



eNews



Communications and Publications Division (CPD) of the IFCC
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International Federation of Clinical Chemistry and Laboratory Medicine



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Election of the next IFCC Executive Board (2018-2020): The procedure has commenced

*by the IFCC Nominations Committee**

*IFCC Nominations Committee:

**Dr. Bernard GOUGET, Chair; Prof. Päivi LAITINEN, past-Chair; Dr. Graham H BEASTALL, past-President;
Prof. Members: Prof. Robert CHRISTENSON; Dr. Ana Leticia MASELLI; Dr. Sunil SETHI**

1. Introduction:

The primary governing body of IFCC is its Council of Members, which meets once every three years. The Executive Board (EB) is responsible for the operation of IFCC, reporting to Council at each meeting. The EB operates for a three year period commencing on 1 January in the year after a Council meeting. Members of the EB are elected by the Full and Corporate Member societies of IFCC.

Following decisions taken at the 2014 Council meeting in Istanbul, there will be changes to the composition of the next EB, which will commence its period of office on 1 January 2018. The process of electing this EB has commenced. This short article explains the procedure and the timetable.

2. Changing composition of the Executive Board

Current EB 2015-2017

President
Secretary
Treasurer
Corporate Representative
Members x3
Past President (until 31/12/2016)
President Elect (from 01/01/2017)

Next EB 2018-2020

President
Secretary
Treasurer
Corporate Representative
Regional Members x6
Past President (until 31/12/2019)
President Elect (from 01/01/2020)

The significant change for the current EB is that the President Elect will be elected during 2016 in order to join EB on 1 January 2017. The President Elect will be confirmed as President of the next EB commencing one year later (1 January 2018). It is the procedure for choosing the President Elect that has just begun.

The significant change for the next EB is that the three Members, currently elected by all Full Members of IFCC, **will be replaced by six Regional Members** – one for each of the six IFCC Regional Federations.

The IFCC Full Members in each Regional Federation will be the electorate to choose their Regional Member of EB. The procedure for electing Regional Members of EB will occur during 2017.

3. Procedure for election of next IFCC President:

The election of the next IFCC President is taking place during 2016 with the election of the President-Elect who will serve one year (2017) shadowing the current EB before becoming President. The timetable for this election is as follows:

- February 1, 2016 Call for nominations issued
- April 30, 2016 Nominations close

Article continued on next page

➤ May 2016	IFCC Nominations Committee determines eligibility of nominees
➤ June 2016	Slate of candidates published
➤ September 1-30, 2016	Electronic ballot to choose the President Elect
➤ October 2016	Result of election announced

Nominations must be made on the form that has been issued to IFCC Full Members and must be submitted by an IFCC Full Member. Individuals with an interest in suggesting nominees should discuss the matter with their Full Member society. All Full Members will vote electronically using the IFCC Alternate Vote system.

4. Procedure for election of Secretary and Treasurer

The procedure for electing the Secretary and Treasurer will be similar to that used to elect the President but will take place at a later date. The timetable will be:

➤ May 15, 2016	Call for nominations issued
➤ December 31, 2016	Nominations close
➤ January 2017	IFCC Nominations Committee determines eligibility of nominees
➤ February 2017	Slate of candidates published
➤ April 1-30, 2017	Electronic ballot to choose the Secretary and Treasurer
➤ May 2017	Result of election announced

Nominations must be made on the form that will be issued to IFCC Full Members and must be submitted by an IFCC Full Member. Individuals with an interest in suggesting nominees should discuss the matter with their Full Member society. All Full Members will vote electronically using the IFCC Alternate Vote system.

5. Procedure for election of Corporate Representative

The procedure for electing the Corporate Representative on the IFCC EB will be similar to that used to elect the Officers. In this case, the electorate is IFCC Corporate Members. The timetable will be:

➤ January 1 2017	Call for nominations issued
➤ March 31 2017	Nominations close
➤ April 2017	IFCC Nominations Committee determines eligibility of nominees
➤ April 2017	Slate of candidates published
➤ June 1-30 2017	Electronic ballot to choose the Corporate Representative
➤ July 2017	Result of election announced

Nominations must be made on the form that will be issued to IFCC Corporate Members and must be submitted by an IFCC Corporate Member. Individuals with an interest in suggesting nominees should discuss the matter with their Corporate Member society. All Corporate Members will vote electronically using the IFCC Alternate Vote system.

6. Procedure for election of Regional Members

The procedure for the election of the six Regional Members of the IFCC EB is under active discussion with Regional Federations. The call for nominations will commence in June 2017 with the elections completed by the end of September 2017.

Each IFCC Regional Federation will elect one Regional Member of the IFCC EB. The electorate will be IFCC Full Members in the Regional Federation.

