

**OUTLINE OF SUBJECT III:  
ISOLATION OF HUMAN T-LYMPHOTROPIC VIRUS TYPE-I  
AND ITS SEROEPIDEMIOLOGICAL STUDIES**

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Team III consisted of one group with two researchers. Their research programs in Papua New Guinea were Seroepidemiological Study on anti-Adult T-cell Leukemia/Lymphoma associated antigen Antibodies (Prof. S. TERASHI, Kagoshima University) and Isolation and Characterization of Human T-Lymphotropic Virus Type-I (Dr. T. ISHIDA, former Research Associate of Primate Research Institute, Kyoto University).

It is well known that the Adult T-cell Leukemia/Lymphoma (ATL) is caused by one of human oncogenic retroviruses named Adult T-Lymphotropic Virus Type-I (HTLV-I).

The patient of ATL and HTLV-I infected many healthy carrier were observed with high incidence among persons in HTLV-I endemic areas in the world. The initial seroepidemiological studies of HTLV-I demonstrated viral endemic areas such as southwestern regions in Japan, Caribbean basin, Africa etc.

In Oceania, Papua New Guinea was thought to be endemic area for HTLV-I by survey of Professor S. TERASHI with colleagues of Medical Doctors from Kagoshima University and the University of Papua New Guinea.

Seroepidemiological study on ATL in no human sera was also continued and at the same time, isolative and characteristic studies for HTLV-I using human peripheral blood lymphocyte were carried out for samples from ANGAU Memorial Hospital (Lae) and Dr. T. TALONU Medical Laboratory in Port Moresby of Papua New Guinea in 1989.