

# Toward Patient-Centered Oncofertility Care for Women with Breast Cancer

**JSFP***Japan Society for Fertility Preservation*

Building a National Oncofertility Network and Future Perspectives

## SPEAKER



**Yasushi Takai, MD,  
PhD**  
President, JSFP  
Saitama Medical  
University



**Nobuko Tamura, MD,  
PhD**  
Chair, Guideline  
Revision Committee,  
JSFP  
Toranomon Hospital

With recent advancements in breast cancer treatment and improved survival rates, fertility has become a critical component of survivorship for young patients. However, navigating these complex options during a life-altering diagnosis places a profound emotional, physical, and financial burden on patients.

This session addresses the crucial need for "patient-centered total care" in oncofertility. Moving beyond the mere provision of technical fertility preservation, a holistic approach is required—one that encompasses comprehensive shared decision-making support, post-treatment follow-up, and continuous psychological care.

Through this session, we aim to share concrete, practical strategies to deliver true patient-centered care via multidisciplinary collaboration. By aligning medical strategies with each individual's unique life plans and core values, this session seeks to foster discussions that will contribute to the meaningful advancement of future healthcare systems.

Oncofertility

Patient-Centered Care

Shared Decision-Making

Multidisciplinary Collaboration

Survivorship Care

Fertility Preservation

Program Day 2 | 12:15-13:15 | Luncheon Seminar 4

<https://www.j-sfp.org/>

**SPEAKER**

**Yasushi Takai, MD, PhD**  
**President, JSFP Saitama**  
**Medical University**

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## **Beyond Fertility Preservation: Oncofertility and Preconception Care for Young Women with Breast Cancer**

Advances in breast cancer treatment have substantially improved survival among young women, making reproductive health an increasingly important component of survivorship care. Oncofertility care, however, should extend beyond fertility preservation before cancer treatment and provide continuous support throughout the patient's reproductive life.

From the perspective of reproductive medicine, individualized assessment of fertility risk is essential. The impact of cancer treatment on ovarian function varies considerably according to age, baseline ovarian reserve, and treatment regimen. Even when the risk of premature ovarian insufficiency is considered relatively low, a substantial reduction in ovarian reserve may compromise future fertility. Appropriate assessment and counseling should therefore begin at diagnosis and continue after completion of cancer treatment.

For breast cancer survivors who wish to conceive, preconception care presents additional challenges. These include reassessment of ovarian function, timing of pregnancy after systemic therapy, management following interruption of endocrine therapy, selection of appropriate assisted reproductive technologies, and consideration of hereditary cancer predisposition. Long-term endocrine therapy and treatment-related amenorrhea further complicate reproductive planning.

This presentation will discuss current challenges in oncofertility care for young women with breast cancer from the perspective of an obstetrician-gynecologist. Particular emphasis will be placed on fertility assessment before and after cancer treatment and on preconception care for survivors. Establishing seamless collaboration between breast oncologists, reproductive specialists, and other healthcare professionals is essential to move from fertility preservation toward truly patient-centered, lifelong reproductive care.

**SPEAKER**

**Nobuko Tamura, MD, PhD**  
**Chair, Guideline Revision**  
**Committee, JSFP**  
**Toranomon Hospital**

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## **The JSFP Clinical Practice Guidelines for Pregnancy, Childbirth, and Oncofertility Comprehensive Care for Women with Breast Cancer in Japan (4th Edition, 2026).**

**Background:**

In Japan, breast cancer oncofertility care has evolved from a 2014 government-funded initiative (led by Dr. Shimizu at the National Cancer Center) into rigorous scientific guidelines managed by the Japan Society for Fertility Preservation (JSFP). The newly revised 4th Edition (2026) marks a major milestone, shifting focus from merely compiling clinical evidence to establishing robust social implementation and deepening Shared Decision-Making (SDM) in clinical practice.

