

梅澤濱夫記念館

Hamao Umezawa Memorial Museum

梅澤濱夫記念館 目黒 (HUM)

Hamao Umezawa Memorial Museum Meguro (HUM)



$H_2NO_3 + CO_2 = H_2O_2 + NO_5$

$NH_3 + FE_2H_3CO_4H = NH_5 - CO_2FE_3$



梅澤濱夫博士

ごあいさつ

抗生物質の発見は、人類にとって20世紀最大の恩恵をもたらせた発見であると言われております。ペニシリンをはじめとして多種多様な抗生物質は、伝染病として恐れられていた多くの細菌性の感染症から人類を救い、医療に革命をもたらしました。当財団の創始者、梅澤濱夫博士は、ペニシリンを日本で最初に生産した研究を端緒として、新規抗生物質の探索研究に着手し、ストレプトマイシン耐性の結核菌に有効なカナマイシンを発見するなど、1940年代後半から40年以上にわたって次々と新しい研究領域を開拓し、抗生物質の研究分野において世界のリーダーでありました。イネのいもち病の防除薬であるカスガマイシン、制がん抗生物質ブレオマイシン、免疫促進物質ベスタチン等を含む、70品目を超える抗菌抗生物質、40品目を超える制がん抗生物質、50品目を超える酵素阻害物質、数品目の免疫系に作用する物質を発見し、医療に貢献するとともに、医学、薬学、化学、農学など関連科学の発展に大きく寄与されました。

当財団は1988年に梅澤濱夫博士の偉業を讃え、その遺志を継承するとともに、当財団の事業として「疾病の予防および治療に関する微生物産物の知識」を普及するために、博士の業績を物語る品々を保存・展示する梅澤濱夫記念館を世田谷区玉川に設置いたしました。以来30年の間に、博士の独創的で、時代の要求に応える医薬品開発の足跡をたどり、またその遺志を継承するために多くの見学者が来訪されました。この度、新研究棟が建設されたことを機会に、さらに多くの方々にわが国における抗生物質研究のパイオニアである梅澤濱夫博士をご紹介しますとともに、現在の微生物化学研究会をご理解頂くために梅澤濱夫記念館目黒を新研究棟隣接地に開設いたしました。

私どもは、梅澤濱夫博士の遺志に従って微生物産物および関連物質などに関する研究に精励し、人類の福祉に寄与するとともに、学術の振興を図る所存でございます。皆様のご指導とご支援を賜りますようよろしくお願い申し上げます。

2017年8月1日

公益財団法人微生物化学研究会
理事長 柴崎正勝

Chairman's Message

The discovery of antibiotics in the 20th century is among the most remarkable achievements with extensive benefits to mankind. A wide variety of antibiotics are now available to treat previously fatal bacterial infections, revolutionizing medical care.

Dr. Hamao Umezawa began research on new antibiotics in the 1940s, producing the first penicillin in Japan and later discovering kanamycin, the first broadly effective agent against streptomycin-resistant *Mycobacterium tuberculosis* infection. In addition, he pioneered the use of antibiotics as anticancer agents. From the latter half of the 1940s, he developed entirely new research fields for over 40 years while remaining a world leader in antibiotics research. In addition to kanamycin, he discovered more than 70 antimicrobial antibiotics including arbekacin and josamycin, more than 40 anticancer antibiotics including bleomycin and aclarubicin, more than 50 enzyme inhibitors including leupeptin, pepstatin and antipain, the antibiotic and antifungal agent kasugamycin which has been used to prevent rice blast disease, and several immunomodulators including ubenimex.

Through these discoveries, he made substantial contributions not only to medicine but also to basic pharmacology, biochemistry, and agriculture. Furthermore, Dr. Umezawa developed a logical research pathway to obtain new effective compounds based on bacterial resistance mechanisms. In particular, while studying the kanamycin resistance mechanism, he discovered inactivating mechanisms mediated by phosphotransferases and acetylases. Based on this result, he synthesized dibekacin, an antibiotic impervious to these enzymes. He also succeeded in developing arbekacin, which overcame dibekacin resistance by adenylation.

Dr. Umezawa believed that research on therapeutic drugs is “research that decides that there should be an answer to a question that does not know whether there is an answer.” He developed medicines that responded to current demands and provided a research path for others to follow. Dr. Umezawa established the Institute of Microbiological Chemistry in 1962, and in the decades since, he and many colleagues have immensely contributed to the advancement of medicine and life sciences, particularly in the field of antibiotics research through its organizational strength. We honor Dr. Umezawa's legacy by continuing to develop new antimicrobial agents and related compounds for diseases without effective treatments, such as drug-resistant tuberculosis, multidrug-resistant gram-negative bacteria, and viral and protozoal infections. Through these efforts, our institute continues to promote scientific achievement and human welfare.

*Masakatsu Shibasaki,
Chairman of the Board of Directors*

梅澤濱夫博士の生涯

1. 研究黎明期(1914-1945)

2つの大戦、時代の渦に翻弄されながら、黙々と己を磨き、医学の道へと遙進した濱夫青年。その道の先にはペニシリン、そして新しい抗生物質との出会いが待っていました。

1914年 0歳

産声は、小浜から

10月1日、7人兄弟の第3子（次男）として福井県小浜市に生まれる。濱夫の名前は、故郷・小浜に由来。梅澤家は代々医者の家系で、父の純一も小浜病院長を務めるなど優れた医師であった。

1919年 5歳

さわぐ、医家の血

父・純一の病院でX線装置を見る機会を得る。看護師がお金を胸ポケットに入れたまま、お金のX線映像を見せようとしたが、父が止めに入る。濱夫少年にとって、X線の危険とレントゲンという名前を心に焼き付けさせる出来事となった。

1923年 9歳

英国婦人との日々

父・純一が札幌鉄道病院長に任命されたのを機に、家族で札幌へ移住。小学3年の終わり頃から1年半ほど、ノートンという英国婦人に週に一度、英語を学び、この習得が後の研究の大きな助けとなった。

1931年 17歳

恩師との出会い

東京の武蔵高校に入学。ドイツでコロイド学の権威・フロインドリッヒ教授の下にいた物理化学の玉虫文一教授から、化学研究の手法などを学ぶ。明晰で正確な研究と、研究の中から真実を発見する能力はこの時に形成された。

1933年 19歳

医学への第一歩を踏み出す

東京帝国大学医学部に入学。最も苦手とした科目は解剖学で、死体解剖に食欲が減退し、他学部に移りたいと思い悩んだが、2ヶ月ほどで慣れ、医学の道へと邁進した。

1937年 23歳

病原細菌との奮闘

東京帝国大学医学部を卒業。同大学の細菌学教室に入り、細菌の取り扱い方などを学ぶ。7月に医師免許証を取得。10月からは、中国・上海でのコレラ蔓延に伴い、帰還兵のために設置された山口県下関検疫所へ。半年にわたり毎日1,000検体もの顕微鏡検査を続けたため、左目より右目が小さくなってしまふ。

