

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

April 3, 2015

Niigata University  
Eisai Co., Ltd.

**NIIGATA UNIVERSITY AND EISAI PRESENT  
RESULTS OF JOINT RESEARCH IN U.S. ACADEMIC JOURNAL  
*MEASURING COGNITIVE DECLINE IN PATIENTS WITH ALZHEIMER'S DISEASE  
USING BLOOD-BASED BIOMARKERS***

A research group led by Professor Takeshi Ikeuchi of the Department of Molecular Genetics within the Brain Research Institute at Niigata University (Location: Niigata prefecture, President: Sugata Takahashi) and Eisai Co., Ltd. (Headquarters: Tokyo, CEO: Haruo Naito, "Eisai") announced today that, according to their joint research, the amount of plasma desmosterol was found to be highly correlated with longitudinal cognitive decline in patients with Alzheimer's disease. These findings were published online in the U.S. academic journal *Alzheimer's & Dementia: Diagnosis, Assessment & Disease Monitoring* on March 31.

Although Alzheimer's disease may be

Figure 1. Plasma DES/CHO levels in Alzheimer's disease patients and cognitively normal individuals

Figure 2. Comparison of plasma DES/CHO among groups classified as MMSE groups

Figure 3. Change in plasma DES/CHO between baseline and follow-up visits

Figure 4. Correlation between longitudinal changes in MMSE and plasma DES/CHO in Alzheimer's disease patients, patients with mild cognitive impairment and healthy individuals

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Title of paper:

Reduced plasma desmosterol/cholesterol and longitudinal cognitive decline in Alzheimer's disease.

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