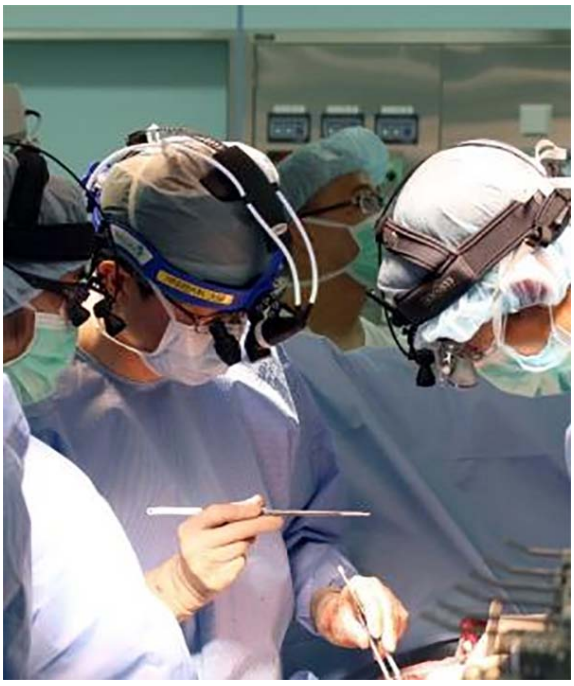
News

World's first hybrid lung transplant: Simultaneous lung transplants from both brain-dead and living donors

On 4 April 2015, the simultaneous transplant of the left lung from a brain-dead donor and right lung (inferior lobe) from a living donor to a patient suffering from idiopathic interstitial pneumonitis was successfully undertaken at Okayama University Hospital. This was the first so-called hybrid transplant in the world with a simultaneous transplant from a brain-dead and a living donor.

The operation was conducted by a team led by the Lung Transplant Chief Takahiro Oto of the Department of Respiratory Medicine, Okayama University Hospital. During the operation, which took about ten hours, a lung provided by a brain-dead donor and part of a lung provided by a living donor were transplanted.

At the post-surgery press conference, Professor Oto said, "it was a great achievement to save a life using a fully functioning lung from a living donor, in addition to the usage of a lung from a brain-dead donor. It is extremely significant that we were able to transplant a lung that was not considered usable for medical reasons. I would like to reduce, even if it is only a small amount, the number of lungs that go unused."



Hybrid lung transplant (simultaneous transplant from brain-dead and living donor) conducted at Okayama University Hospital.

Lung Transplant Team, including Professor OTO (second from left), at the post-surgery press conference (April 4)

News

Life Science World 2015 : Okayama University presents its latest research achievements at Asia's largest bio event

Okayama University participated in the Life Science World 2015—Asia's largest bio event—the 12th Academic Forum, Tokyo Big Sight, 14-16 May 2014.

In this exhibition, seven researchers from Okayama University presented their latest research achievements in fields including pharmaceutical seeds, cancer, research tools, immunology, drug discovery tools, and imaging.

Okayama University booth with many visitors.

Professor Heiichiro Udono of the Graduate school of Medicine, Dentistry and Pharmaceutical Sciences showed that Metformin, an anti-type 2 diabetes drug, effectively reverts exhausted T-cells to functional states within tumor tissue, giving rise to an anti-cancer effect.

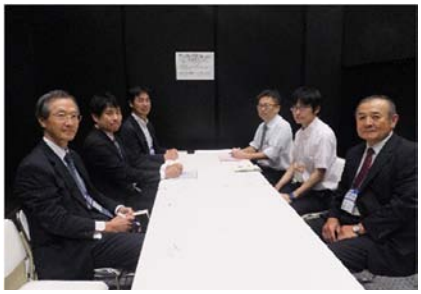

Professor Udono giving his talk.

Professor Mitsunobu Kano from the same graduate school, explained that in the treatment of that cancer, the cause of intractability of pancreatic cancer is not only due to the target cells themselves, but also can be due to the characteristics of its tumor vasculature, that is drug delivery routes.

Also, the researchers exchanged views about joint research with visitors from pharmaceutical companies and organizations at the meeting room for the business partnering.

Professor Mitsunobu Kano making a presentation.

Okayama University's Organization for Research Promotion & Collaboration will continue to actively support the participation of its members in exhibitions in order to increase the visibility of research achievements of Okayama University, and transfer technology.


Business partnering meeting.

