

International Joint Research Projects Selected for FY 2026

(1) Development of Cutting-Edge Medical Therapies (7 Projects)

New Projects (2 Projects)

Selected Year	Project Number	Area	Principal Investigator	Position	Affiliation	Project Title	IMSUT Host Researcher	Project Member(s) (Institution / Department)
2026	K26-1215	1	Roland Beckmann	Professor	University Munich LMU	Structural basis of ribosome associated quality control	Toshifumi Inada	University Munich LMU, The Institute of Medical Science, The University of Tokyo
2026	K26-1214	1	Pierre-Antoine Defossez	Professor	CNRS/Univ Paris	Combining advanced cellular genetics with in vitro systems to decipher DNA methylation maintenance	Makoto Nakanishi	CNRS/Univ Paris, National Institute of Genetics, Division of Cancer Cell Biology, CNRS/Univ. Paris, Yokohama City University/Structural Biology Laboratory, The Institute of Medical Science, The University of Tokyo

Continuing Projects (5 Projects)

Selected Year	Project Number	Area	Principal Investigator	Position	Affiliation	Project Title	IMSUT Host Researcher	Project Member(s) (Institution / Department)
2026	K24-1118	1	Daniel Nicodemus Wilson	Professor	University of Hamburg	Structures of the Gcn2 kinase on the ribosome	Toshifumi Inada	University of Hamburg, Division of RNA and gene regulation, The Institute of Medical Science, The University of Tokyo
2026	K24-1116	1	Estelle DUPREZ	Professor	Centre de Recherche en Cancérologie de Marseille / Institut Paoli Calmettes	Deciphering and targeting EZH2 non-canonical activities to overcome therapy resistance in acute myeloid leukemia.	Atsushi Iwama	Centre de Recherche en Cancérologie de Marseille / Institut Paoli Calmettes, IRCMS, Kumamoto University, Div. Stem Cell and Molecular Medicine, Centre de Recherche en Cancérologie de Marseille, The Institute of Medical Science, The University of Tokyo
2026	K24-1114	1	Yoichi Kosodo	Professor	Korea Brain Research Institute	Uncovering human neural differentiation by advanced multi-omics for the regeneration of brain function	Yasushi Saeki	Korea Brain Research Institute, RIKEN Cluster for Pioneering Research (CPR), Hiroshima University/Graduate School of Integrated Sciences for Life, Division of Protein Metabolism, National Cancer Center Research Institute / Department of Proteomics, The Institute of Medical Science, The University of Tokyo
2026	K25-1168	1	Jacques-Olivier COQ	Professor	Centre National de la Recherche Scientifique	Mechanisms of Action of Mesenchymal Stromal Cell Therapy in Newborn Rats from Pregnant Rats with Intrauterine "Augmented Inflammation"	Tokiko Nagamura-Inoue	Centre National de la Recherche Scientifique, Kyoto Women's University, Dept of Food & Nutrition, Kyoto, Department of Pediatrics, Division of Neonatology, International University of Health and Welfare Narita Hospital, Dept of Pediatrics, Institut des Sciences du Mouvement, Aix Marseille Université/CNRS, Department of Cell Processing and Transfusion, The Institute of Medical Science, The University of Tokyo
2026	K24-1117	1	Patricia Ernst	Professor	University of Colorado/Anschutz Medical Campus	Functional interplay between endogenous MLL1/KMT2A and MLL-fusion oncoproteins	Atsushi Iwama	University of Colorado/Anschutz Medical Campus, University of Colorado/Anschutz Medical Campus, National Cancer Center Tsuruoka Metabolomics Laboratory, The Institute of Medical Science, The University of Tokyo

New Projects (2 Projects)