1941年 27歳

デュボス博士への傾倒

千葉県習志野の陸軍病院に召集されていた濱夫は、デュボス博士の論文（1939年）を読み、抗生物質に興味を抱き、独自に研究をスタート。微生物の発育を阻止する土中の放線菌の研究に没頭し、放線菌が抗菌物質を作ることを独自に発見する。

1943年 29歳

潜水艦がもたらした奇縁

4月、召集解除され、東京帝国大学医学部細菌学教室の助手に就任。11月、陸軍軍医学校の稲垣克彦軍医少佐の誘いを受け、同校研究部のメンバーに。12月、ドイツから潜水艦で持ち帰られた臨床雑誌の「微生物から得られた抗菌性物質」というキーゼ博士の総説が偶然目に止まる。英国で「ペニシリン」の研究が進んでいることを知り、濱夫は「ペニシリン」の虜に。総説の翻訳も引き受ける。

1944年 30歳

国産ペニシリンをめざして

1月、稲垣少佐が、濱夫が翻訳したキーゼ博士の総説を手に、「ペニシリン」の必要性を軍医学校の幹部に進言。時を同じくして、新聞に「チャーチル首相、命びろい、ズルフォン剤を補うペニシリン」(※のちに誤報と判明)という見出しが躍り、この記事により、ペニシリン研究計画は一気に軌道に。7月、東京帝国大学伝染病研究所の助教授に就任。8月、二度目の召集令状が届くが、軍医学校から梅澤はペニシリン研究のため召集を避けるべきである」との意見が出され、伝染病研究所で研究を続けることに。9月、アオカビを接種して放置した1つの三角フラスコの培養液上にカビが菌膜を形成。凍らせ乾燥させると、黄色い粉末がわずかに出現。欧米でも純粋なものが抽出できなかった時代、640万倍に薄めてもブドウ球菌の発育を阻止する高純度の「ペニシリン」の単離に8ヶ月で成功したことは、まさに画期的な出来事であった。この国産抗生物質第1号は、和名「碧素」として、多くの兵を救うことに。終戦後には、戦時中の日本でのペニシリン研究のすべてをまとめ、占領軍司令部（GHQ）に報告する役を務める。12月、東京帝国ホテルにて三重子夫人と結婚式を挙げる。研究を第一に考え、研究所の人たちにも、その日が結婚式であることを知らせなかった。

The Life and Science of Dr. Hamao Umezawa

1. Upbringing and Early Research (1914–1945)

Despite the turbulent times of two world wars, in his youth, Hamao focused on a life dedicated to medicine. Eventually, this journey would lead to pioneering work on the production of penicillin, the isolation of new antibiotics and anticancer agents, and early work on antibiotic resistance mechanisms. In addition to numerous national and international science prizes, Hamao is considered the father of Japanese antibiotic research.

1914—Entering the world at Obama

Hamao was born on October 1, 1914, in Obama City, Fukui Prefecture, as the third child (second son) of seven siblings. His name, Hamao, comes from his birthplace Obama. The Umezawa family comes from a long line of doctors, and his father, Junichi, was an excellent doctor who served as the head of the Obama Hospital, among other posts.

1919—Stirrings of a medical family in his blood

Young Hamao got the opportunity to see an X-ray machine at his father's hospital. A nurse wanted to take an X-ray of Hamao with money in his pocket so that he could see what it looked like on the X-ray, but his father stopped them. This episode burned the dangers of X-rays and the word "Röntgen" into his young Consciousness.

1923—Days with an English lady

When Hamao's father was appointed Director of the Sapporo Railway Hospital, his family made the move with him. For a year and half from the end of his third year in elementary school, Hamao studied English once a week with an English woman named Ms. Norton. This training would be of great help in his later scientific career.

1931—An influential instructor

Hamao entered the Musashi High School in Tokyo. There, he learned the methodology for chemistry research from the physical chemistry Professor Bunichi Tamamushi, who served under Professor Herbert Freundlich, an authority on colloid science at the Kaiser Wilhelm Institute for Physical Chemistry and Electrochemistry in Germany. This is where Hamao began developing his ability to conduct clear and concise research and to derive the truth from that research.

1933—First steps toward a career in medicine and research

Hamao enrolled in the Faculty of Medicine, Tokyo Imperial University (presently the Faculty of Medicine of Tokyo University). His weakest subject was anatomy, and he lost his appetite after autopsies. He considered transferring to a different faculty, but after 2 months he grew accustomed to it and continued on the road to a medical career.

1937—First battle with pathogenic bacteria

After graduating from the Faculty of Medicine of the Tokyo Imperial University, he joined the University's Bacteriology Laboratory, where he learned how to handle bacteria. He received his medical doctor's license in July of that year. In October, he was sent to the Yamaguchi Prefecture Shimonoseki Quarantine Station that was set up to treat soldiers returning home from the cholera epidemic in Shanghai, China. After 6 months of examining 1,000 samples a day under a microscope, his right eye was smaller than his left eye.

1941—Inspired by Rene Dubos

Hamao, who had been called up to serve in the army hospital at Narashino, Chiba Prefecture, read a paper written by Dr. Rene Dubos, the discoverer of gramicidin, that ignited his interest in antibiotics and led him to begin his own research. He devoted himself to studying soil streptomycetes that inhibited the growth of microbes and to the discovery of antibiotics produced by streptomycetes.

1943—Fortuitous coincidence proffered by a submarine

In April, upon release from the military service, Hamao was appointed assistant in the Bacteriology Program of the Faculty of Medicine, Tokyo Imperial University. In November, he was invited to be a Research Department member by the military doctor Major Katsuhiko Inagaki of the Army Medical School. In December, he read a review paper by Dr. Manfred Kiese of the Pharmakotogischen Institut der Universit Berlin "Chemotherapie mit Antibakteriellen Stoffen aus Niederen Pilzen und Bakterien (Chemotherapy with Antibacterial Metabolite from Fungi and Bacteria)" in a clinical journal brought home to Japan from Germany in a submarine. From this, Hamao learned that research on penicillin was proceeding in England, and became captivated by this substance. He also accepted the assignment to translate the review paper.

