Dr. Keitaro Yoshimoto

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Dr. Keitaro Yoshimoto is an Associate Professor at the Graduate School of Arts and Sciences, The University of Tokyo, and the Chief Technology Officer (CTO) of LinkBIO Co., Ltd. He earned his Ph.D. in Science (2004) and M.Eng. from Tohoku University. After serving as a Special Postdoctoral Researcher at RIKEN and a Lecturer at the University of Tsukuba, he joined The University of Tokyo in 2010. He also served as a researcher for the JST PRESTO program from 2016 to 2020.

Dr. Yoshimoto is actively engaged in research at the intersection of Nucleic Acid Chemistry, Medicinal Chemistry, Bioanalytical Chemistry, and Evolutionary Molecular Engineering. His work focuses on the development of functional nucleic acids for therapeutic and diagnostic applications. Notably, his laboratory developed the "MACE-SELEX" method for rapid aptamer discovery with high probability, which is currently being implemented for social and industrial applications through LinkBIO Co., Ltd. As a hallmark of this effort, the anti-thrombin aptamer "M08" discovered via MACE-SELEX, is currently undergoing preclinical trials with the support of research funding from Japan Agency for Medical Research and Development (AMED).

With about 80 peer-reviewed publications in high-impact journals such as Nature Methods, Nucleic Acids Research, Molecular Therapy-Nucleic Acids, and JACS, Dr. Yoshimoto has received the Research Encouragement Award from The Society of Polymer Science, Japan, and the Japan Society for Analyt ical Chemistry. Through his dual roles in academia and industry, he continues to adva nce the practical application of biomolecular chemistry to address challenges in mod ern medicine.