Selected Year	Project Number	Area	Principal Investigator	Position	Affiliation	Project Title	IMSUT Host Researcher	Project Member(s) (Institution / Department)
2026	K26-2185	2	Anna S Trigos	Group leader, Lab head	The University of Melbourne, Sir Peter MacCallum Department of Oncology	Developing multi-modal computational methods for better cancer personalised treatments	Kenta Nakai	The University of Melbourne, Sir Peter MacCallum Department of Oncology, National Cancer Center Japan, Graduate School of Frontier Sciences, The Institute of Medical Science, The Institute OF Medical Science, The University Of Tokyo
2026	K26-2210	2	Watcharin Loilome	Associate professor	Faculty of Medicine, Khon Kaen University	Integrative analysis of genomic, multi-omics, and drug-sensitivity data to establish precision medicine for cholangiocarcinoma	Tatsuhiko Shibata	Faculty of Medicine, Khon Kaen University, Khon Kaen University, Faculty of Medicine, Department of Surgery, Faculty of Medicine, Khon Kaen University, Khon Kaen, Department of Systems Biosciences and Computational Medicine, Faculty of Medicine, Khon Kaen University, Khon Kaen, Department of systems Biosciences and Computational Medicine, Faculty of Medicine, Khon Kaen University, Department of Medical Technology, School of Allied Health Sciences, Walailak University, Department of Molecular Biology, Institute for Advanced Medical Sciences, Nippon Medical School, The Institute of Medical Science, The University of Tokyo

Continuing Projects (11 Projects)