1944—Striving to successfully produce penicillin in Japan

In January, Major Inagaki read Hamao's translation of Dr. Kiese's review paper and expressed to the top officers of the Army Medical School the importance of penicillin. At the same time, Hamao noticed a headline in the paper that read "Prime Minister Churchill escapes death, penicillin supplements sulfonamides" ("it was later learned that this was a misreport), and this article jumpstarted his penicillin research plan. In July, he was appointed assistant professor in the Communicable Diseases Laboratory of the Tokyo Imperial University. In August, he received his second military call-up order, but the Army Medical School issued an opinion that "Umezawa should not be called up so that he can focus on penicillin research", which allowed him to continue working in the Communicable Diseases Laboratory. In September, after only 8 months in the laboratory, he observed a velum formed on the liquid of a conical flask culture inoculated with blue mold. After freezing and drying the velum, a small amount of yellow powder appeared. At a time when no Western laboratory had isolated a pure form of penicillin, Hamao had succeeded in isolating a highly pure sample that could prevent staphylococcal growth even when diluted by 6.4 million times. This antibiotic, the first produced in Japan, was given the Japanese name "Hekiso" (meaning substances made by blue fungi) and was administered to many soldiers. After the war ended, Hamao was assigned to collect all the penicillin research conducted in Japan during the war and report it to the US Military General Headquarters (GHQ). In December, he married his wife Mieko at the Tokyo Imperial Hotel. However, even the people in the laboratory did not know he was getting married that day, such was his dedication to research.

2. 魔法の弾丸・抗生物質を求めて (1946-1986)

終戦後、本格的に抗生物質を探す旅へと踏み出した濱夫。そして導かれるように、黄金色に輝く放線菌が産生する、運命の物質との邂逅へと突き進んでいきます。

1946年 32歳

ペニシリン普及への尽力

8月、ペニシリン学術協議会が設立。濱夫は幹事となり、培養と乾燥の2つの専門部会を管掌する。11月、GHQが招いたフォスター教授により、「ペニシリン」の工業生産の指導が行われ、濱夫は生産技術と品質管理の真髄を学ぶ。

1947年 33歳

国からのミッション

諸外国が研究の場を民間へ移すなか、日本では公的研究機関に新しい抗生物質を発見するよう国の要請があり、新設の国立予防衛生研究所に抗菌性物質部(1952年抗生物質部に名称変更)が誕生。濱夫は初代の部長に就任し、新規抗生物質の探索研究に精力的に取り組んだ。3ヶ月後には、日本の土壌から「ストレプトマイシン」を生産する放線菌を発見する。

1949年 35歳

日本最初の新規抗生物質を発見

全国の土壌を探索するなか、わが国最初の新規抗生物質「フラジオマイシン」、世界で最初の抗真菌性抗生物質「オーレオスリシン」を発見。皮膚・目などの局所感染症に用いられる「フラジオマイシン」は、ワクスマン博士が発見した「ネオマイシン」と同一物質であるが、濱夫の方が2ヶ月先に発見していた。

1950年 36歳

研究の新しい風に吹かれて

抗生物質や生化学の研究所を視察するため、初の海外、アメリカへ。「ストレプトマイシン」の発見者ワクスマン博士やがん病理の木下良順博士らと面会。病理学に生化学が採り入れられ始めた頃で、木下博士が研究を生化学的に運ぼうとする姿は印象的だった。

1951年 37歳

死の病、結核の完治をめざして

難聴など副作用が強かった「ストレプトマイシン」に代わる新しい結核薬の開発へ、放線菌が産生する抗生物質で結核菌などの抗酸菌の発育を阻止し、塩基性かつ水溶性で毒性が少ない物質を探し始める。

1955年 41歳

大発見への萌芽

長野県の土壌から分離された放線菌が、抗酸菌607号などの発育を阻止する物質を生産することを発見。精製した粉末は、マウスに注射しても死亡しないことが判明する。

1957年 43歳

カナマイシンの発見

第1回目の培養で、30gほどの純粋な物質の採取に成功。生産菌が黄金色であったことから、「カナマイシン」と命名した。以降、世界中の専門医により研究され、「抗生物質に抵抗性を示す耐性菌」に広く有効であったため、高い評価を受ける。この発見を契機に、多くの国産抗菌薬が相次いで開発されていった。

1958年 44歳

微生物化学研究会の設立

橋本龍伍厚生大臣(当時)は、濱夫たちの「カナマイシン」の研究成果を新たな研究に再投資するため、「カナマイシン」の特許料を基金とした財団を作することを勧め、財団法人微生物化学研究会が設立。濱夫は理事長に就任する。

1962年 48歳

文化勲章受章の榮譽に輝く

東京都品川区上大崎の地に、微生物化学研究所(微化研)を建設。濱夫は所長に就任し、自由な研究所を持ちたいと願った夢が実現する。抗生物質研究の功績が認められ、朝日賞、日本学士院賞、文化勲章と榮譽が続く。

1964年 50歳

カスガマイシンの発見

奈良県春日大社の土壌から得た放線菌の培養液中に、稲の疫病「いもち病」に著しく有効な抗生物質を発見。採取地名にちなんで「カスガマイシン」と命名した。以降、水銀に変わる毒性の低い農薬として1年間に100トン以上使用され、米作への「いもち病」の被害は抑えられた。

1964年 50歳

ジョサマイシンの発見

山之内製薬株式会社との共同研究で、高知県の土壌の放線菌から、吸収が良く高い血中濃度が得られる物質「ジョサマイシン」を発見。グラム陽性菌とマイコプラズマに強い抗菌力を示すと同時に、胃腸障害の頻度が低いため、1970年頃から広く使用されるようになった。

1967年 53歳

耐性機構の謎に挑む

カナマイシン耐性菌の出現を受け、耐性メカニズムの研究を開始する。アメリカの科学雑誌「サイエンス」に耐性菌が産生する酵素により不活化されたカナマイシンの構造に関する論文を発表。ウィーンで開かれた国際化学療法学会で特別講演に採り上げられ、講演後「初めて聴いた重要な発見だ」と称賛を受ける。

1969年 55歳

耐性菌に有効な物質を求めて

耐性菌により不活化されない「カナマイシン」の合成へ。有機合成化学者で慶應義塾大学教授であった兄の純夫とともに、カナマイシン誘導体の合成研究を開始。また同時期、国際化学療法学会の副会長を務め、東京での第6回国際化学療法会議を主催する。

1971年 57歳

ジベカシンの創製

兄・純夫とともに、「ベカナマイシン」を原料として、緑膿菌を含む耐性菌に広く有効なカナマイシン誘導体(ジベカシン)の合成に成功。1975年に発売され、耐性菌を含むグラム陽性菌・陰性菌による感染症の臨床的治療に広く使用された。

1973年 59歳

アルベカシンの創製

カナマイシン耐性菌に有効な「ジベカシン」を原料に、ジベカシン耐性菌にも有効な「アルベカシン」の合成に成功。わが国初となる抗メチシリン耐性黄色ブドウ球菌(MRSA)に有効な抗菌抗生物質として、1990年に承認・発売された。

1980年 66歳

大きな吉報、届く

パウル・エールリヒ賞(ドイツ)を受賞。近代治療医学史上最大の偉人エールリヒ博士が創案した化学療法研究の領域で35年以上もの間、取り組んできた濱夫にとつて、感慨深い受賞となった。

2. In Search of a Magic Bullet: Antibiotics (1946–1986)

After the war, Hamao could finally focus on the discovery of new antibiotics. As if guided by destiny, his work led to the discovery of several substances produced by the glimmering golden streptomycetes, including kanamycin.

