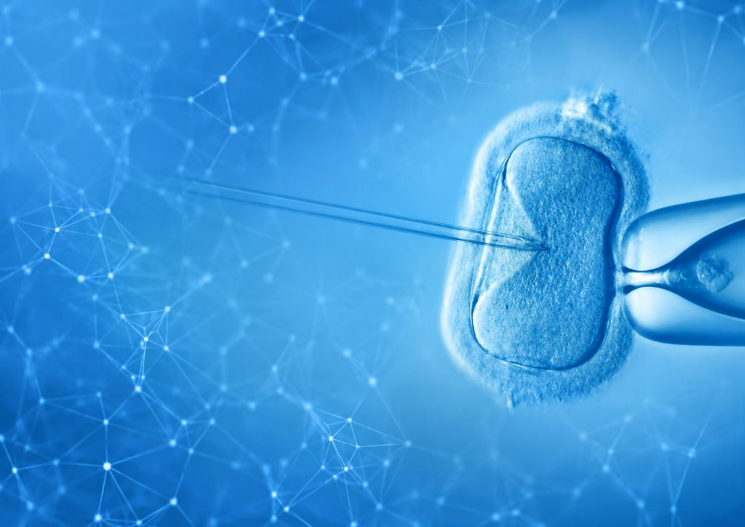




International Symposium on Global Trends in Sperm Donor Identity Disclosure

Legal Frameworks, Support Systems,
Ethical Challenges, and Implications for
Families

September 24 – 25, 2026
Kumamoto University (On-site and Online)



Symposium Overview

Artificial insemination by donor (AID) has long been an established component of reproductive medicine in many countries. However, in recent years, there has been a considerable shift away from earlier practices of non-disclosure and donor anonymity. This development reflects a fundamental reconsideration of donor anonymity, driven by the growing recognition of an individual's right to know their genetic origins and further reinforced by the increasing availability of direct-to-consumer DNA testing.

Consequently, many jurisdictions have abolished anonymous donations and introduced measures to ensure the disclosure of donor identities to donor-conceived individuals. In other jurisdictions, including Japan, the implementation of the right to know one's genetic origins in the context of donor insemination remains the subject of active legal, ethical and social debate.

This symposium brings together experts from Germany, Australia, New Zealand, and Japan, representing diverse legal, social, and cultural contexts. Speakers will examine how this transition away from anonymous systems of donor conception is being discussed and implemented in the fields of law and regulation; which support systems are being demanded or have already been established to assist affected individuals and their families; which ethical challenges arise from this shift toward non-anonymity; and what implications this development may have for the individuals involved, their families, and the broader understanding of family within the respective societies.



Thursday, September 24, 2026,
1:00 pm – 5:00 pm (JST)
Friday, September 25, 2026,
9:45 am – 1:00 pm (JST)



Hybrid event:

On-site: Kumamoto University,
Kurokami North Campus, Faculty of
Letters/Law Main Building, 2-40-1
Kurokami, Chuo-ku, Kumamoto City,
Japan 860-8555

Online: Details will be provided to
registered participants.



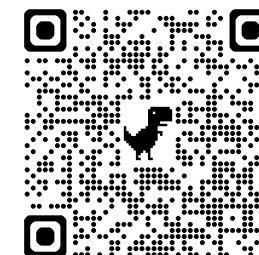
The symposium is **open to everyone interested in the topic**, including students, faculty, staff, researchers from all disciplines, and members of the public. Participation is **free of charge**.
Advance registration is required by September 22.



The symposium will be conducted in **English and Japanese**, with interpretation services available.



**For further
information
and
registration
please scan
the QR code.**



<https://forms.gle/pbHMNYx5awf5tQVw5>



For inquiries, contact:
bauer@kumamoto-u.ac.jp

Thursday, September 24

13:00-13:05	Opening Remarks Jun Otani (Executive Vice President, Kumamoto University)
13:05-13:15	Introduction Tobias Bauer (Kumamoto University)
13:15-13:45	The Removal of Donor Anonymity in Victoria, Australia: The Development of Donor Linking and Counselling Services Kate Bourne (formerly of Victorian Assisted Reproductive Treatment Authority)
13:45-14:15	Moderator's Comments and Q&A Tomoko Fujita (Kyushu University)
14:15-14:30	Break
14:30-15:00	From Secrecy and Shame to Openness and Acceptance in New Zealand Remote Presentation Ken Daniels (University of Canterbury)
15:00-15:30	Moderator's Comments and Q&A Aya Umezawa (Kumamoto University)
15:30-15:45	Break

15:45-16:15	The German Perspective on Donor Identity Disclosure: Case Studies and Interviews Ann-Kathrin Klym (Berlin Sperm Bank)
16:15-16:45	Moderator's Comments and Q&A Fumio Tokotani (Nara University / Osaka University)
16:45-17:00	Concluding Remarks and Closing Tobias Bauer (Kumamoto University)

Friday, September 25

9:45-9:50	Introduction Tobias Bauer (Kumamoto University)
9:50-10:20	Donor Information Sought by Donor-Conceived People Yukari Semba (Donor Link Japan)
10:20-10:50	Moderator's Comments and Q&A Aya Umezawa (Kumamoto University)
10:50-11:05	Break
11:05-11:25	Changing Family Relationships through Removal of Donor Anonymity: An Australian Perspective Tomoko Fujita (Kyushu University)

11:25-11:45	Disclosure of Information Concerning Parties Involved in Sperm Donation and the Best Interests of the Child: Drawing on the Example of New Zealand Aya Umezawa (Kumamoto University)
11:45-12:05	Legal Implications of the Shift from Anonymous to Identifiable Sperm Donation: A Perspective from German Law Fumio Tokotani (Nara University / Osaka University)
12:05-12:25	Challenging Temporalities: German Sperm Donors' Experiences of the Transition from Donor Anonymity to Identity Release Tobias Bauer (Kumamoto University)
12:25-13:00	General Discussion and Closing Tobias Bauer (Kumamoto University)