Selected Year	Project Number	Area	Principal Investigator	Position	Affiliation	Project Title	IMSUT Host Researcher	Project Member(s) (Institution / Department)
2026	K25-2117	2	Tan Bee Huat Lain	Professor	National Cancer Center Singapore	An integrated analysis of molecular genomic and metagenomic data in Asian colorectal cancer through international collaboration	Tatsuhiko Shibata	National Cancer Center Singapore, Department of Cancer Genome Informatics, Graduate School of Medicine, Osaka University, Division of Cancer Genomics, National Cancer Center Research Institute, The Institute of Medical Science, The University of Tokyo
2026	K25-2170	2	Marco Scutari	Senior Researcher (equivalent to Associate Professor)	Dalle Molle Institute for Artificial Intelligence / University of Applied Sciences and Arts of Southern Switzerland (SUPSI)	Large-scale gene regulatory network estimation from single-cell transcriptome based on high-performance computing	Seiya Imoto	Dalle Molle Institute for Artificial Intelligence / University of Applied Sciences and Arts of Southern Switzerland (SUPSI), Division of Health Medical Intelligence, Laboratory of Sequence Analysis, Aichi Cancer Center, Graduate School of Medicine, Hirotsuki University, Faculty of Mathematics, Kyushu University, The Institute OF Medical Science, The University Of Tokyo
2026	K25-2172	2	Warren Leonard	NIH Distinguished Investigator	National Institutes of Health (NIH)	Novel Treatment of AML by Combination of Chemotherapy and CD112-Targeted Immunotherapy	Satoshi Takahashi	National Institutes of Health (NIH), National Institutes of Health (NIH), Graduate School of Pharmaceutical Sciences, Graduate School of Frontier Sciences, The Institute of Medical Science, The University of Tokyo
2026	K25-2187	2	Adam Clifford Wilkinson	Assistant professor	University of Cambridge	Development and interrogation of novel blood cancer model systems	Satoshi Yamazaki	University of Cambridge, University of Kyoto, Institute of Science Tokyo, Division of Clinical Precision Research Platform, Division of Cell Regulation, Division of Strm Cell and Molecular Medicine, The Institute of Medical Science, The University of Tokyo
2026	K24-2122	2	Hironori Funabiki	Professor	The Rockefeller University	Regulation of DNA methylation on the nucleosome	Makoto Nakanishi	The Rockefeller University, Division of Cancer Cell Biology, Yokohama City University, The Institute of Medical Science, The University of Tokyo
2026	K25-2174	2	Elizabeth Ann Lipke	Professor	Auburn University	Tissue-engineered Vivospheres for cancer modeling and drug screening	Yoichi Furukawa	Auburn University, Div. Clinical Genome Research, Div. Health Medical Intelligence, Auburn University / Dept. of Chemical Engineering, The Institute OF Medical Science, The University Of Tokyo
2026	K25-2183	2	Jacqui Anne McGovern	Assistant professor	Queensland University of Technology	Humanizing the Rat Immune System: A Transformative Tool for Preclinical Cancer Research	Tomoji Mashimo	Queensland University of Technology, The Institute of Medical Science, The University of Tokyo
2026	K25-2173	2	Natini Jinawath	Associate professor	Faculty of Medicine Ramathibodi Hospital, Mahidol University	Establishing pre-clinical models to study functions of intellectual disability associated caused by a variant in the synaptotagmin 4 (SYT4) gene	Yoichi Furukawa	Faculty of Medicine Ramathibodi Hospital, Mahidol University, Division of Translational Medicine, Chakri Naruebodindra Medical Institute, Faculty of Medicine Ramathibodi Hospital, Mahidol University, Pre-clinic, Chakri Naruebodindra Medical Institute, Faculty of Medicine Ramathibodi Hospital, Mahidol University, Ramathibodi Comprehensive Cancer Center, Faculty of Medicine Ramathibodi Hospital, Mahidol University, Division of Clinical Genome Research, Human Genome Center, Center for Genomic Medicine, Kyoto University, Graduate School of Medicine, The Institute OF Medical Science, The University Of Tokyo
2026	K25-2188	2	Chen Li	Associate professor	Zhejiang University School of Medicine	Investigation of drug molecular representation using advanced AI models and its application in drug-target identification	Seiya Imoto	Zhejiang University School of Medicine, Division of Cancer Systems Biology, Aichi Cancer Center, Division of Health Medical Intelligence, The Institute OF Medical Science, The University Of Tokyo
2026	K25-2169	2	Heinrich Leonhardt	Professor	Ludwig Maximilians University Munich	Regulatory mechanism of maintenance DNA methylation	Makoto Nakanishi	Ludwig Maximilians University Munich, Cancer Cell Biology, Yokohama City University/Structural Biology Laboratory, Graduate School of Medical Life Science, Ludwig-Maximilians-Universität München/Faculty of Biology., The Institute of Medical Science, The University of Tokyo
2026	K25-2153	2	Yasuhiro Arimura	Assistant professor	Fred Hutchinson Cancer Center	Structural basis of the DNA methylation maintenance	Makoto Nakanishi	Fred Hutchinson Cancer Center, Division of Cancer Cell Biology, The Institute of Medical Science, The University of Tokyo

(3) Infectious Diseases and Immunology (23 Projects)

New Projects (15 Projects)

