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Shimizu is the Director of the Telemedicine Development Centre of Asia - at Kyushu University Hospital as well, where for more than a decade he has facilitated a comprehensive telemedicine project between Korea and Japan. This project has widely spread in various Asia- Pacific regions and is expanding globally. Dr Shimizu currently chairs the medical working group of the Asia-Pacific Advanced Network (APAN), and is a Training Centre Committee member of the World Gastroenterology Organisation, serving as a driving force for telemedicine to connect worldwide centres for continuous medical education.