

Profile of Ken Okumura, M.D., Ph.D.

Prof. Ken Okumura was graduated from Kumamoto University, Japan, in 1976, and learned cardiac electrophysiology at University of Alabama at Birmingham, USA, from 1983 to 1985. He became a Professor of Medicine at Hirosaki University, Japan, in 1996, serving as a Chief of Cardiology, and moved to Saiseikai Kumamoto Hospital, Japan, in 2016. He served as a President of the Japanese Heart Rhythm Society from 2011 to 2017. He has published more than 500 papers in peer-reviewed journals including New England Journal of Medicine, Circulation, JACC and JAMA Cardiol. He is now involved in catheter ablation of atrial fibrillation, outpatient care, and guidance and training of young physicians in Japan.

CURRICULUM VITAE (Ken Okumura, October, 2024)

Name: Ken Okumura (Home address: Kumamoto City, Japan)

Birth date: December 17, 1951; Birth Place: Kumamoto City, Japan

Current Position:

Chief Technical Advisor, Advanced Arrhythmia Therapeutic Branch,
Division of Cardiology, Saiseikai Kumamoto Hospital, Kumamoto, Japan

DEGREES & TRAINING:

1970-1976	M.D., Kumamoto University School of Medicine
1976-1979	Intern and Resident in Medicine, Kumamoto University Hospital
1979-1983	Ph.D., Graduate School of Medicine, Kumamoto University
1983-1985	Research Fellow, University of Alabama at Birmingham, Alabama, USA

STAFF POSITIONS:

1985-1992	Assistant Professor in Cardiology, Kumamoto University Graduate School of Medicine, Japan
1992-1996	Associate Professor in Cardiology, Kumamoto University Graduate School of Medicine, Japan
1996 to 2016	Professor in Cardiology, Pulmonary Medicine and Nephrology, Hirosaki University Graduate School of Medicine, Japan
2006 to 2012	Vice-dean, Hirosaki University Graduate School of Medicine, Japan
2016 to present	Chief Technical Advisor, Saiseikai Kumamoto Hospital, Kumamoto, Japan, Professor emeritus, Hirosaki University Graduate School of Medicine, Japan

HONORS:

1985 Young Investigator Award (North American Society of Pacing and Electrophysiology)

SOCIETIES AND APPOINTMENTS:

1993 to 1998 Council, Japanese Society of Cardiac Pacing and Electrophysiology
1999 to 2011 Council and Director, Japanese Heart Rhythm Society (JHRS)
2011 to 2016 President, Japanese Heart Rhythm Society (JHRS)
2017 to present Honorary Member, Japanese Heart Rhythm Society (JHRS)
1993 to 1999 Council, Japanese Society of Electrocardiology (JSE)
2000 to 2015 Council and Director, Japanese Society of Electrocardiology (JSE)
1994 to 2017 Council, Japanese Circulation Society (JCS)
2006 to 2008 Council and Director, Japanese Circulation Society (JCS)
2017 to present Honorary Member, Japanese Circulation Society (JCS)

EDITORIAL BOARD : (to present)

Journal of Cardiovascular Electrophysiology (Wiley)

Heart Rhythm Journal (Heart Rhythm Society, HRS)

Journal of American College of Cardiology: Clinical Electrophysiology

Journal of Invasive Cardiovascular Electrophysiology (Springer)

Heart and Vessels (Springer)

Publication list

1. Okumura K, Horio Y, Tokuomi H. Effect of lidocaine on conduction within normal and acutely ischemic ventricular myocardium of dogs. Arch intern Pharmacodyn Ther 1982;256:269-282.
2. Horio Y, Okumura K, Nishi K, Tokuomi H. Electrophysiological characteristics of ischemic cardiac cells in hypoxic and hyperkalemic conditions. Jpn Circ J 1982;46:980-993.
3. Okumura K, Horio Y, Matsuyama K, Araki S. Alterations in electrophysiological properties during canine myocardial ischemia. Jpn Circ J 1983;47:661-670.
4. Horio Y, Matsuyama K, Morikami Y, Rokutanda M, Hirata A, Okumura K, Takaoka K, Uchida H, Kugiyama K, Araki S. Blocking effect of verapamil on conduction over a catecholamine-sensitive bypass tract in exercise-induced Wolff-Parkinson-white syndrome. J Am Coll Cardiol 1984;4:186-191.