Selected Year	Project Number	Area	Principal Investigator	Position	Affiliation	Project Title	IMSUT Host Researcher	Project Member(s) (Institution / Department)
2026	K26-3120	3	Mahan Ghafari	Independent Research Fellow / Group Leader	Department of Biology and Pandemic Sciences Institute, University of Oxford	Phenotypic characterisation of accelerated SARS-CoV-2 evolution in chronic infections and other host environments	Kei Sato	Department of Biology and Pandemic Sciences Institute, University of Oxford, Division of Systems Virology, University of Oxford / Department of Biology, The Institute of Medical Science, The University of Tokyo
2026	K26-3184	3	Kubra Aykac	Associate professor	Hacettepe University Faculty of Medicine	Decoding Cyclic Dinucleotide (CDN)-STING-Driven Immunopathology in Pediatric Inflammatory Diseases	Ken J ISHII	Hacettepe University Faculty of Medicine, Division of Vaccine Science, The Institute of Medical Science, The University of Tokyo
2026	K26-3183	3	Yuhai Bi	Professor	Institute of Microbiology, Chinese Academy of Sciences	Research on Vaccine Development and Technological Reserve for Highly Pathogenic Influenza Viruses	Yasushi Kawaguchi	Institute of Microbiology, Chinese Academy of Sciences, Institute of Microbiology, Chinese Academy of Sciences, The Institute of Medical Science, The University of Tokyo
2026	K26-3187	3	Hye Kwon Kim	Associate professor	Chungbuk National University	Joint research on host specificity and zoonotic potential of bat merbecoviruses detected in Korea	Kei Sato	Chungbuk National University, Kyoto University/ Institute for Life and Medical Sciences, Chungbuk National University/Department of Biological science and biotechnology, The Institute of Medical Science, The University of Tokyo
2026	K26-3188	3	Erik Albert Karlsson	Professor	Institut Pasteur du Cambodge	Discovery, Evolution, and Zoonotic Potential of SARS-CoV-2-Related Coronaviruses in Cambodian Bats	Kei Sato	Institut Pasteur du Cambodge, Virology Unit, Institut Pasteur du Cambodge, The Institute of Medical Science, The University of Tokyo
2026	K26-3200	3	Otmar Schmid	Research associate	Helmholtz Center Munich - German Center for Environmental Health	Dissecting the airway niche in advanced air-liquid interface culture systems	Ken J ISHII	Helmholtz Center Munich - German Center for Environmental Health, Helmholtz Center Munich / Institute of Lung Health and Immunity, University of Wuerzburg / Department of Functional Materials in Medicine and Dentistry, Yokohama City University Medical Center Hospital, Department of General Thoracic Surgery, Yokohama City University Medical Center Hospital, Department of General Thoracic Surgery., Shiga University of Medical Science, Education Center for Medicine and Nursing, Shiga University of Medical Science, Division of Human Pathology, Department of Microbiology and Immunology, Department of Vaccine Science, Department of Microbiology and Immunology, Division of Vaccine Science, The Institute of Medical Science, The University of Tokyo
2026	K26-3190	3	Hulya Simsek	Professor	Yozgat Bozok University	Host- and Protozoa-Mediated Intervention Studies Against Malaria and Leishmaniasis	Cevayir Coban	Yozgat Bozok University, Izmir Biomedicine and Genome Center/Laboratory of Vaccine and Immunotherapeutics, Acibadem University/ Department of Pathology, Ankara University/Department of Chemistry, The Institute of Medical Science, The University of Tokyo
2026	K26-3205	3	CHENG SIANG TAN	Associate professor	Universiti Malaysia Sarawak	Genomic and Virological Characterization of SARS-CoV-2-Related Bat Coronaviruses in Sarawak, Malaysia	Kei Sato	Universiti Malaysia Sarawak, Universiti Malaysia Sarawak/Faculty of Medicine and Health Sciences, The Institute of Medical Science, The University of Tokyo
2026	K26-3189	3	Spyros Lytras	Assistant professor	Institut Pasteur	Elucidating the antigenic properties and receptor usage of diverse SARS-related coronaviruses	Kei Sato	Institut Pasteur, University of Valencia, The Institute of Medical Science, The University of Tokyo
2026	K26-3203	3	Chee Wah Tan	Assistant professor	National University of Singapore	Engineering a universal synthetic-receptor cell line to isolate and study diverse sarbecoviruses and merbecoviruses	Kei Sato	National University of Singapore, Department of Immunology, Kyoto University, The Institute of Medical Science, The University of Tokyo
2026	K26-3209	3	Bruce Russell	Professor	University of Otago	Establishing Continuous In Vitro Culture of Plasmodium vivax AMRU1: A Strategic Approach Combining Primate Adaptation and Human Reticulocyte Humanisation	Tomoji Mashimo	University of Otago, Amami Laboratory of Medical Science, National Institute of Infectious Diseases, NID, A*STAR ID Labs, NTU Lee Kong Chian School of Medicine, Division of Animal Genetics, IMS, The Institute of Medical Science, The University of Tokyo
2026	K26-3204	3	Tom Hughes	Director Conservation Medicine	Conservation Medicine	Development of a Regional Network to Detect, Characterise, and Evaluate the Phenotypes of Novel Pathogens to Support Surveillance for Emerging Zoonotic Pathogens and Strengthen Pandemic Preparedness in Sabah Malaysia.	Kei Sato	Conservation Medicine, International Institute for Zoonosis Control, Hokkaido University, Japan., The Institute of Medical Science, The University of Tokyo
2026	K26-3206	3	Matthew Joseph Grigg	Professor	Menzies School of Health Research	Detection and characterisation of emerging coronaviruses in West Sumatra's cave bat ecosystems	Kei Sato	Menzies School of Health Research, Universitas Andalas, University of Western Australia, University of Miyazaki, The Institute of Medical Science, The University of Tokyo
2026	K26-3213	3	Yoshihiro Izumiya	Professor	University of California Davis, School of Medicine	Studies on association between alternative lengthening of telomeres and herpesvirus DNA replication	Yasushi Kawaguchi	University of California Davis, School of Medicine, Fujita Medical University, University of California Davis, The Institute of Medical Science, The University of Tokyo
2026	K26-3222	3	Eddy Sukmawinata	Researcher	National Research and Innovation Agency	Investigation of Novel Coronaviruses in Indonesia	Kei Sato	National Research and Innovation Agency, Badan Riset Dan Inovasi Nasional (BRIN), University of Miyazaki, The Institute of Medical Science, The University of Tokyo

