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“Dual Journeys: Nutrients in the Body, Me in the World”

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Nutrients are essential for all living organisms. In humans, dietary nutrients must first be absorbed by intestinal cells via membrane transporters. From there, they circulate through the bloodstream to reach various tissues, where individual cells take up the nutrients by specific transporters to support cellular functions. Metabolites generated during this process are then excreted from cells. In the kidneys, these nutrients and metabolites are filtered and selectively reabsorbed—again, through transporters. At every step of this journey, transporters play central roles in regulating nutrient homeostasis. In this seminar, I will share my research on nutrient transporters across multi-hierarchical levels—from molecular studies (function and complexes), to cellular dynamics (biogenesis and turnover), and up to systemic levels (transporter networks and their significance in physiology and diseases).

Parallel to this scientific journey is my personal one. Just as nutrients navigate in the body, my own path as a researcher has been shaped by dynamic interactions with people and scientific communities. These connections have guided my growth and led me to Tokushima University this time. Through this talk, I hope to share the stories of both Journeys.

— 本講演は大学院特別講義およびクラスターコアセミナーを兼ねます —

This lecture serves as a graduate school special lecture and a cluster core seminar.