

Studies on Paracoccidioidomycosis ceti  
(Abstract of a Ph.D's thesis)

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In this study, I report about the new knowledge about the paracoccidioidomycosis ceti (PCM-C) in cetaceans in Japan regarded as a candidate of zoonotic disease, and I represent this new information to keep healthy for Japanese people as marine nation

In chapter II, the first report of PCM-C in Pacific white-sided dolphin (*Lagenorhynchus obliquidens*) and similar symptom case that is also in the same kinds of dolphin are describe. It includes the detail of clinical symptoms of the dolphins , examinations, progress and molecular biological considerations. In addition, I also suggest that *Paracoccidioides brasiliensis sensu stricto* could be a causative agent of PCM-C. From these findings, it is likely that the Japanese coastal waters have already contaminated with PCM-C.

In chapter III, I describe about the epidemiological survey of PCM-C using immunohistochemistry examination with sera obtained from some cetacean species kept in Japanese aquaria, that aim to establish one of the method to diagnose PCM-C. As a result, 61.0% of the samples show positive reaction against PCM-C antigen. From the feature, it is possible to suggest that considerable numbers of the reared small cetaceans in Japan could possess anti-PCM-C antibody.