The Principle of Pulse Oximetry invented by Nihon Kohden's Engineer, the Late Dr. Takuo Aoyagi and Others was recognized an IEEE Milestone

In November 2024, the principle of the pulse oximetry invented by Nihon Kohden's engineer, the late Dr. Takuo Aoyagi and others, was honored as an IEEE Milestone by the Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers (IEEE).
The IEEE Milestone program was established in 1983, and recognizes significant achievements in electrical and electronic, information, and telecommunications that have contributed to the development of society and industry in the 25 years or more since their development.
The reason for this recognition is that the pulse oximeter has been highly evaluated for its significant contribution to improving the quality of medical care.
Pulse oximeter, a non-invasive technique to measure blood oxygen saturation continuously and immediately without a blood sample, of which principle was invented in 1972 by Dr. Aoyagi and a domestic patent application was submitted in 1974. Nihon Kohden launched the world's first ear oximeter in 1975. Currently, pulse oximeters are used in operating rooms, emergency care, intensive care, and home healthcare, making them an indispensable device in clinical practice. In addition, the usefulness of pulse oximeters was reaffirmed worldwide during the COVID-19 pandemic.

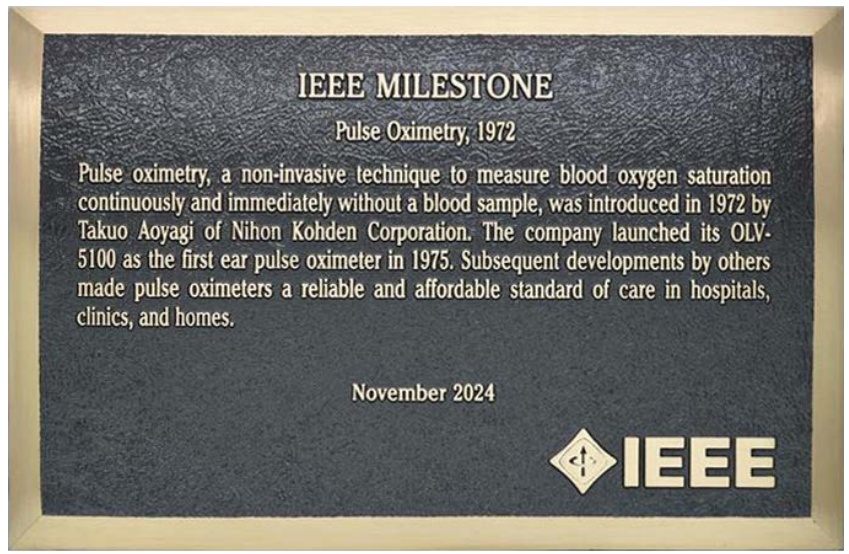
For further details, please refer to our website.

Takuo Aoyagi and the pulse oximeter

Accomplishments recognized by IEEE Milestone (description on plaque)



IEEE Milestone Dedication Ceremony



IEEE Milestone plaque