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Dr Kassai is a founding Professor and Chair of the Department of Community and Family Medicine at Fukushima Medical University, Fukushima, Japan. He is a member of the Board of Directors of the Japan Primary Care Association and acts as Senior Advisor of its International Committee. He graduated from Hokkaido University School of Medicine, Sapporo, and completed a residency training in family medicine at the University of British Columbia, Vancouver, British Columbia, Canada. In 1996 he founded the Hokkaido Centre for Family Medicine (HCFM) and started the first formal family medicine training program in Japan. After having made the HCFM a successful model of Japanese residency program, Dr Kassai moved to Fukushima to found the first medical school department of community-based family medicine in Japan at Fukushima Medical University in 2006. He is a Vice Chair of the Organizing Committee, and Chair of the Scientific Program Committee of WONCA APR 2019 Kyoto.