**Key Revisions in the 4th Edition (2026):**

The 2026 guidelines introduce critical updates across four clinical pillars:

**Endocrine Therapy Interruption (CQ6):** Integrating the landmark POSITIVE trial, a temporary suspension of adjuvant endocrine therapy for up to 2 years (encompassing conception, pregnancy, and breastfeeding) is formally recognized as a safe option after 18–30 months of active treatment.

**Refined Washout Contraception Period:** Reflecting drug safety label updates, the recommended post-tamoxifen contraception period is extended to 9 months for natural conception. Conversely, the JSFP consensus statement clarifies that frozen embryo transfer (FET) using pre-existing cryopreserved oocytes/embryos can safely proceed after a standard 3-month washout, as it poses no direct genotoxic risk to the fetus.

**Mitigating Financial Toxicity:** While standard infertility treatments were universalized under public insurance in 2022, oncofertility remains self-pay. To alleviate this burden, Japan's national subsidy program is now linked with mandatory registration in the "FS-Link" national registry to systematically track long-term maternal, pediatric, and oncological outcomes.

**Ethical Dilemmas:** The guidelines address emerging next-generation issues, including pre-implantation genetic testing (PGT-M) for Hereditary Breast and Ovarian Cancer (HBOC).

**Conclusion:**

The 2026 Japanese guidelines transition the clinical paradigm from "giving correct medical answers" to "discovering the most personalized path together" via structured SDM, serving as an essential multi-disciplinary communication platform.

## SPEAKER PROFILE

**JSFP***Japan Society for Fertility Preservation***Yasushi Takai, MD, PhD**

Professor and Chair, Department of Obstetrics and Gynecology, Saitama Medical Center, Saitama Medical University

President, Japan Society for Fertility Preservation (JSFP)

Dr. Yasushi Takai is Professor and Chair of the Department of Obstetrics and Gynecology at Saitama Medical Center, Saitama Medical University, Japan. He graduated from the Faculty of Medicine, The University of Tokyo, in 1991 and received his PhD from the Graduate School of Medicine, The University of Tokyo, in 1998. From 2001, he conducted research as a Research Fellow at Massachusetts General Hospital in the United States.

He joined Saitama Medical Center, Saitama Medical University, in 2004 and was appointed Professor in 2015 and Chair of the Department of Obstetrics and Gynecology in 2021.

His major clinical and research interests include reproductive medicine, reproductive endocrinology, oncofertility and fertility preservation, minimally invasive gynecologic surgery, and clinical genetics. He currently serves as President of the Japan Society for Fertility Preservation (JSFP) and is actively involved in the development of oncofertility care and fertility preservation in Japan.

**Nobuko Tamura, MD, PhD**

## [ Biography of Invited Faculty ]

Dr. Nobuko Tamura is the Director of the Department of Breast and Endocrine Surgery at Toranomon Hospital in Tokyo, a premier high-volume center ranking among the top 10 nationwide in breast cancer clinical volume. She graduated from Tokyo Medical and Dental University (currently Institute of Science Tokyo) in 2003 and completed her oncology and breast surgery training at her alma mater and the National Cancer Center Hospital, Tokyo. As a leading pioneer in Japanese oncofertility, her extensive involvement in guideline development began during her tenure at the National Cancer Center under her supervisor, Dr. Shimizu, co-authoring the historic first edition in 2014. Her leadership continued through successive updates under the Japan Society for Fertility Preservation (JSFP), serving as Vice Editor-in-Chief for the 3rd edition (2021) and currently as the Editor-in-Chief for the latest 4th Edition (2026). She is a Board-Certified Breast Surgeon, Senior Trainer, and a Board Director of the JSFP.

## [ Summary of Professional History ]

2026-Present: Director, Department of Breast and Endocrine Surgery, Toranomon Hospital

2026: Attending Surgeon, Department of Breast and Endocrine Surgery, Toranomon Hospital

2007-2011: Department of Breast Surgery, National Cancer Center Hospital, Tokyo

2003-2007, 2012-2013: Department of Surgical Oncology, Tokyo Medical and Dental University Hospital

2014: Earned PhD from Tokyo Medical and Dental University Graduate School of Medicine  
2003: Graduated from Tokyo Medical and Dental University (MD)