1946—Efforts to make penicillin widely available

The Japan Penicillin Research Association was established in August of that year. Hamao became the director and oversaw the two special committees on cultivation and drying. In November, guidance on the commercial production of penicillin was provided by Dr. Jackson Foster of Merck Research Laboratories in New Jersey, who was invited to Japan by GHQ. From him, Hamao learned the details of antibiotic production technology and quality control.

1947—Development of new antibiotics as a national mission in Japan

As many countries shifted their antibiotics research to the private sector, Japan made it a national objective for public research institutions to discover new antibiotics. Thus, the Department of Antibacterial Substances (changed to the Department of Antibiotics in 1952) was created in the newly established National Institute of Health. Hamao was appointed as the first department head and devoted himself to the discovery of new antibiotics. Three months later, the streptomycete that produces streptomycin was discovered in Japanese soil.

1949—A new antibiotic discovered in Japan

An examination of soils throughout Japan resulted in the discovery of fradiomycin, the first new antibiotic isolated in Japan, and aureothricin, the world's first antifungal antibiotic. Fradiomycin, which is used to treat local infections, such as in the skin and eyes, is the same substance as neomycin, discovered by Dr. Selman Waksman and colleagues at the Rutgers University; however, Hamao discovered it two months before Dr. Waksman.

1950—New wind behind research

Hamao's first overseas trip was to the United States to tour antibiotics and biochemistry laboratories. There, he met with Dr. Waksman, the discoverer of streptomycin, and Dr. Ryojun Kinoshita, who studied cancer pathology, among others. Seeing Dr. Kinoshita working to guide his research in the direction of biochemistry at the time when biochemistry was first being adopted in pathology left a strong impression on Hamao.

1951—Pursuing a cure for tuberculosis, the disease of death

To develop a new anti-tuberculosis medicine to replace streptomycin, which has strong side effects such as hearing loss, Hamao began searching through the substances produced by streptomycetes that would inhibit the growth of mycobacterium such as *Mycobacterium tuberculosis*, but that are also basic rather than acidic as well as water soluble and have low toxicity.

1955—Introduction to the great discovery of kanamycin

Hamao discovered a streptomycete separated from soil at Nagano Prefecture that produced a substance able to inhibit the growth of acid-fast bacteria No.607 as well as other bacteria. It was subsequently demonstrated that mice did not die even when injected with the refined powder.

1957—Discovery of kanamycin

Hamao succeeded in extracting 30 g of the purified substance from the first culture. The producing bacterium has a golden color, so he named the substance "kanamycin" (kana means gold in Japanese). Thereafter, kanamycin was studied by specialists around the world and found to be widely effective against bacteria that showed resistance to other antibiotics. This discovery led to the development of many domestically produced antibacterial drugs.

1958—Establishment of the Microbial Chemistry Research Foundation (MCRF)

The Minister of Health and Welfare at the time, Ryogo Hashimoto, suggested that the funds obtained from the patent royalties for kanamycin be used to create a foundation to reinvest in new research. Thus, the Microbial Chemistry Research Foundation was established with Hamao as director.

1962—Honored with the Japanese Order of Culture

The Institute of Microbial Chemistry (IMC) facilities were constructed in Kamiosaki, Shinagawa Ward, Tokyo. Hamao was appointed director, and finally realized his dream of freely conducting research. In recognition of his achievements in the field of antibiotics research, he was awarded the Asahi Prize, the Japan Academy Prize, and the Order of Culture (all Japanese).

1964—Discovery of kasugamycin

An antibiotic that is remarkably effective against rice blight was discovered by Hamao in the culture liquid of a streptomycete found in the soil of Kasugataisha Shrine in Nara Prefecture. This antibiotic was named "kasugamycin" after the place where the streptomycete was found. Since then, this antibiotic has been used in place of mercury as a low toxicity agricultural antimicrobial. Today, over 100 tons is used annually on rice crops in Japan to suppress the damage caused by rice blight.

1964—Discovery of josamycin

In joint research with Yamanouchi Pharmaceutical Co., Ltd. (now Astellas Pharma Inc.), Hamao discovered a streptomycete from soil in Kochi Prefecture that produces josamycin, an antimicrobial substance with good absorption that can reach high concentrations in the blood. This antibiotic not only demonstrates a strong antibacterial effect against Gram-positive bacteria and mycoplasma but also reduces the frequency of gastrointestinal damage and thus has been used widely since 1970.

1967—Solving the mystery of kanamycin resistance

With the advent of kanamycin-resistant bacteria, Hamao began researching the resistance mechanism. A paper by Hamao describing the structure of kanamycin following inactivation by enzymes from resistant bacteria was published in the American scientific journal *Science*. He was invited to be a special lecturer at the International Congress of Chemotherapy and Infection held in Vienna, and his presentation was said to be "the first time to hear about this very important discovery."

1969—Search for substances effective against resistant bacteria

Hamao worked to synthesize a kanamycin derivative that would not be deactivated by resistant bacteria. Together with his elder brother Sumio, an organic synthetic chemist and Professor at Keio University, he began synthesizing kanamycin derivatives. During the same period, he served as the Secretary General of the International Society of Antimicrobial Chemotherapy and Infection and presided over the 6th International Congress of Chemotherapy held in Tokyo.

1971—Discovery of dibekacin

Together with his brother Sumio, Hamao successfully synthesized a kanamycin derivative, dibekacin, from bekanamycin that is widely effective against kanamycin-resistant bacteria, including the opportunistic pathogen *Pseudomonas aeruginosa*. Sales of this antibiotic began in 1975 and it is still widely used in some countries for the clinical treatment of infections caused by resistant Gram-positive and Gram-negative bacteria.

1973—Discovery of arbekacin

Hamao successfully synthesized arbekacin from dibekacin, which also proved effective against both kanamycin- and dibekacin-resistant bacteria. In 1990, arbekacin was approved for use as an antibacterial agent against methicillin-resistant *Staphylococcus aureus* and sales began that same year. This was the first such development in Japan.

