Redefining MRI:
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ICMRI 2026
THE 14th INTERNATIONAL CONGRESS ON MRI
& 37th ANNUAL SCIENTIFIC MEETING OF KSMRM

AUGUST 27 - 28, 2026
Grand Walkerhill Seoul, Seoul, Korea
https://icmri.ksmrm.org/2026m

KSMRM 30th Anniversary Special Session

SY15-1

Thirty Years of the Korean Society of Magnetic Resonance in Medicine: History, Identity, and the Future

Ock-Joo Kim

Department of the History of Medicine and Medical Humanities, Seoul National University College of Medicine, Korea

A thirtieth anniversary is not merely an occasion for celebration; it is a historical turning point at which a scholarly community looks back on the path it has traveled and reflects on the direction of its future. Over the past three decades, the Korean Society of Magnetic Resonance in Medicine (KSMRM) has not only led the academic advancement of magnetic resonance medicine, but has also connected researchers at home and abroad, fostered multidisciplinary collaboration, and played a central role in the development of MRI research and clinical application in Korea.

This lecture examines the meaning of the Society's existence from the perspective of the history of medicine and the history of the professions. History is not merely a discipline for explaining the past; it is also a discipline for reflecting on present identity and future direction. A professional society is not simply a forum for academic presentations; it is an institutional foundation through which a professional community forms its identity, accumulates knowledge, and exercises social responsibility. From this vantage point, the lecture traces the founding context and growth trajectory of the Society, considering from a historical perspective how technological and clinical innovation in magnetic resonance medicine and its institutional development have interacted and evolved together.

This historical reflection offers an important historical context for understanding the challenges the Society faces today — internationalization, convergence research, and the cultivation of the next generation of researchers. The lecture seeks to lay the historical groundwork for the presentations and discussion that follow in this session, on the history of technological development, the trajectory of the Society, and its vision for the future.

The history of a professional society is not a record kept merely to preserve the past. It is a process of collectively reflecting on who we were, who we are now, and who we aspire to become. The thirtieth anniversary of the Society will be a starting point for envisioning a new future and a renewed sense of responsibility for the next generation.