

April 28<sup>th</sup>, 2020

## Condolences for the Passing of Dr. Takuo Aoyagi

Dr. Takuo Aoyagi has been engaged in research and development of pulse oximeters for about half a century, from the time he joined the Company in 1971 to the present.

In 1974, he invented the principle of pulse oximetry, the world's first non-invasive continuous measurement of oxygen saturation in blood using light. This technology has now spread throughout the world, dramatically improving the safety of general anesthesia surgery and saving countless number of patients all over the world. The invention of the pulse oximeter is definitely a feat that will go down in the history of the world.

For this achievement, he was awarded the Medal with Purple Ribbon in 2002 from the Emperor of Japan. In 2015, he became the first Japanese to receive the IEEE Medal for Innovations in Healthcare Technology.

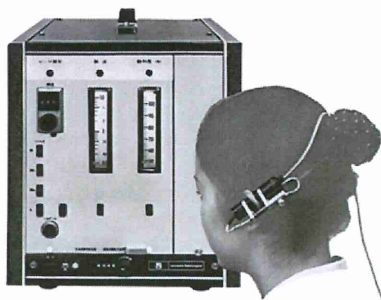
Even at the front line of defense against COVID-19 global pandemic today, pulse oximeters play an indispensable role in monitoring of a patient condition during diagnosis and treatment.

His sincere attitude to research and development was a true role model for those engaged in medical engineering. I feel a great loss when I recall his energetic efforts, which continued until only very recently, to make fundamental improvements to the technology of the pulse oximeter.

Please allow me to extend my sincere condolences and pray for the repose of his soul in memory of his lifetime achievements.



Hirokazu Ogino  
President & CEO



Left : OLV-5100 produced in 1974



Right: Awarded by IEEE in 2015