

Dear friend,

I was appointed as the section chief of the Division of Risk Assessment and the JaCVAM Secretary general of the National Institute of Health Sciences on April 1st, 2021. Last year, the JaCVAM Secretariat was able to celebrate its 15th anniversary with the support of many stakeholders.

In order to carry on the good tradition established by the predecessor, Dr. Hajime Kojima, and further develop JaCVAM in line with the demands of the times, JaCVAM must cooperate with more excellent experts than ever before.

Therefore, I would like to sincerely ask for your continued support and encouragement as I will do my best as the JaCVAM Secretary general.

April, 1<sup>st</sup> 2021  
Takao Ashikaga, Ph.D.,  
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