

Profile of the symposiasts

Peter Lurie

Medical doctor, Master of Public Health. He is Deputy Director of Public Citizen's Health Research Group, a Ralph Nader-founded advocacy group in Washington, DC. During his academic career he wrote about needle exchange programs, ethical aspects of mother-to-infant HIV transmission studies and HIV vaccine trials in developing countries and the impact of economic development policies upon the spread of HIV. At Public Citizen, he has been involved in efforts to ban or relabel multiple drugs and has petitioned to ban certain unsafe medical needles, to ban candles with lead wicks, to reduce worker exposure to beryllium and to lower medical resident work hours.

Christophe Kopp

Staff editor with Prescrire. He has been part time Prescrire editor in charge of the English language edition since 1992. Currently he is a Prescrire representative within the International Society of Drug Bulletins (ISDB), and in charge of ISDB Secretariat till December 2008. He was also ex president of ISDB from 1999 to 2002. He is a member of Association Mieux Prescrire's management board, meanwhile, he works as a part time general practitioner in Paris (France).

Masumi Minaguchi

Lawyer. She has been the General Secretary of Medwatcher Japan since June 1997, when Medwatcher Japan was launched. She became involved in Tokyo HIV lawsuit case as a co-lead attorney of lawyers' group), Hansen's disease litigation against the government for compensation, Iressa litigation case etc. She called for setting up a network of lawyers who would like to work at drug-induced disasters and took up the first-term general secretary from 2004 to 2006. A member of Advisory Committee on Examining and Preventing Drug-Induced Hepatitis and Pharmaceutical Policy led by MHLW since May 2008.