

# DOHaD: meeting the global challenge of non-communicable disease

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## 【特別講演 II】

### **DOHaD: meeting the global challenge of non-communicable disease**

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Non-communicable disease (NCD) poses a major threat to global health and the economies of both developed and developing countries. NCD risk is partly set during early life, when environmental influences including parental diet, body composition and behaviours affect development of the fetus and newborn, establishing responses to later challenges such as obesogenic lifestyle. In both developing and developed societies adverse consequences of over- and under-nutrition (i.e. malnutrition) co-exist. The resulting risk is transmitted to future generations, e.g. via rising prevalence of gestational diabetes. Epidemiological, clinical and basic science research now indicates underlying mechanisms, especially epigenetic processes. These can serve as early markers of later risk and they are in principle reversible by dietary, endocrine or pharmacological intervention. Even though NCD is a medical issue, the complex interventions needed will require wider social and educational initiatives across the lifecourse as well as public health campaigns. We need to take a DOHaD perspective if we are to meet the global NCD challenge.

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