7. Final words

This article sets out in a transparent way the procedure and timetable for electing the IFCC Executive Board for period 2018-2020. Individuals seeking clarification or additional information should contact the Chair of the IFCC Nominations Committee via ifcc@ifcc.org.

Shaping the future of laboratory medicine: an update

by Graham Beall

IFCC Past-President, on behalf of the Executive Board

Introduction:

All laboratory medicine specialists understand:

- The importance of the services that we provide to healthcare and to clinical outcomes for patients;
- That laboratory medicine is in the process of rapid change, which is being driven by global and national factors;
- That we need to be proactive in helping to manage and harness that change in the best interests of patients. Inaction is not an option because no other group will act as champions for laboratory medicine.

Against this background IFCC adopted a programme entitled 'Shaping the Future of Laboratory Medicine'. This programme has two principal aims:

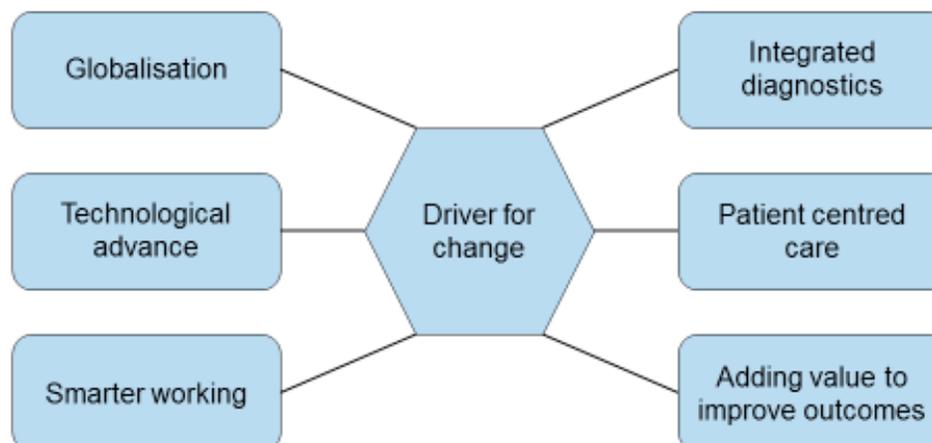
- To lead discussions at a global level about the important role of laboratory medicine;
- To stimulate IFCC Members to be proactive in leading discussions about the changing role of laboratory medicine in their country or company.

Drivers for change in laboratory medicine:

IFCC has identified and promoted six major drivers for change in laboratory medicine. These are shown in the Figure and explained in the bullet points that follow:

- Globalisation arising from instant global communication;
- Technological advance in methods equipment and informatics;
- The need for smarter working to cope with medical advances and rising workloads in an ageing population;

Drivers for change in laboratory medicine



Article continued on next page

- Integrated diagnostics which bring together laboratory medicine, imaging, endoscopy and bioinformatics;
- Patient centred care comprising both personalised medicine and patient focused care;
- The need to add value to laboratory medicine data by converting it into knowledge for the benefit of patients and society.

Previous activities:

IFCC launched its 'Shaping the Future of Laboratory Medicine' programme in June 2013 with a year-long campaign, which encouraged laboratory medicine specialists to engage in the debate on the future of our area of medicine. The campaign included:

- Three articles in IFCC e-News (available from the archive by clicking [here](#));
- Discussions with Regional Federations and several national societies;
- Production of 'frequently asked questions' together with answers.

The culmination of the campaign was a lively afternoon debate at the IFCC Council meeting in June 2014, which accepted the need for laboratory medicine specialists to be more proactive. Comment on the Council debate was included in two further issues of IFCC e-News (available from archive).

During 2015 IFCC has listened to and engaged with its Members and many individual laboratory medicine specialists. Several projects have been initiated that are enabling laboratory medicine to be:

- More focussed on the clinical value of laboratory medicine, especially outside the laboratory;
- More inclusive and less confrontational;
- More forward looking in shaping rather than responding to change.

Examples of these projects will be given in an article that appears in IFCC e-News later in 2016. In the meantime IFCC is keen to learn of other initiatives at local, national or international level

At the same time as IFCC was stimulating this debate Larry Kricka, an IFCC Executive Board member at the

time, and his colleagues were writing an excellent review entitled 'The Future of Laboratory Medicine – A 2014 Perspective'. This article, published in *Clin Chim Acta* 2015; 438: 284-303, resonates well with 'Shaping the Future of Laboratory Medicine'

The current IFCC strategic plan:

As each Executive Board commences its three year term of office its first task is to agree a programme of activities that it will implement on behalf of its Members. 'Shaping the Future of Laboratory Medicine' was central to Board thinking during this planning stage. The detailed Executive Board strategic plan may be found on pages 30-32 of the IFCC Handbook 2015-17 and can also be accessed at:

<http://www.ifcc.org/media/292215/IFCC%20Handbook%20-%20Chapter%2001.pdf>.