Continuing Projects (8 Projects)

Selected Year	Project Number	Area	Principal Investigator	Position	Affiliation	Project Title	IMSUT Host Researcher	Project Member(s) (Institution / Department)
2026	K25-3119	3	Catherine Jia-Yun Tsai	Postdoctoral fellow	University of Auckland	A new vaccine strategy to combat RSV infection	Ken J ISHII	University of Auckland, Chiba University, School of Medical Sciences, University of Auckland, The Institute of Medical Science, The University of Tokyo
2026	K25-3159	3	Peter Ernst	Professor	University of California, San Diego	Development of mucosal vaccines designed for infant based on the understanding of the infantile nasopharyngeal and gut mucosal immune system	Ken J ISHII	University of California, San Diego, University of California, San Diego (UCSD), University of California, San Diego (UCSD), Chiba University, Wakayama Medical University, The Institute of Medical Science, The University of Tokyo
2026	K25-3118	3	Miyu Moriyama	Associate Research Scientist	Yale University	Development of a Universal Influenza Vaccine	Takeshi Ichinohe	Yale University, Division of Global Epidemiology, International Institute for Zoonosis Control, Hokkaido University, Laboratory of Nano-Design for Innovative Drug Development, Graduate School of Pharmaceutical Sciences, Osaka University, National Research Center for the Control and Prevention of Infectious Diseases (CCPID), Nagasaki University, The Institute of Medical Science, The University of Tokyo
2026	K25-3146	3	Xiyun Yan	Professor	Institute of Biophysics, Chinese Academy of Sciences	Nanozymes for Tumor Catalytic Immunotherapy	Yasushi Kawaguchi	Institute of Biophysics, Chinese Academy of Sciences, Zhengzhou University, Institute of Biophysics, CAS, Nanozyme Laboratory in Zhongyuan, The Institute of Medical Science, The University of Tokyo
2026	K25-3120	3	Gavin J Smith	Professor	Duke-NUS Medical School	Preparing for the next pandemic through international collaboration from Asia	Kei Sato	Duke-NUS Medical School, The Institute of Medical Science, The University of Tokyo
2026	K25-3175	3	Jelena Bezbradica	Associate professor	Kennedy Rheumatology Institute, Oxford University	Crossroads between inflammasomes and adaptive immune responses	Cevayir Coban	Kennedy Rheumatology Institute, Oxford University, Malaria Immunology, Oxford University, The Institute of

