

Prof. Dr.  
**Kiyotaka Okada**

National Institute for Basic Biology  
38 Nishigonaka, Myodaiji, Okazaki,  
Aichi 444-8585, Japan  
Phone: +81-564-55-7104, 7650, Fax: +81-564-53-7656  
E-mail: kiyo [at] nibb.ac.jp



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**Self-introduction**

I started my academic career with the molecular genetic analysis of the genome structure of a bacteriophage, BF23, in the graduate school of Kyoto University, and at the University of Tokyo. In 1982, I shifted my research to basic immunology, constructing a physical map of the human histocompatibility gene complex on chromosome 6 as a postdoctoral fellow at Harvard University. After coming back to Japan in 1984, I again changed subjects, to plant molecular biology using the newly-adopted model plant *Arabidopsis thaliana*, when I moved to the National Institute for Basic Biology in 1986. My interest was focused on developmental processes of plant organs, in flowers, roots and leaves, as well as their responses to physical stress such as gravity, light and touch.

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**References**

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- (2) K.Okada, H.Prentice, J.M.Boss, D.Levy, D.Kappes, T.Spies, R.Raghupathy, R.Mengler, C.Auffray, J.L.Strominger: SB subregion of the human major histocompatibility complex: Gene organization, allelic polymorphism and expression in transformed cells. *EMBO J.* 4, 739-748 (1985).
- (3) K.Okada & Y.Shimura: Reversible root-tip rotation in *Arabidopsis thaliana* seedlings induced by obstacle-touching stimulus. *Science*, 250, 274-276 (1990).
- (4) R. Tsugeki, F.A.Ditengou, Y.Sumii, K.Palme, K.Okada: The novel nuclear factor NO VEIN mediates auxin-dependent specification and patterning in the embryo, shoot and root. *Plant Cell* 21, 3133-3151 (2009)

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**CV**

1975-1982	Research Associate at the Department of Biochemistry, Faculty of Science, The University of Tokyo, Tokyo, Japan
1982-1984	Postdoctoral Fellow at the Department of Biochemistry and Molecular Biology, Harvard University, Boston, USA
1984-1986	Research Associate, Department of Biochemistry, The University of Tokyo
1986-1989	Research Associate at National Institute for Basic Biology, Okazaki, Japan
1989-1995	Associate Professor at National Institute for Basic Biology, Okazaki, Japan
1995-2007	Professor at the Department of Botany, Graduate School of Science, Kyoto University, Kyoto, Japan
2000-2005	Group director (adjunct) of the Genomic Function Research Group, Plant Science Center, RIKEN Institutes, Yokohama, Japan
2007-present	Director-General, National Institute for Basic Biology, Okazaki, Japan