

543

PRIMATE CELL REPOSITORY NOW: 20-YEAR INTERVAL SINCE IPS-1990 AND ITS CONTRIBUTION TO THE PRIMATE MOLECULAR STUDIES

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Preservation of biological materials especially of endangered species should be our most important issue. Since 1980s we have collected and preserved biological specimens from primates and other mammals under the collaboration with zoos, gardens, parks, institutions and hunters. During the last two decades, we have simplified culture techniques with new protocols to establish and store more than 250 culture lines from 30 primate species in liquid nitrogen. The types of cells are namely fibroblastic and lymphoblastic. These cells have been shipped out upon request. We ourselves use these materials in the study on primate genome science and primate cell biology. One of our achievements was demonstration of the role of repetitive sequence in a dynamic change in the primate genome. We have also revealed that the mode of cellular senescence in humans and macaques is similar but not identical.

Keywords: Cell Line, Genome, DNA, Evolution