1980—Great news is received

Hamao was awarded the Paul Ehrlich and Ludwig Darmstaedter Prize (Germany). As Hamao had labored for more than 35 years in a field of research launched by Dr. Ehrlich, the preeminent early pioneer in immunology and antimicrobial chemotherapy, this award had profound meaning for Hamao.

3. 未知の領域への挑戦と栄誉 (1951-1986)

「研究は問題を解くことが必要であるが、それ以上に解くことが可能な独創的な問題をつくることが大切である」後年残したこの言葉通り、濱夫は世界の誰もが考えすらしなかった道へと歩み始めます。

1951年 37歳

エールリヒがんとの奮闘

微生物が作るがんの治療薬の研究を、世界に先駆け着手。翌年、アメリカからエールリヒ腹水がんが持ち帰られたと聞き大阪大学を訪問。がん細胞の分与を受け、このマウスのがんに効く物質を探し始める。実験動物を抗腫瘍試験に採用した先駆けであった。

1953年 39歳

ザルコマイシンの発見

エールリヒがんを植えたマウスに1,000株ほどの放線菌の培養液を7日間注射した結果、1株の培養液がエールリヒ腹水がんの増殖を強く抑制し、毒性も少ないと判明。これが、世界初の制がん抗生物質「ザルコマイシン」であった。「ザルコマイシン」は精製に伴い効果が減少したため、製造は中止されたが、制がん抗生物質の探索が、世界的に行われる契機となる発見となった。

1954年 40歳

未来を育む活動も

東京大学応用微生物研究所教授を兼任。1961年には著書「抗生物質の話」(岩波書店)を刊行。抗生物質研究者の指導・育成とともに、メディアを通しての啓発活動にも取り組む。

1959年 45歳

フレオマイシンの発見

エールリヒがんの増殖を阻止する制がん抗生物質は見つかるものの、毒性の高いものが多いなか、唯一「フレオマイシン」と名付けた物質は毒性が低く、治療効果が高いため、深く掘り下げることが決定。しかし詳しく調べると、遅延性の腎毒性が認められ、臨床応用は断念する。

1965年 51歳

プレオマイシンの発見

「フレオマイシン」に似ているが、腎毒性が低い物質「プレオマイシン」を発見。DNAを切断する機序を持つこの物質が、扁平上皮がんやホジキンリンパ腫に著効を示すことが判明し、1969年に皮膚がん、頭頸部がんなどを適応症として臨床使用が開始された。

1965年 51歳

酵素阻害剤の研究へ

微生物の生育は阻害せず、動物の特定の酵素を阻害する物質(酵素阻害剤)の探索をいち早く開始。1969年には最初の成果として「ロイペプチン」を発見し、新しい薬理作用を示す医薬品を微生物生産物から得る道を拓く。

1971年 57歳

ナポレオンゆかりの栄誉へ

ナポレオン・ボナパルトによって、文化・科学・産業などの分野における民間人の「卓越した功績」を表彰することを目的に創設されたレジオンドヌール勲章をフランス政府から授与。また、日本の科学技術の発展に貢献した科学者を顕彰する藤原賞も受賞する。

1972年 58歳

がん免疫療法の扉を開く

小さな分子の免疫促進物質の探索研究を竹内富雄、青柳高明、石塚雅章各博士らと続ける。「ジゲトコリオリンB」の抗体産生への影響の研究が端緒となり、身体の免疫機能を高めることで抗腫瘍作用を示す「ウベニメクス」の発見(1976年)へとつながっていった。

1973年 59歳

アクラシノマイシンの発見

長野県の土壌の放線菌から、がん細胞のDNAに結合し、RNA合成を阻害することで抗腫瘍効果を示す物質「アクラシノマイシン(アクラルピシン)」の単離に成功。他の制がん抗生物質に比べて、心臓毒性などが軽減されており、臨床開発も順調に進み、1982年に発売された。

1974年 60歳

ペプロマイシンの創製

日本化薬株式会社とともに、肺への毒性が強い「プレオマイシン」の副作用軽減をめざし、プレオマイシン誘導体の創薬研究を続けるなかで、「ペプロマイシン」の生物合成に成功。肺毒性が軽微なだけでなく、抗がん効果の範囲が「プレオマイシン」より広い特徴があり、1981年に臨床使用が開始された。

1979年 65歳

ピラルピシンの創製

制がん抗生物質である「ダウノルピシン」や「ドキソルピシン」の置換誘導体の化合物から、より副作用の少ない物質「ピラルピシン」を開発。多くのがんに対する有効性が認められ、1988年に発売された。

3. Contributions to anticancer therapy (1951–1986)

True to his words from later years “Research requires solving problems, but it is important to create original problems that provide even greater solutions when solved,” Hamao began a second research path imagined by few others.

1951—Early studies on inhibitors of Ehrlich cancer

Hamao began researching therapeutic drugs for cancers produced by microbes before anyone else in the world. In 1952, he heard that an Ehrlich ascites cancer sample had been brought back to Osaka University from the United States. He was given some of the cancer cells and began looking for substances that would be effective against Ehrlich cell-derived tumors in mice, thus becoming the first person to use animals for antitumor testing.

1953—Discovery of sarkomycin

Hamao injected mice harboring Ehrlich cancer cells with the culture liquid from approximately 1,000 strains of streptomycetes over 7 days and found that the culture liquid from one powerfully inhibited the growth of Ehrlich ascites cancer without severe toxicity. The substance was sarkomycin, the world's first anticancer antibiotic. While sarkomycin production was stopped because refining reduced its effectiveness, this discovery launched a global search for anticancer agents derived from microbes.

1954—Activities to nurture a future generation of researchers

Hamao also served as a professor at the Institute of Applied Microbiology, University of Tokyo. In 1961, he published his first book, “About Antibiotics” (Iwanami Shoten, Publishers). In addition to instructing and nurturing numerous antibiotics researchers, he also conducted educational activities through the media.

1959—Discovery of phleomycin

Although Hamao found many anticancer agents that inhibited the growth of Ehrlich cancer, most of them were toxic. In contrast, phleomycin had high therapeutic efficacy but also low acute toxicity, which led to him studying this substance in greater depth. However, clinical use was terminated because it was found to induce kidney damage.

1965—Discovery of bleomycin

Hamao subsequently discovered bleomycin, which is similar to phleomycin but with lower kidney toxicity. Hamao demonstrated that this DNA synthesis inhibitor is very effective against squamous cell cancer and Hodgkin's lymphoma. Clinical use of bleomycin began in 1969 as a treatment for skin cancer, head and neck cancer, and other cancers. It is listed as an essential medicine by the World Health Organization.

