 **Break**

#### **SESSION 4: Novel Models in Drug Development**

Moderators: **Sohkichi Matsumoto**, Niigata University, Japan and **Name**, Institution, Country

Rapporteur: **Name**, Institution, Country

- 11:30-11:50 Elucidating the Molecular Mechanisms of Malaria Infection and Challenges in Vaccine Development  
**Tomoko Ishino**, Institute of Science Tokyo, Japan
- 11:50-11:55 Q&A
- 11:55-12:15 AI and Clinical Microbiology: Accelerating AMR Discovery and Precision Care  
**Anton Peleg**, Monash University, Australia (TBC)
- 12:15-12:20 Q&A
- 12:20-12:40 AI and Combating Infectious Diseases  
**Masateru Taniguchi**, The University of Osaka, Japan
- 12:40-12:45 Q&A
- 12:45-13:05 Drug Discovery and Development Approaches Using Computational Models  
**Rada Savic**, University of California, San Francisco, United States
- 13:05-13:10 Q&A
- 13:10-14:10 **Poster Session 2**
- 13:30-14:30 **Lunch**

#### **SESSION 5: Translational and Clinical Aspects of Bacteriology and Parasitology**

Moderators: **Edward T. Ryan**, Harvard T.H. Chan School of Public Health, United States and **Shigeyuki Kano**, Japan Institute for Health Security, Japan

Rapporteur: **Dalana Johnson**, NCI, United States

- 14:30-14:50 Novel Ways to Identify New Antibiotics and Targets for Highly Resistant ARI Pathogens  
**Deborah Hung**, Broad Institute, United States
- 14:50-14:55 Q&A
- 14:55-15:15 Nasal TB Vaccine  
**Norazmi bin Mohd Nor**, Universiti Sains Malaysia, Malaysia (TBC)
- 15:15-15:20 Q&A
- 15:20-15:40 Clinical Utility of the XN-31 Automated Hematology Analyzer for the Diagnosis and the Evaluation of Treatment Efficacy in Imported Malaria in Japan  
**Kanako Komaki-Yasuda**, Japan Institute for Health Security, Japan
- 15:40-15:45 Q&A

- 15:45-16:05 Countermeasures against Cholera  
**John Clemens**, IVI, South Korea
- 16:05-16:10 Q&A
- 16:10-16:30 **Day 2 Close/Break**
- 16:30-18:00 **Joint Committee Meeting (Closed)** (including Discussion of Outstanding Poster Awards)

**Panel Day 1**  
**Thursday, June 25, 2026**

- 8:30-9:00 **Registration**
- 9:00-9:25 **Outstanding Poster Award Announcement**
- 9:25-9:30 **PLENARY CLOSING REMARKS**

**Concurrent USJCMSP Panel Meetings**

- 9:30-12:00 **Concurrent Panel Meetings**
- 12:00-13:00 **Staggered Lunch Break**
- 13:00-18:00 **Concurrent Panel Meetings**

**Panel Day 2**  
**Friday, June 26, 2026**

**Concurrent USJCMSP Panel Meetings**

- 9:00-9:30 **Registration**
- 9:30-12:00 **Concurrent Panel Meetings**
- 12:00-13:00 **Staggered Lunch Break**
- 13:00-18:00 **Concurrent Panel Meetings**

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