

Speaker's Biosketch

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Shimpei Fujioka (Osaka Medical & Pharmaceutical University, Japan)

Prof. Shimpei Fujioka is a cardiologist and echocardiologist specializing in echocardiography. In his routine practice, he performs stress echocardiography and is involved in the treatment of structural heart diseases (SHD). These responsibilities complement his research and allow him to apply cutting-edge techniques to patient care.

Currently, he is engaged in research focusing on lipid metabolism and Achilles tendon thickening, with a particular emphasis on lipid accumulation and its effects on the Achilles tendon.

In cases of lipid metabolism disorders, especially congenital conditions like Familial Hypercholesterolemia (FH), individuals are subjected to elevated LDL cholesterol levels from a young age. This exposure results in the thickening of the Achilles tendon. Traditionally, the evaluation of such thickening has been primarily conducted using X-rays. However, there is a growing interest in utilizing ultrasound to assess Achilles tendon thickening.

While his primary expertise lies in echocardiography, he is dedicating considerable effort to advancing the use of ultrasound in examining the Achilles tendon. He believes that ultrasound holds significant potential for providing insights into the internal structure of the Achilles tendon, which were previously inaccessible.