The Table on next page contains an extract of this strategic plan to highlight the range of activities that fall within the broad remit of 'Shaping the Future of Laboratory Medicine'.

A series of articles:

There will be a short article on 'Shaping the Future of Laboratory Medicine' in each issue of IFCC e-News during 2016. These will have different authors and will address different aspects of the current and future role of laboratory medicine in healthcare. The six articles will build up into a compendium that should be useful to anyone who is taking a leading role in shaping our future. The next article, published in April, will take as its main theme the lessons learned from a recent strategic planning weekend held by the Executive Board under the guidance of expert external facilitators.

Invitation to contribute:

'Shaping the Future of Laboratory Medicine' is a programme that is open to all. IFCC will welcome input from its Members and from individual laboratory medicine specialists. That input may take any form, including:

- Comments on the changing role of laboratory medicine in healthcare;

- Examples of good practice or recent experience at the local level;
- Suggestions for future activities for IFCC and/or its Members.

record and discuss reader input to ‘Shaping the Future of Laboratory Medicine’.

Please send your contribution directly to Graham Beastall.

E-mail: gbeastall@googlemail.com

Each of the next five articles will include a section to

Number	Strategic Action
3	Deliver the e-Academy as educational support for laboratory medicine
6	Meet annually with Presidents of Regional Federations
10	Increase the relevance of IFCC to Corporate Members
13	Improve the visibility of IFCC to national societies
14	Publish an e-booklet to encourage young scientists to do research
16	Further develop and promote ‘Shaping the Future of Laboratory Medicine’
17	Deliver at least one new project per year outside clinical chemistry
18	Increase cooperation between IFCC and international clinical organisations
19	Invite organisations from outside laboratory medicine to collaborate with IFCC
20	Introduce a new work programme on increasing clinical effectiveness
22	Collaborate with CLMA on a programme of leadership development
24	Develop resource material to assist laboratories to apply for accreditation
25	Collaborate with WASPaLM to promote the value of laboratory medicine
26	Collaborate with ILAC to promote quality management and accreditation
27	Strengthen the links with WHO
30	Launch and promote the Foundation for Emerging Nations
32	Invite an external body to assist IFCC with strategic planning

What is medical laboratory accreditation and why is it important?



A PowerPoint presentation, with commentary, has been recorded to address this important topic. The 20 minute presentation is the result of the collaboration between IFCC and ILAC (International Laboratory Accreditation Cooperation). The presentation links to support materials available from ILAC and describes:

- Medical laboratory accreditation in compliance with ISO 15189:2012;

by Graham Beastall

IFCC Past-President, on behalf of the Executive Board

- The process for seeking accreditation;
- The importance of accreditation to patients and the public; users of the laboratory; healthcare authorities and regulators; laboratory management and staff.

The presentation is freely available from the IFCC e-Academy. Click on the following link: <http://eacademy.ifcc.org/topics/quality-management-and-accreditation/?ctype=1154&cid=1473>.



A step back in time in Montevideo, Uruguay (IFCC VLP)

by Bernard Gouget
Chair, IFCC General Conference
Chair, IFCC Nominations Committee

When a French guy travels to Montevideo, he immediately thinks of the popular epic of L'AEROPOSTALE with Jean MERMOZ who developed the South American routes with the help of other experienced pilots

probably pleasant place to live. What a contrast to the style of the former President, José Mujica, possibly the most popular president in the region. He enjoyed plenty of international goodwill because he kept his promises and said great things such as, "Living better isn't just having more, it's also being happier." He donated a large part of his salary to charities that benefit poor people and small entrepreneurs, living modestly on a small farm, and in keeping with this country's long-held progressive spirit. He has also opened debate on many controversial topics such as drug trafficking, poverty and social injustice.



Rosana Piroto, President of the Congress and Bernard Gouget

including Antoine de SAINT-EXUPERY, Henri GUILLAUMET, to name some of the better known. Mermoz planned and built the Northeast route through Uruguay and Brazil from the base in Buenos Aires.

In October 2015, after a 16-hour flight from Paris with a 2-hour stop in Buenos Aires, I was wowed by the remodelled Carrasco Airport, which looks like a flying saucer; thanks to the curved roof that measure nearly 1,000 feet across. I left this "boutique" terminal and headed up by taxi to the Rambla, the 14-mile-long avenue that runs along the river, where you will find a splendid building with stunning, French-influenced architecture: the old Carrasco hotel. First opened to the public in 1921, the five star hotel re-opened its doors in 2013. It is a very luxurious comfortable and

After 40 minutes by taxi, we arrived at the Dazzler hotel, 21 de Setiembre 2752, located in Punta Carretas, residential neighbourhood of Montevideo. The Dazzler is surrounded by attractive commercial, cultural and gastronomic centers.