5. Horio Y, Matsuyama K, Rokutanda M, Hirata A, Okumura K, Takaoka K, Uchida H, Ito H, Kugiyama K, Morikami Y, Araki S. Electrophysiologic effects of atropine and isoproterenol on the cardiac conduction system in familial amyloid polyneuropathy. *Jpn Circ J* 1984;48:474-483.
6. Okumura K, Henthorn RW, Epstein AE, Plumb VJ, Waldo AL. Further observations on transient entrainment. Importance of pacing site and properties of the components of the reentry circuit. *Circulation* 1985;72:1293-1307.
7. Matsuyama K, Horio Y, Uchida H, Rokutanda M, Okumura K, Takaoka K, Imoto N, Kimura Y, Araki S, Yasue H. Recurrent ectopic junctional tachycardia in Ebstein's anomaly. *Jpn Circ J* 1985;49:456-461.
8. Okumura K, Henthorn RW, Epstein AE, Plumb VJ, Waldo AL. 'Incessant' atrioventricular (AV) reciprocating tachycardia utilizing a left lateral AV bypass pathway with a long retrograde conduction time. *PACE* 1986;9:332-342.
9. Page PL, Plumb VJ, Okumura K, Waldo AL. A new animal model of atrial flutter. *J Am Coll Cardiol* 1986;8:872-879.
10. Matsuyama K, Okumura K, Horio Y, Araki S, Yasue H. Effects of collateral circulation on electrophysiological properties during the acute phase of canine myocardial infarction. *J Electrocardiology* 1986;19:173-182.
11. Okumura K, Olshansky B, Henthorn RW, Epstein AE, Plumb VJ, Waldo AL. Demonstration of the presence of slow conduction during sustained ventricular tachycardia in man. Use of transient entrainment of the tachycardia. *Circulation* 1987;75:369-378.
12. Okumura K, Waldo AL: Effects of N-acetylprocainamide on experimental atrial flutter and atrial electrophysiologic properties in conscious dogs with sterile pericarditis. Comparison with the effects of quinidine. *J Am Coll Cardiol* 1987;9:1332-1338.
13. Okumura K, Henthorn RW, Olshansky B, Waldo AL. Entrainment of sustained ventricular tachycardia. Evidence for collision of two excitation wave fronts from two different pacing impulses. *Proceedings of the International Symposium on Cardiac Arrhythmias. Excerpta Medica, Tokyo, 1987;145-148.*
14. Saito Y, Nakao K, Nishimura K, Sugawara A, Okumura K, Obata K, Sonoda R, Ban T, Yasue H, Imura H. Clinical application of atrial natriuretic polypeptide in patients with congestive heart failure. Beneficial effects on left ventricular function. *Circulation* 1987;76:115-124.
15. Kugiyama K, Yasue H, Okumura K, Minoda K, Takaoka K, Matsuyama K, Kojima A, Koga, Y., Takahashi, M. Simultaneous multivessel coronary artery spasm demonstrated by quantitative analysis of thallium-201 single photon emission computed tomography. *Am J Cardiol* 1987;60:1009-1014.
16. Waldo AL, Olshansky B, Okumura K, Henthorn, RW. Current perspective on entrainment of tachyarrhythmias. In: BRUGADA, P. AND WELLENS, H.J.J.: *Cardiac Arrhythmias. Where to go from here?*, Futura Publishing, New York, 1987;171-189.
17. Waldo AL, Okumura K, Olshansky B, Henthorn RW. Use of transient entrainment of tachycardia as an aid to application of fulguration. In: FONTAINE G SCHEINMAN M: *Ablation in Cardiac Arrhythmias*, Futura Publishing, New York, 1987;277-288.

18. Okumura K, Yasue H, Horio Y, Takaoka K, Matsuyama K, Kugiyama K, Fujii H, Morikami Y. Multivessel coronary spasm in patients with variant angina. A study with intracoronary injection of acetylcholine. *Circulation* 1988;77:535-542.
19. Okumura K, Matsuyama K, Miyagi H, Tsuchiya T, Yasue H. Entrainment of idiopathic ventricular tachycardia of left ventricular origin with evidence for reentry with an area of slow conduction and effect of verapamil. *Am J Cardiol* 1988;62:727-732.
20. Olshansky B, Okumura K, Hess PG, Henthorn RW, Waldo AL. Use of procainamide with rapid atrial pacing for successful conversion of atrial flutter to sinus rhythm. *J Am Coll Cardiol* 1988;11:359-364.
21. Okumura K, Yasue H, Matsuyama K, Goto K, Miyagi H, Ogawa H, Matsuyama K. Sensitivity and specificity of intracoronary injection of acetylcholine for the induction of coronary artery spasm. *J Am Coll Cardiol* 1988;12:883-888.
22. Henthorn RW, Okumura K, Olshansky B, Plumb VJ, Hess PG, Waldo AL. A fourth criterion for transient entrainment. The electrogram equivalent of progressive fusion. *Circulation* 1988;77:1003-1012.
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25. Fujii H, Yasue H, Okumura K, Matsuyama K, Morikami Y, Miyagi H, Ogawa H. Hyperventilation-induced simultaneous multivessel coronary spasm in patients with variant angina. An echocardiographic and arteriographic study. *J Am Coll Cardiol* 1988;12:1184-1192.
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45. Yasue H, Okumura K. Clinical diagnosis of the pathogenesis of coronary spastic angina. *Jpn J Med* 1990;29:665-666.

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47. Okumura K, Plumb VJ, Page PL, Waldo AL. Atrial activation sequence during atrial flutter in the canine pericarditis model and its effects on the polarity of the flutter wave in the electrocardiogram. *J Am Coll Cardiol* 1991;17:509-518.
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65. Yamabe H, Okumura K, Yasue H. Demonstration of entrainment and presence of slow conduction during ventricular tachycardia in arrhythmogenic right ventricular dysplasia. *PACE* 1994;17:172-178.
66. Yamabe H, Okumura K, Yasue H. Comparison of the effects of exercise and isoproterenol on the antegrade refractory period of the accessory pathway in patients with Wolff-Parkinson-White syndrome. *Jpn Circ J* 1994;58:22-28.
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68. Minoda K, Yasue H, Kugiyama K, Okumura K, Motomura K, Shimomura O, Takahashi M. Comparison of the distribution of myocardial blood flow between exercise-induced and hyperventilation-induced attacks of coronary spasm. A study with thallium-201 myocardial scintigraphy. *Am Heart J* 1994;127:1474-1480.
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74. Okumura K, Tsunoda R, Matsunaga T, Ishizaka H, Yamabe H, Tabuchi T, Yasue H. Role of endothelium-derived nitric oxide in myocardial reactive hyperemia and interference by superoxide anion radicals. In: Niimi, h., Oda, M., Sawada, T, Xiu, R-J: *Progress in Microcirculation Research*, Pergamon, Oxford, 1994;111-114.
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