

## Unraveling the Mystery of Influenza

### インフルエンザの謎に迫る

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In the past 100 years, three influenza virus subtypes have caused four pandemics: the 1918 Spanish (H1N1), 1957 Asian (H2N2), 1968 Hong Kong (H3N2) and 2009 swine-origin (H1N1) pandemics. Pandemic influenza A viruses seem to be generated by transmission of avian viruses to other animal species or by genetic reassortment between avian and other host viruses. New pandemic strains to which most people have no immunity spread globally. The complete genome sequences of many influenza viruses are known, but we do not understand the whole molecular basis of the viral pathogenesis. Additionally, influenza viruses resistant to antiviral drugs frequently emerge.

In this symposium, the five symposiasts who are at the forefront of influenza research will present recent achievements and new drugs.