

URGENT ANNOUNCEMENT FROM SPSJ
CANCELLATION OF THE 58th SPSJ ANNUAL MEETING
In Relation with the H1N1 New Influenza Epidemic in Kobe City

An increasing number of patients of the H1N1 new influenza are now being reported in Kobe City, the venue of the 58th SPSJ Annual Meeting to be held from Wednesday, May 27th to Friday, May 29th.

Given this spreading epidemic, SPSJ and its Executive Board, which convened on May 18th, have now decided to *cancel the coming SPSJ Annual Meeting*.

The decision is based on serious considerations of all the information available, including the current official positions of the Ministry of Health, Labor and Welfare, the Ministry of Education, Science, Culture and Sports, and the local governments in Japan. The Society would like to emphasize that it has placed the first priority on the health, safety, and security of all the advance registrants, the speakers, and SPSJ members.

In the subsequent announcements via e-mail and its website(<http://www.spsj.or.jp/nenkai.html>), SPSJ will certainly inform all of you of our canceling policy, liability policy, and other necessary procedures incurred by this cancellation.

It is a regret to all of us that SPSJ has had to reach this decision, and the Society does ask all the registrants and the members understand our difficult decision.

Mitsuo Sawamoto
SPSJ President
On Behalf of SPSJ and the Executive Board