



**PRESS ANNOUNCEMENT
For Immediate Release**

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Dr. Michio Ono to Present on the Challenges of Dementia and the “Kono Method” of Dementia Care
Health professionals, caregivers and family members of dementia patients
are welcome to attend this free guest lecture

SAN FRANCISCO (February 28, 2018) – The Center, also known as the Japanese Cultural and Community Center of Northern California (JCCNC) will host a special guest lecture by visiting medical researcher from Japan, Michio Ono, MD, on the growing crisis of dementia in Japan and methods of treatment. The lecture will be held on Thursday, March 29 from 6:00-8:00 p.m. at the Center (1840 Sutter Street, San Francisco).



Dr. Michio Ono will be making a special guest lecture at the Center on his work treating dementia patients in Japan, including an overview of types of dementia, its symptoms and treatments. Dr. Ono will introduce the “Kono Method” of dementia care developed by Dr. Kazuhiko Kono, which has been used to treat over 30,000 dementia patients in Japan. The Kono Method has shown to bring patients dramatic improvements and put smiles back on the faces of the patients, family and care workers. As Dr. Ono explains, “Japan leads the world when it comes to an aging society. Our experience and expertise on dementia care would positively impact other countries facing this challenge by sharing the latest and most effective treatment techniques. Families (caretakers) and doctors must work closely together in order to have success in battling dementia. The Kono Method provides an easy, effective, and personalized treatment plan for both caretakers and medical professionals to use with dementia patients.”

As Japan’s society ages, by 2025 an estimated 7.5 million people in Japan will suffer from dementia. Including patients with mild cognitive impairment, a third of Japan over the age of 65 will have dementia. This crisis can be coined the “Explosion of Dementia.” No one is immune to this phenomenon. It not only makes it challenging for the patients themselves, but it can affect their family, community, and an entire nation. Dementia is not simply memory loss, it can affect one’s ability to walk, communicate, and swallow. It can also affect personality and lead to irritability, anger, and unethical behavior. Some patients report visual hallucinations, delusions, and depressive and somnolent states. As one can imagine, dementia patients can become a heavy burden on family members and caretakers both physically and emotionally if not treated correctly.

Families and caretakers must work closely together with their physicians in order to successfully treat these patients. Dr. Ono explains further that “[D]ementia is not only Alzheimer’s or vascular disease; there are many other types that have various symptoms that can cause significant burden on caretakers. Every patient is unique

and reacts differently to medication.”

In many cases, patients are in fact misdiagnosed and treated incorrectly with the wrong type and dosage of prescription medication. The purpose of Dr. Ono’s presentation is to provide the knowledge and skills to accurately diagnose these patients and evaluate their symptoms at home simply by observing their changes and using easy scoring charts. Dr. Ono will also discuss how to choose the correct medication and supplements to use and what not to use. “As physicians, we must treat every patient individually and be in tune with their own unique responses to drugs and circumstances in order to provide the best treatment and care. Now is the time to learn and collaborate with one another to battle this epidemic,” says Dr. Ono.

Admission to this guest lecture is free and open to the public. Please RSVP by e-mailing the Center’s Programs Department at programsevents@jccnc.org or call 415-567-5505.

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About Dr. Ono

Dr. Michio Ono graduated from Tokyo Medical and Dental University in 1976 and completed neurosurgery residency at the University of Tokyo. He continued his research studies at the University of Florida and University of Zurich (microneurosurgical anatomy). He then traveled to Brazil, Argentina, and Zambia to teach and perform neurosurgery. Looking to explore other fields of medicine, he moved to England where he studied tropical infections and public health at the University of London. Upon completion, he studied international health at Harvard University and conducted a “School and Community Health project” in Nepal. He then moved to Kerala State in India to work on community programs for long term and palliative care. In 2004, he returned to Japan to study emergency medicine. For the past 8 years, Dr. Ono has been working in a clinic and long term care facility focusing on elderly and dementia patients.

About The Center

Envisioned by the Japanese American community, The Center will be an everlasting foundation of our Japanese American ancestry, cultural heritage, histories and traditions. The Center strives to meet the evolving needs of the Japanese American community through programs, affordable services and facility usage. The Center is a non-profit community center based in San Francisco.