1965—Early research on enzyme inhibitors

Hamao was among the first researchers to begin looking for microbial agents that would inhibit animal-specific enzymes but not the growth of microbes. His first achievement in this area came in 1969 when he discovered the protease inhibitor leupeptin, thus pioneering a way for acquiring medications with new pharmacological effects from microbial products.

1971—Recipient of an award established by Napoleon

In 1971, Hamao received the L'ordre national de la Légion d'Honneur from the French government. This award was established by Napoleon Bonaparte to recognize the “outstanding achievements” of people in the private sector in such fields as culture, science, and industry. He also received the Fujiwara Award, which is given to scientists for their contribution to the development of Japan's science and technology.

1972—Opening the door to cancer immunotherapy

Hamao also conducted research on small molecule immunoenhancers in collaboration with Drs. Tomio Takeuchi, Takaaki Aoyagi, and Masaaki Ishizuka of the IMC. These studies included research into the effects of diketocoriolin B on antibody production and led to the discovery of ubenimex in 1976, a streptomycete-derived protease inhibitor that enhances immune function and has demonstrated antitumor action.

1973—Discovery of aclacinomycin

Hamao succeeded in isolating aclacinomycin (aclarbicin) from a streptomycete found in the soil of Nagano Prefecture, Japan. This substance demonstrates antitumor efficacy by combining with the DNA of cancer cells and inhibiting RNA synthesis. Furthermore, aclacinomycin exhibits much lower cardiotoxicity than many other anticancer antibiotics. After performing well in clinical trials, it was commercialized in 1982.

1974—Discovery of peplomycin

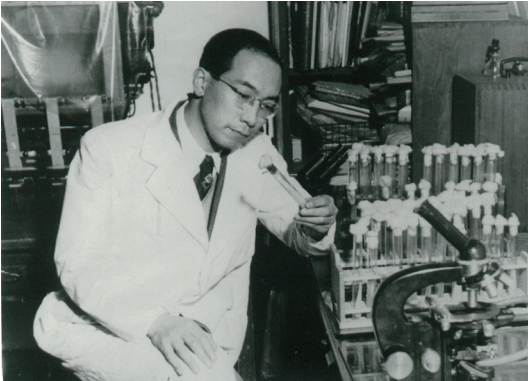
In collaboration with Nippon Kayaku Co., Ltd., Hamao continued his research on bleomycin derivatives with reduced side effects such as lower lung toxicity, and successfully synthesized peplomycin. This substance not only has low lung toxicity but also demonstrates a wider range of anticancer effects than bleomycin. Its clinical use began in 1981.

1979—Discovery of pirarubicin

Hamao developed pirarubicin by screening derivatives of the anticancer antibiotics daunorubicin and doxorubicin. This substance was found to be effective against many cancers but with fewer side effects, and was commercialized in 1988.

4. 日本の抗生物質の父、眠る（72歳）

11月、社会・公共のために長年にわたり功労がある者に授与される勲一等瑞宝章を受章。宮中に参内する。翌月の12月25日、心不全のため永眠。国際化学療法学会は、濱夫の功績を称え、最高学術賞として「Hamao Umezawa Memorial Award(ハマオ・ウメザワ記念賞)」を制定。日本人の名前が冠されている数少ない国際賞の1つであり、大村智博士(2015年ノーベル生理学・医学賞受賞)も受賞者の1人である。



国立予防衛生研究所抗生物質部研究室にて、抗生物質研究に取り組む(1950年代)

Hamao studying antibiotic research at the Laboratory of Antibiotics Division, Japan National Institute of Public Health.(1950's)



微生物化学研究所(微化研)にて、研究指導にあたる(1970年代中頃)

Hamao guiding research the IMC.(mid 1970's)



敬愛するパウル・エールリヒ博士の墓地を訪問(1980年)

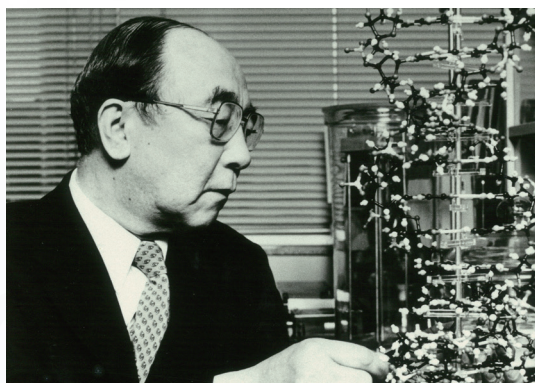
Hamao visiting the cemetery of Dr.Paul Ehrlich who he admired.(1980)

4. The father of Japanese antibiotics passes away at age 72

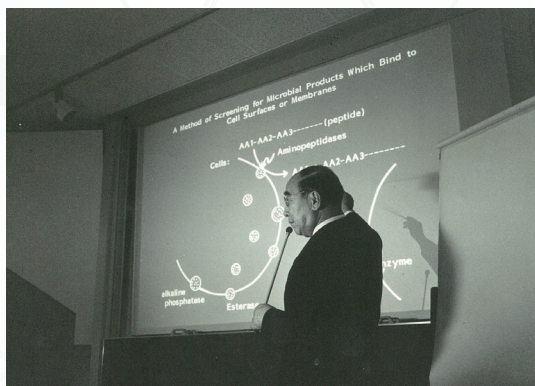
In November of 1986, Hamao was awarded the Grand Cordon of the Order of the Sacred Treasure for his social and public achievements over many years, and was invited to visit the Imperial Palace. He passed away the next month on December 25 from heart failure. In honor of Hamao's achievements, the International Society of Chemotherapy and Infection established the Hamao Umezawa Memorial Award as its highest academic award. This is one of the few international awards to bear the name of a Japanese citizen. Recipients since its inception include Dr. Satoshi Omura, the 2015 Nobel-Prize winner in Physiology or Medicine for the isolation and development of several hundred compounds effective against parasitic infections.



