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## ECCO-AOCC Visiting Travel Grant Find a Centre

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The [Asian Organization for Crohn's and Colitis](#) (AOCC) and the [European Crohn's and Colitis Organisation](#) (ECCO) offer two collaborative ECCO-AOCC Visiting Travel Grants.

The aim is to offer an opportunity for European investigators ([ECCO Members](#)) to visit Inflammatory Bowel Disease (IBD) Centres in Asia or for Asian investigators ([AOCC Members](#)) to visit an IBD Centre in Europe ([ECCO Country Members](#)), to learn about advanced endoscopy related to IBD or for clinical observations as an IBD Specialist. They are not designed to support travel to congresses or meetings.

Up to two ECCO-AOCC Visiting Travel Grants may be given in 2025. See the [ECCO-AOCC Visiting Travel Grant Fact Sheet](#) for more information. Deadline for submission May 5, 2025

### Find a Centre

In collaboration with the ECCO project E-QUALITY; we now have public profiles online for many participating centres

To assist in finding a suitable host centre, please explore the public profiles with IBD specific centres across the world:

[FIND A CENTRE](#)

### Asian Centres

In addition, the [Asian Organization for Crohn's and Colitis](#) (AOCC) have prepared a list of eight Asian institutions able to host: including Japan (4), Korea (2), Hong Kong (1), and, Singapore (1).

Hyogo Medical University Hospital\_Japan

Juntendo University\_Japan

Kobe University Graduate School of Medicine\_Japan

Toho University Sakura Medical Center\_Japan

Samsung Medical Center\_Korea

Severance Hospital\_Korea

The Chinese University of Hong Kong\_Hong Kong

Tan Tock Seng Hospital\_Singapore

Please see further details for each institution on the next pages.



# Entry Form Candidate for Reception Facility for ECCO-AOCC Visiting Travel Grant

## Name of the facility

Name: Hyogo Medical University Hospital

Country: Japan

Address: 1-1, Mukogawa, Nishinomiya, Hyogo, 663-8501, Japan

URL: <https://www.hosp.hyo-med.ac.jp/service/support/ibd/>

## Contact person

Name: Shinichiro Shinzaki

E-mail: sh-shinzaki@hyo-med.ac.jp

## Short description of the facility (Specialty, Number of IBD patients, Research field, Education, etc.)

We have the oldest IBD center in Japan started in 2009 and treat more than 2,300 IBD patients per year (case basis). Our hospital was the first to start cytopheresis therapy for IBD patients in Japan. We are also one of the few hospitals in Japan to have a specialized IBD surgery department. We participate in many clinical studies and translational researches as a representative and a collaborating institution. The new hospital building will open in September 2026, where you can see the brand-new IBD-specialized facilities.

## Learning opportunities

We have hosted many international visitors. Our IBD center provides visitors with the opportunity to observe inpatient unit/outpatient clinic, endoscopic and surgical cases, and MDT clinical conferences depending on the duration of the visit.

## Accommodation/Dormitory

Available  Not available



# Entry Form Candidate for Reception Facility for ECCO-AOCC Visiting Travel Grant

## Name of the facility

Name: Juntendo University

Country: Japan

Address: 2-1-1 Hongo Bunkyo-ku Tokyo 113-8421 Japan

URL: <https://en.juntendo.ac.jp/>

## Contact person

Name: Dai Ishikawa

E-mail: [dai@juntendo.ac.jp](mailto:dai@juntendo.ac.jp)

## Short description of the facility (Specialty, Number of IBD patients, Research field, Education, etc.)

We deepen our understanding of cutting-edge research in gut microbiology and its medical applications, focusing on studies related to Ulcerative Colitis (UC) and Fecal Microbiota Transplantation (FMT). Beyond UC, we aim to explore the connection between gut microbiota and overall health, with the goal of advancing clinical applications. Additionally, participants will learn the fundamentals of bioinformatics - a field born from the integration of life sciences, information science, and statistical mechanics. By applying these concepts, the course aims to cultivate specialists capable of proposing therapeutic methods utilizing gut microbiota.

## Learning opportunities

- 1) Clinical research aimed at promoting antibiotic-assisted FMT (A-FMT) for UC patients
- 2) Elucidation of FMT mechanisms using metagenomic and immunological analyses
- 3) Basic research on the preparation and storage of gut microbiota solutions for FMT
- 4) Research on the matching of immune types and gut microbiota between donors and patients using bioinformatics
- 5) Basic research on the relationship between allergic diseases and gut microbiota
- 6) Basic research on the connection between gut microbiota and health
- 7) Clinical research on A-FMT therapy for patients with Parkinson's disease
- 8) Clinical research on the combination of immune checkpoint inhibitors and A-FMT for cancer patients

## Accommodation/Dormitory

Available  Not available



# Entry Form Candidate for Reception Facility for ECCO-AOCC Visiting Travel Grant

## Name of the facility

Name: Kobe University Graduate School of Medicine

Country: Japan

Address: 7-5-1, Kusunoki-cho, Chuo-ku, Kobe, 650-0017, Japan

URL: <https://www.med.kobe-u.ac.jp/en/>

## Contact person

Name: Namiko Hoshi

E-mail: nhoshi@med.kobe-u.ac.jp

## Short description of the facility (Specialty, Number of IBD patients, Research field, Education, etc.)

The facility is a leading center for inflammatory bowel disease (IBD) care, managing approximately 300 patients with ulcerative colitis (UC) and 100 patients with Crohn's disease (CD). The department provides advanced therapeutic options for refractory IBD, including the use of biologic agents and Janus kinase (JAK) inhibitors. It engages in a wide spectrum of research ranging from basic science to translational studies, facilitating the application of scientific discoveries to clinical practice. The department is also deeply committed to education and actively welcomes international fellows for IBD medical training.

