

Yumi Aoyama, MD, PhD, is Professor and Chair of the Department of Dermatology at Kawasaki Medical School, Japan. Her research focuses on the physiological role of sweating in maintaining skin barrier homeostasis and its contribution to inflammatory skin diseases, particularly atopic dermatitis. Her group was the first to demonstrate that transient sweat suppression impairs skin barrier function and promotes allergic sensitization, highlighting sweating as an essential component of skin barrier protection. More recently, she has developed an artificial intelligence–based automated system to quantitatively assess skin surface microstructure and sweating patterns, enabling identification of clinically relevant endotypes and prediction of therapeutic responses in atopic dermatitis. Her research integrates dermatology, immunology, and biomedical engineering to advance precision medicine for inflammatory skin diseases. She is President of the 51st Annual Meeting of the Japanese Society for Investigative Dermatology (JSID 2026), to be held in Okayama, Japan.