ウィーン郊外にて、土壌サンプリングを行う (1980年)
Soil sampling on the outskirts of Vienna.(1980)



DNA分子模型を用いて薬剤の効果を検討する (1980年頃)
Investigating the effects of drugs using a DNA model.(around 1980)



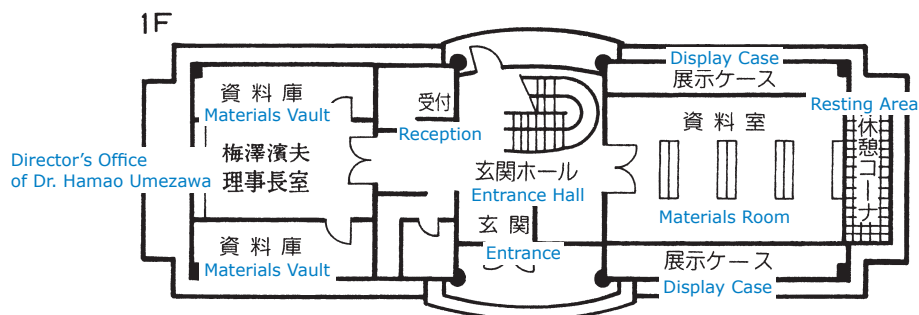
イギリス・オックスフォード大学にて、講演を行う (1981年)
Lecturing at Oxford University in the UK.(1981)

梅澤濱夫記念館（世田谷区玉川）

Hamao Umezawa Memorial Museum (Tamagawa, Setagaya-ku)

当財団は、梅澤濱夫博士の偉業を永く継承するため、その業績を物語る品々を保存・展示する梅澤濱夫記念館を1988年に設立いたしました。展示を通して、昭和の偉大な微生物学者、梅澤博士を皆様にご紹介出来れば幸いです。

The Foundation established the Hamao Umezawa Memorial Museum in 1988 to preserve and display the articles that tell the story of Dr. Hamao Umezawa's work to preserve his great achievements for posterity. It's our pleasure to introduce to you Dr. Umezawa—a great microbiologist during the mid-20th century.



1F

梅澤濱夫理事長室

Director's Office of Hamao Umezawa

微生物化学研究所(微化研)で執務を行っていた理事長室が復現されており、梅澤博士が使用した机、本棚などが当時のまま保存されています。机の上には、様々な論文や試料そして書きかけの原稿などが置かれています。いつ梅澤博士が現れても不思議ではないような雰囲気です。

The director's office where the work of the Institute of Microbial Chemistry (IMC) was carried out has been restored and is preserved as it was during Dr. Umezawa's time including the actual desks, bookshelves, and other articles that he used. Placed on his desk are his research papers, research materials, unfinished manuscripts, and other materials. One can imagine the appearance of Dr. Umezawa.



1F

資料室・資料庫

Materials Rooms/Materials Vaults

資料室では年譜や発見化合物などをパネル展示するとともに、世界中の国、大学や団体から贈られた賞状、勲章、市販された薬のパッケージ、著書、愛用品などを展示しております。文化勲章やレジオンドヌール勲章(仏)などをはじめポール・エールリヒ賞など世界的に著名な賞の賞状、メダル、盾、マントなどがご覧頂けます。

資料庫には梅澤博士執筆の論文原稿、論文別刷、特許関連資料、各種報告書などが保存されています。展示中に劣化が進んだ資料に関してはデジタル化を行い複製品を展示し、オリジナル資料は大切に保管しています。

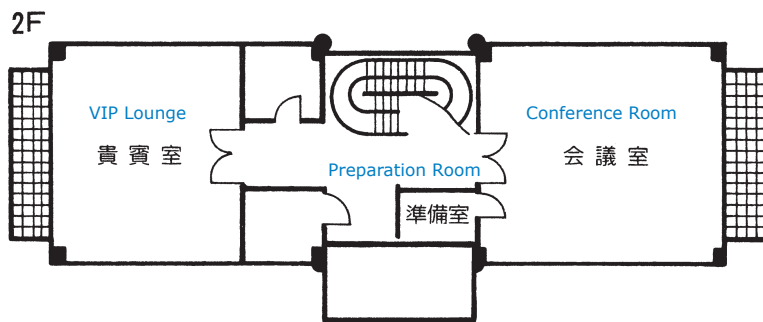
The materials rooms feature display panels showing chronologies, discovered chemical compounds, and other information as well as commemorations and awards received from countries, universities, and organizations from around the world; packages of medicines that were commercialized; books he wrote, items he was fond of, and other articles.

Visitors can view the world-renowned awards, medals, plaques, robes, and other items he was awarded including the Order of Culture (Japan), Legion d'Honneur (France), and the Paul Ehrlich and Ludwig Darmstaedter Prize.

These rooms preserve the scientific paper manuscripts, published papers, patent related materials, and other documents written by Dr. Umezawa.

Materials that have deteriorated while they were on display have been digitized and replicas created for display while the original materials are carefully preserved in storage.





2F

会議室

Conference Room

各種会合、講演会等が開催されます。春には梅澤博士の愛した多摩堤を彩る桜を眺めることもでき、季節の移ろいを感じながら落ち着いた雰囲気の中で会議を行うことができます。スライド投影の設備も整っています。

This is where meetings, speeches, and other gatherings are held. The cherry blossoms that adorn the Tama embankment, so loved by Dr. Umezawa, can be seen from this room. You can engage in a peaceful conference while feeling the seasonal change. Equipment for slide projection is also present.



2F

貴賓室

VIP Lounge

梅澤博士の業績を振り返りながら、静かな時間を過ごすことができます。上品な応接セットが設えられ、壁面は梅澤博士とご親交のあった画家の絵で飾られています。梅澤博士や微生物化学研究所(微化研)の古いアルバムをめくりながら、日本の抗生物質研究の歴史に思いを馳せてください。

You can look back on the achievements of Dr. Umezawa in a relaxed atmosphere in this lounge. An elegant drawing suite is set up inside. The paintings by artists who were friends with Dr. Umezawa adorn the wall. Please take in the history of Japanese antibiotic history while turning over the old albums of Dr. Umezawa and the Institute of Microbial Chemistry (IMC).



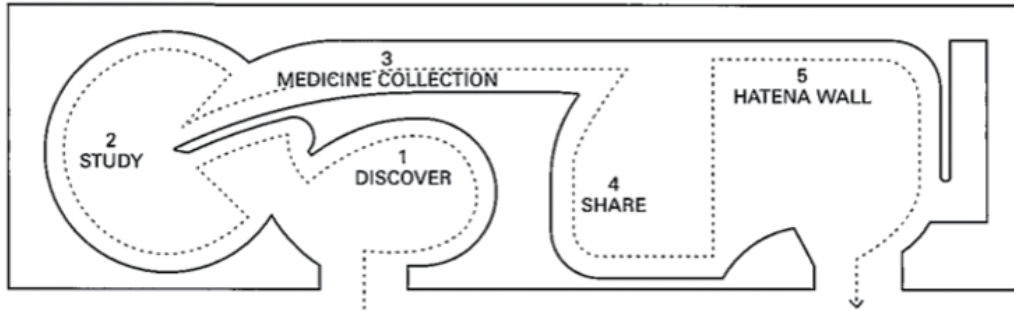
梅澤濱夫記念館 目黒 (HUM)

Hamao Umezawa Memorial Museum Meguro (HUM)

梅澤濱夫記念館に続く施設として誕生したHUMは、梅澤博士の独創的な探求の軌跡を通じて、「微生物と化学が起こす奇跡をもっと近くに」体験できるミュージアムです。

現在そして未来へ、梅澤博士が伝えたかったメッセージが聴こえるでしょうか？

The HUM was created after the Hamao Umezawa Memorial Museum as a museum where visitors can experience “Getting closer to the miracles made possible by microbes and chemistry” by following the ingenious research path taken by Dr. Umezawa.
Can you hear the message Dr. Umezawa is trying to give us for today, and for the future?