## Learning opportunities

Visiting fellows will have the opportunity to observe and participate in a variety of clinical activities, including endoscopic procedures and the management of IBD patients in both inpatient and outpatient settings. Although departmental seminars are conducted in Japanese, the program places a strong emphasis on individualized mentorship through one-on-one discussions with physicians to review clinical cases and therapeutic decision-making. The program actively encourages academic exchange and collaboration in IBD-related research.

## Accommodation/Dormitory

Available  Not available



# Entry Form Candidate for Reception Facility for ECCO-AOCC Visiting Travel Grant

## Name of the facility

Name: Toho University Sakura Medical Center

Country: Japan

Address: 564-1 Shimoshizu, Sakura, Chiba 285-8741

URL: <https://www.lab.toho-u.ac.jp/med/sakura/gastroenterology/>

## Contact person

Name: Katsuyoshi Matsuoka

E-mail: [matsuoka@fk2.so-net.ne.jp](mailto:matsuoka@fk2.so-net.ne.jp)

## Short description of the facility (Specialty, Number of IBD patients, Research field, Education, etc.)

Toho University Sakura Medical Center is a leading academic and tertiary care hospital located in Chiba Prefecture, close to Tokyo. The Department of Gastroenterology is nationally recognized for its excellence in the management of inflammatory bowel disease (IBD), including ulcerative colitis (UC) and Crohn's disease (CD). Our department currently manages approximately 1,000 UC and 500 CD patients, offering state-of-the-art diagnostic and therapeutic services.

We are actively involved in clinical research, including investigator-initiated studies, multicenter clinical trials, and translational research in IBD. We also have collaborations with pharmaceutical and academic institutions. The department is equipped with advanced endoscopic technologies, including balloon-assisted enteroscopy and endoscopic balloon dilatation of small intestinal strictures.

## Learning opportunities

- Observe and participate in the diagnosis and management of UC and CD patients in a high-volume clinical setting.
- Observe balloon-assisted small intestinal endoscopy.
- Learn techniques for endoscopic balloon dilatation of small intestinal strictures.
- Understand the framework and operation of clinical trials in Japan.

## Accommodation/Dormitory

Available

Not available

*(Accommodation support may be provided upon request, including assistance in arranging nearby hotels.)*



# Entry Form Candidate for Reception Facility for ECCO-AOCC Visiting Travel Grant

## Name of the facility

Name: Samsung Medical Center

Country: Korea, Republic of

Address: (06351) 81 Irwon-Ro Gangnam-gu. Seoul, Korea

URL: [https://www.samsunghospital.com/gb/language/english/departments/departmentsView.do?DP\\_CODE=IM1](https://www.samsunghospital.com/gb/language/english/departments/departmentsView.do?DP_CODE=IM1)

## Contact person

Name: Sung Noh Hong, M.D., Ph.D.

E-mail: [gisnhong@gmail.com](mailto:gisnhong@gmail.com), [sungnoh.hong@samsung.com](mailto:sungnoh.hong@samsung.com)

## Short description of the facility (Specialty, Number of IBD patients, Research field, Education, etc.)

Samsung Medical Center is one of the largest IBD centers in South Korea. Our center is focusing on proactive therapeutic drug monitoring, IBD endoscopic intervention (small bowel endoscopy, endoscopic stricture dilation, and endoscopic mucosal dissection/endoscopic mucosal resection for IBD dysplasia) in clinical practice. For translational research, we are focusing on IBD modeling using patient-derived intestinal organoids.

## Learning opportunities

Observership: advanced endoscopy and clinical observations related to IBD care.

## Accommodation/Dormitory

Available  Not available



# Entry Form Candidate for Reception Facility for ECCO-AOCC Visiting Travel Grant

## Name of the facility

Name: Severance Hospital

Country: Korea, Republic of

Address: 50-1, Yonsei-ro, Seodaemun-gu, Seoul 03722, Republic of Korea

URL: <https://sev.severance.healthcare/sev-en/about/overview.do>

## Contact person

Name: Jae Hee Cheon, M.D., Ph.D.

E-mail: [geniushee@yuhs.ac](mailto:geniushee@yuhs.ac)

## Short description of the facility (Specialty, Number of IBD patients, Research field, Education, etc.)

Severance Hospital, founded in 1885 by Dr. H. N. Allen, was the country's first western-style hospital named Chejungwon (Kwanghyewon) and has been serving national health and leading the medical industry in South Korea ever since.

