

TOPIC HIGHLIGHT

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What's new about ghrelin in 2008?

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9th NPY Meeting was held for the first time in Japan in March 2008, which was organized by Akio Inui, Professor and Chairman, Department of Psychosomatic Inter-

nal Medicine, Kagoshima University Graduate School of Medical and Dental Sciences, Kagoshima, Japan.

This TOPIC HIGHLIGHT is the “ghrelin version” of the proceedings of 9th NPY Meeting and presents examples of the critical interplay in ghrelin-NPY pathway in response to environmental, pharmacological and genetic challenges in the stomach and hypothalamus. Other major topics in connection with NPY and related peptides are published in the special issue of Nutrition, thus together representing a comprehensive review of state of the art knowledge of the operation in regulating multiple physiological functions in the periphery and CNS.

These papers are written by leaders in their respective scientific fields by the use of various approaches and models to examine the secretion and action of ghrelin, including manometric and force transducer methods to measure physiological and ghrelin peptides-induced GI motility, electrophysiology to measure neuronal activity in NPY neurons, NPY receptor knockout and other animal models to examine appetite, secretion of stomach ghrelin and leptin or gastric acid, and human studies in relation to *Helicobacter pylori*.

- 6299 Effects of ghrelin on interdigestive contractions of the rat gastrointestinal tract
Taniguchi H, Ariga H, Zheng J, Ludwig K, Takahashi T
- 6303 Growth hormone releasing peptide 2 reverses anorexia associated with chemotherapy with 5-fluoruracil in colon cancer cell-bearing mice
Perboni S, Bowers C, Kojima S, Asakawa A, Inui A
- 6306 Characteristic features of ghrelin cells in the gastrointestinal tract and the regulation of stomach ghrelin expression and production
Zhao Z, Sakai T
- 6312 Feeding behavior and gene expression of appetite-related neuropeptides in mice lacking for neuropeptide Y Y5 receptor subclass
Higuchi H, Niki T, Shiiya T
- 6318 Different effects of ghrelin, des-acyl ghrelin and obestatin on gastroduodenal motility in conscious rats
Fujimiya M, Asakawa A, Ataka K, Kato I, Inui A
- 6327 Ghrelin and *Helicobacter pylori* infection
Osawa H
- 6334 Ghrelin and gastric acid secretion
Yakabi K, Kawashima J, Kato S