1. DISCOVER

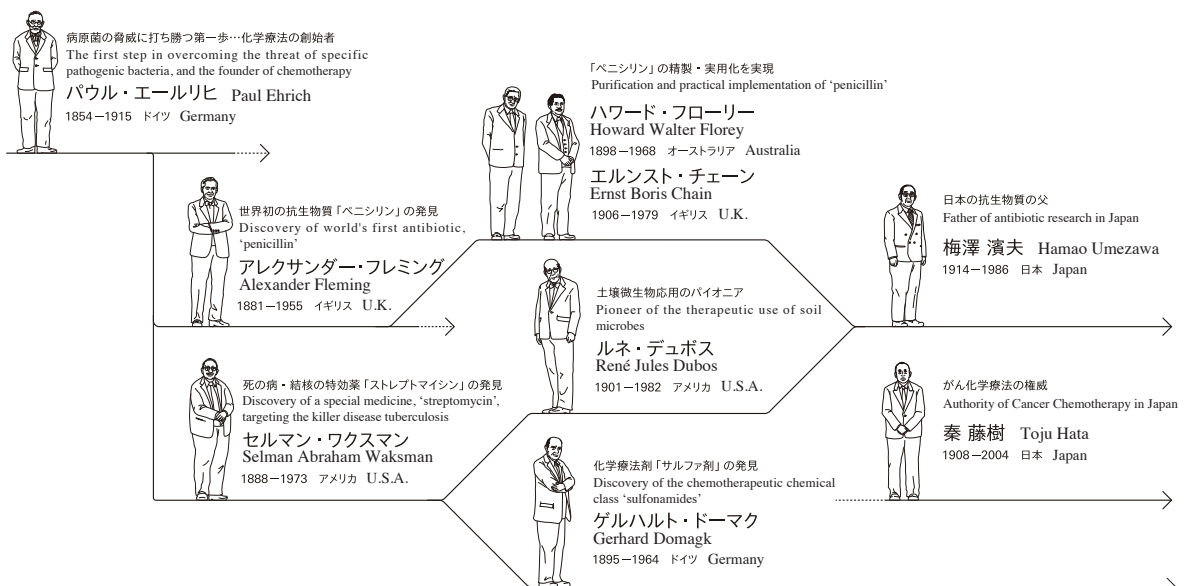
梅澤博士が情熱を注ぎ続けた微生物化学とは何か？ その魅力に出会えるゾーン。
微生物からの医薬品の開発を解説しています。

What is the microbial chemistry that Dr. Umezawa was so enthusiastic about?
Discover it here.
This area explains the development of pharmaceuticals from microbes.



梅澤博士に至る化学療法、微生物化学研究のリレー

Genealogy of chemotherapy and microbial chemistry research leading to Dr. Umezawa



2. STUDY

梅澤博士の足跡を通じて、微生物化学、抗生物質への理解を深められるゾーン。
梅澤博士の生涯を紹介するとともに、わが国における抗生物質研究の歴史を振り返ります。

This area gives you a greater understanding of microbial chemistry and antibiotics by following the footsteps of Dr. Umezawa.
The life of Dr. Umezawa is introduced and an overview of the history of antibiotics research in Japan is presented.



3. MEDICINE COLLECTION

果てしなき研究の結晶。梅澤博士、微生物化学研究所(微化研)が上市した医薬品を鑑賞できるゾーン。
微化研が現在までに上市した医薬品、動物用医薬品、農薬のパッケージを紹介します。

The results of endless research. This area exhibits the pharmaceuticals that were commercialized by Dr. Umezawa and the Institute of Microbial Chemistry.
Visitors can see some of the packages from pharmaceuticals, veterinary pharmaceuticals, and agricultural chemicals that have been commercialized to date by the Institute of Microbial Chemistry (IMC).



4. SHARE

梅澤博士の功績を未来へどうつなげているか、微生物化学の現在を共有できるゾーン。
微化研で現在行われている研究をTVモニターで紹介しています。

This area shares information regarding the current state of microbial chemistry and how the achievements of Dr. Umezawa link to the future.
TV monitors show some of the microbial chemistry research that is currently being conducted.



5. HATENA WALL

もっとわかる微生物化学へ。心に芽生えた「？」を解決し、知的好奇心をさらに広げるゾーン。
微生物化学に関するみなさまの疑問にQ&A方式でお答えいたします。
ミクロの世界をのぞいてみませんか。

For a better understanding of microbial chemistry: this area answers the pressing questions that may come to mind to further expand your intellectual curiosity.
The questions of visitors regarding microbial chemistry have been answered using a Q&A format. Come join us as we peer into the micro world.



■ アクセス & 問い合わせ Access



梅澤濱夫記念館

〒158-0094
東京都世田谷区玉川 1-3-28
Tel: 03-3441-4173 (微生物化学研究所)
office@bikaken.or.jp

交通手段
東急田園都市線 二子玉川駅より徒歩 8 分

Hamao Umezawa Memorial Museum

1-3-28 Tamagawa, Setagaya-ku Tokyo 158-0094
Tel :+81-3-3441-4173
office@bikaken.or.jp
(Institute of Microbial Chemistry)

Access

8 min walk from Futako-tamagawa Station on the Tokyu Den-en-toshi Line.



梅澤濱夫記念館 目黒 (HUM)

〒141-0021
東京都品川区上大崎 3-14-24
Tel: 03-3441-4173 (微生物化学研究所)
Fax: 03-3441-7589
office@bikaken.or.jp

交通手段

東急目黒線、東京メトロ南北線、都営地下鉄三田線 各線 目黒駅より徒歩 15 分
JR 山手線、東急池上線、都営地下鉄浅草線 各線 五反田駅より徒歩 10 分

Hamao Umezawa Memorial Museum Meguro (HUM)

3-14-24 Kamiosaki, Shinagawa-ku Tokyo 141-0021
Tel :+81-3-3441-4173
Fax:+81-3-3441-7589
office@bikaken.or.jp
(Institute of Microbial Chemistry)

Access

15 min walk from Meguro Station on the following lines: JR Yamanote Line,
Tokyu Meguro Line, Subway Namboku Line and Subway Mita Line.
10 min walk from Gotanda Station on the following lines: JR Yamanote Line,
Tokyu Ikegami Line and Subway Asakusa Line.