Our IBD center is focusing on translational research including microbiome and multi-omics study.

We are following 3000-4000 patients with IBD a year.

We have established an IBD multidisciplinary team, and the team includes not only colorectal surgeon and radiologist, but also a social work team, pharmacist, clinical dietitian, and ostomy specialist nurse to actively care for IBD patients.

## Learning opportunities

Observership:

Out-patient & in-patient observation

Endoscopy observation

Visit for Avison Biomedical research center

## Accommodation/Dormitory

Available  Not available



# Entry Form Candidate for Reception Facility for ECCO-AOCC Visiting Travel Grant

## Name of the facility

Name: The Chinese University of Hong Kong – Institute of Digestive Disease

Country: Hong Kong, China

Address: Prince of Wales Hospital, 30-32 Ngan Shing Street, Shatin, New Territories

URL: <https://www.idd.cuhk.edu.hk/>

## Contact person

Name: Institute of Digestive Disease

E-mail: [idd\\_info@cuhk.edu.hk](mailto:idd_info@cuhk.edu.hk)

## Short description of the facility (Specialty, Number of IBD patients, Research field, Education, etc.)

Under the leadership of Professor Siew Ng and Dr. Joyce Mak at the Institute of Digestive Disease, The Chinese University of Hong Kong, our Inflammatory Bowel Disease (IBD) team conducts extensive research at both local and international levels. We provide comprehensive care for our IBD patients, offering both inpatient and outpatient services, currently serving over 1,000 individuals at our center.

Pioneering in Hong Kong, we established the territory-wide Hong Kong IBD registry, which tracks the disease progression of nearly 3,000 IBD patients in the region. Additionally, we spearheaded the Asia-Pacific Crohn's and Colitis Epidemiology Study (ACCESS), a collaborative initiative involving 11 countries across Asia and Australia, aimed at advancing IBD research in the Asia-Pacific region. Our team is also at the forefront of the GIVES-21 IBD cohort, which encompasses 29 newly industrialized regions globally, focusing on the latest incidence rates, disease progression, and environmental risk factors associated with IBD development.

With a strong emphasis on a multi-disciplinary approach, we collaborate with IBD surgeons, radiologists, IBD nurses, and pathologists to deliver holistic care. Our high-volume endoscopy center provides high quality and advanced endoscopic therapies for our IBD patients. Our institute provides ample opportunities for database, natural history, and microbiome-related research, positioning us as leaders in the field of IBD and gut microbiota studies.



## Learning opportunities

We offer different activities to our overseas fellows, including attachment at our ward round and grand round, out-patient clinics (including the joint medical and surgical IBD clinics), following our multidisciplinary meetings, attachment at our intestinal ultrasound session and chromoendoscopy session for IBD surveillance, joining our journal club and research meeting.

## Accommodation/Dormitory

Available  Not available



# Entry Form Candidate for Reception Facility for ECCO-AOCC Visiting Travel Grant

## Name of the facility

Name: Tan Tock Seng Hospital (TTSH) Inflammatory Bowel Disease (IBD) Service

Country: Singapore

Address: 11 Jalan Tan Tock Seng

URL: \_\_\_\_\_

## Contact person

Name: Dr Lin Huiyu

E-mail: [Huiyu\\_lin@ttsh.com.sg](mailto:Huiyu_lin@ttsh.com.sg)

## Short description of the facility (Specialty, Number of IBD patients, Research field, Education, etc.)

Our Inflammatory Bowel Disease (IBD) service at Tan Tock Seng Hospital (TTSH) provides comprehensive care for over 300 patients with Crohn's disease and ulcerative colitis. Our multidisciplinary team of gastroenterologists, specialist nurses, pathologists, colorectal surgeons, radiologists, dietitians, and other healthcare professionals work together to deliver personalised, evidence-based treatment.

We hold regular monthly IBD-educational updates and have experience in industry-sponsored multicentre randomised controlled trials as well as investigator-initiated research projects. TTSH is a training centre for gastroenterology senior residents and junior residents for internal medicine. We also facilitate development and education for consultants from other hospital within the national healthcare group (NHG, Singapore) who are interested in the field of IBD.

Our services:

- Diagnosis and assessment using advanced endoscopic techniques and imaging
- Customised treatment plans, including the latest biological therapies and infusion services
- Regular disease activity monitoring using validated tools
- Nutritional screening and dietary advice
- Nurse-led clinics for ongoing support and education
- Vaccination advice and administration for IBD patients
- Endoscopic surveillance for cancer prevention in long-standing colitis
- Endoscopic balloon dilatation for strictures in Crohn's disease

## Learning opportunities

Diagnosis and assessment using advanced endoscopic techniques and imaging  
Managing patients with complex IBD, including access to the latest biological therapies  
Dye chromoendoscopic surveillance for cancer prevention in long-standing colitis  
Endoscopic balloon dilatation for strictures in Crohn's disease  
Research in IBD

## Accommodation/Dormitory

Available  Not available