

2007 Japan Hall of Fame



Masafumi Shirai MD, PhD

The Japanese Society for Sexual Medicine

1975 — present

Professor Shirai founded the Japanese Society for Sexual Medicine (JSSM) and the Asia-Pacific Society for Sexual Medicine (APSSM), and has made important internationally recognized contributions to the study of male sexual function.



Development of radioisotope (RI) penography, an erectile function test



The founding members of APSSM

When differential diagnosis between organic erectile dysfunction (ED) and functional ED proved impossible, Dr. Shirai developed RI penography, a method for measuring penile cavernous blood flow by labeling patients' blood with Tc-99m (a new isotope at the time). Using this technique, physicians can now differentiate between organic ED and functional ED. In addition, he has successfully treated organic ED patients by implanting penile prostheses of his own invention. Furthermore, at one time Dr. Shirai was the only Asian council member of the International Society of Sexual Medicine (ISSM). He founded the Japanese Society of Sexual Medicine (JSSM), one of the first societies on sexual medicine in the world, as well as the Asia-Pacific Society of Sexual Medicine (APSSM), which was founded twenty years ago and is the oldest branch of the ISSM. Clearly, his contributions to the study and treatment of male sexual dysfunction have been immensely important.