

## **Working Group Report of Colorectal Cancer in 20th APCC**

The reality of shrinking health budgets has forced many countries to confront difficult choices when facing current health problems. Nevertheless, increasing cancer is widely appreciated now, and priorities for appropriate strategies should be formulated. The incidence of colorectal cancer (CRC) has been low in many Asian countries, compared to that in Western countries. However, it is increasing in Japan and its mortality rate is also going up year by year. A similar trend is seen in some developed countries in Asia.

The actual status of CRC in Asia has not been discussed anywhere. To clarify it, a working group has been organized first in this APCC by a request of the conference president, Dr. Akaza. The ultimate goal of this working group is to help to decrease the incidence of CRC and improve the effectiveness of treatment. Eleven experts (epidemiologist, gastroenterologist, surgeon, medical oncologist) of CRC from 7 Asia-Pacific countries join this working group. A survey on CRC in each Asian country is now conducted. The survey items are the rate of morbidity and mortality, CRC screening, endoscopic diagnosis and treatment, surgical procedures and chemotherapy. The working group report will be made based on the results of survey and discussions by working group members, and presented in 20<sup>th</sup> APCC.