

Report for Joint Research Fiscal Year 2022

Adoption number	2022B10
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Affiliated Organization	UNIVERSITY OF MBUJIMAYI
Job Title	Vice-Dean of Faculty of Medicine
Research Topic	Validation of a point-of-care assay for assessing the gastric cancer risk in resource-limited settings
Research Period	June 1, 2022 ~ March 31, 2023
Corresponding RCGLID Faculty member	Yamaoka Yoshio
Summary of Research Results for Fiscal Year 2022	
<p>The present study aimed at validating an early screening test of gastric cancer risk in patients infected with <i>Helicobacter pylori</i> in resource-limited settings, by measuring serum levels of pepsinogens. The study was planned to include in its first phase 100 participants and to take place in the city of Mbuji mayi, DR Congo. Serum pepsinogen levels should be measured in the Oita University laboratory and results compared to biopsy histologic examination findings. Between January 27, and February 14, 2023, the investigators conducted the survey in Mbuji mayi: discussing with the hospital that was to serve as the survey site, informing the population, pre-registering volunteers, and conducting pre-examinations of participants. The survey included interviews, endoscopic examinations, and the collection of biological samples, including serum and gastric biopsies. Ultimately, the study involved 30 participants, whose serum and gastric biopsy samples were collected. Unfortunately, we were unable to reach our initial target of 100 participants due to the high cost of renting the endoscopy equipment, which the allocated funds could not cover. Additionally, we experienced unexpected delays related to difficulties in transporting the dry shipper for sample preservation, from Kinshasa to Mbuji mayi.</p> <p>After the survey was completed, the samples were transported to Kinshasa for temporary storage, before shipping to Oita, Japan. Thus, laboratory experiments have not yet started.</p>	