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Professor, Stomatognathic Function and Occlusal Reconstruction, Graduate School of Biomedical Sciences, Tokushima University, Japan 2012 - present

Associate Professor, Oral Rehabilitation and Regenerative Medicine, Okayama University Graduate School of Medicine, Dentistry and Pharmaceutical Sciences, 2005-2012

Assistant Professor, Oral Biology and Medicine, UCLA School of Dentistry , U.S.A., 2002 - 2005

Staff Research Associate, Oral Biology and Medicine, UCLA School of Dentistry, U.S.A., 1999-2002

Assistant Professor, Fixed Prosthodontics, Okayama University Dental School, Japan 1997-1999

Hospital Resident, Diagnostic Sciences and Orofacial Pain, UCLA School of Dentistry, U.S.A., 1996-1998

Research Assistant, Fixed Prosthodontics, Okayama University Dental School, Japan 1992 - 1997

Ph.D., Thesis: Epidemiological Investigation of Craniomandibular Disorders in Japanese adult populations, Graduate School of Dentistry, Okayama University, Japan 1988

Doctor of Dental Surgery, Okayama University Dental School, Japan , 1998

Presentation Date:	**Tuesday 8 May 2018 10:30 AM - 11:30 AM & 3:30 PM -4:30 PM**
Venue	**SMX CONVENTION CENTER MANILA Function Room 5**
Presentation Title:	**NEUROTRANSMITTERS AND OROFACIAL PAIN TRANSMISSION MECHANISMS**

Orofacial pain is one of the most severe pain and many patients suffer with this condition. Orofacial pain is reported to be caused by peripheral nerve injury which induces hyper-excitability of the neurons in the sensory ganglion. Despite the absence of synaptic contacts in adult sensory ganglia, the somata of sensory neurons can be transiently depolarized and cross-excited by the activation of neighboring neurons within the same ganglion. Our previous research had shown that neurotransmitters are released within the peripheral sensory ganglia, which are responsible for causing pain. Further we have shown that inhibition of the release of these neurotransmitters reduced pain behavior in animal orofacial pain models.