



Prof. Tomoko Ishino

Professor

Ehime University, Japan

NAME	POSITION TITLE
Tomoko Ishino	Associate Professor

EDUCATION/TRAINING			
INSTITUTION AND LOCATION	DEGREE	MM/YY	FIELD OF STUDY
University of Tokyo, Pharmaceutical Science	MPharm PhD	03/98	Developmental Biology
University of Tokyo, Pharmaceutical Science		03/01	Developmental Biology
Mie University, Graduate School of Medicine	PhD	03/06	Parasitology

Personal Statement

In our laboratory, we are working on *Plasmodium*, with a focus on mosquito-stage parasites—gametes, zygotes, ookinates, and sporozoites—using rodent malaria parasites. Using a targeted gene disruption strategy, we study to elucidate the molecular mechanisms of parasite development and invasion of target cells. Recently, we developed a stage-specific gene silencing system to investigate the conserved mechanisms between sporozoites and merozoites. Based on the biological findings, we are performing the screening for novel transmission-blocking vaccine targets. Using the wheat germ cell-free recombinant production system and membrane feeding of parasite-infected red blood cells, we selected several candidate molecules. Our major research interests include: (1) elucidation of molecular mechanisms of sporozoite invasion of target cells; (2) elucidation of molecular mechanisms of sexual-stage development; (3) screening for novel candidates as transmission-blocking vaccine targets.

Positions and Honors

EMPLOYMENT RECORD

2001-2005	Post-doctoral research fellow, Department of Medical Zoology, Mie University
2005-2009	Assistant Professor, Department of Medical Zoology, Mie University
2006-2009	Post-doctoral research fellow, Unite de Biologie et Genetique du Paludisme, Institut Pasteur
2009-2013	Associate Professor, Department of Molecular Parasitology, Graduate School of Medicine, Ehime University
2011-2013	Senior Scientific Research Specialist, Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology

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2013–present Associate Professor, Division of Molecular Parasitology,
Proteo–Science Center, Ehime University

HONORS

2007 16th Encouragement Award of The Japanese Society of Parasitology
2012 People’s Choice Poster Prize, Molecular Approaches to Malaria 2012
2016 Award of Best Oral Presentation Prize, Molecular Approaches to
Malaria 2016