Having just arrived, I was thinking that Montevideo is a city of art, dear to the heart of the French since she gave birth to three of our great poets: Lautréamont (1846-1870) (Songs of Maldoror), Jules Laforgue (1860-1887) and Jules Supervielle (1884 -1960) (Man of La Pampa) who wrote:

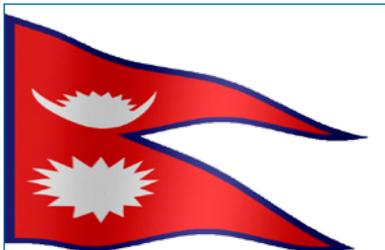
"In Uruguay on the Atlantic;

The air was so binding, easy,

*That the colours of the horizon approached to see
the houses."*

Read all of the report at:

[http://www.ifcc.org/ifcc-education-division/emd-special-projects/ifcc-vlp-in-montevideo-\(uruguay\)/](http://www.ifcc.org/ifcc-education-division/emd-special-projects/ifcc-vlp-in-montevideo-(uruguay)/)



IFCC WELCOMES A NEW AFFILIATE MEMBER

Nepalese Association for Clinical Chemistry (NACC)

by Ram Vinod Mahato

General Secretary Nepalese Association for Clinical Chemistry (NACC)



Nepalese Association for Clinical Chemistry (NACC) is a non-governmental and non-profit organization that currently organizes more than two hundred Nepalese biochemists/clinical chemists who are engaged in

the field of laboratory medicine, healthcare set-ups, academics and research. After a yearlong effort, NACC was officially born on 4th July 2014, when it was formally registered by the government. NACC has its headquarters in the capital, Kathmandu. It has several of the most senior and experienced biochemists of Nepal in its executive body. This is the only professional organization representing Nepalese professionals in biochemistry/clinical chemistry and laboratory Medicine. Hence, it has the sole responsibility of safeguarding professional rights, promoting improvement and expansion of the quality services in laboratory medicine and opening new avenues for research and collaborations for professional and academic growth.

NACC believes that these goals for upholding the profession of biochemistry/clinical chemistry can only be fulfilled by meeting the following specific objectives to:

1. Increase awareness of the importance of clinical chemistry in the lay community and assist them in getting quality laboratory services.
2. Organize and operate assemblies, conferences, meetings, symposiums and CMEs.
3. Gather and award research grants to any member of this Association who proposes high quality research work with specific relevance to Nepal within the subject area of the association.
4. Promote collaborative research activities nationally and internationally.
5. Provide grants for thesis/dissertation to co-members of this Association who present appropriate proposals for their thesis/dissertation.
6. Submit opinions, suggestions and information to the governmental, non-governmental bodies and universities concerned related to clinical chemistry, chemicals/reagents and procedures by evaluating their worth.
7. Grant honorary membership to any person who makes remarkable contribution for development and promotion of the clinical biochemistry subject both inside and outside Nepal.
8. Monitor and deliver opinions and suggestions for assessment of quality of the clinical biochemistry laboratory and after prior approval from the departments concerned run External Quality Assessment (EQAS and IQC) and Good Laboratory Practice (GLP) programmes.
9. Coordinate with the relevant departments the necessity for development of curriculum, examination system and valuation, function and duties of designated professionals and their assessment.
10. Organize suitable training events for refining skills and knowledge of clinical chemists and issue certificates upon completion.
11. Publish news bulletins and journal including news.
12. Coordinate with national and international organizations such as IFCC, AACC, APFCB, AACB, ACBI etc and to organize Invited lectures from foreign scholars.
13. Represent the association in the programmes of the national and international organization of a similar nature.

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14. Implement the aforementioned objectives by applying to local administration for a license and obtaining it, whenever relevant.

Executive Board Members:

1. President: Prof. Bharat Jha-Tribhuvan, University, Institute of Medicine (IOM), Kathmandu.
2. Sr. Vice-President: Prof. Dr. Madhab Lamsal, BP Koirala Institute of Health Science, Dharan.
3. Vice-President: Dr. Vijay Kumar Sharma, Tribhuvan University, Institute of Medicine (IOM), Kathmandu
4. Vice-President: Dr. Prabodh Risal, Kathmandu University Medical School (KUMS), Dhulikhel
5. General Secretary: Ram Vinod Mahato, Tribhuvan University, Institute of Medicine (IOM), Kathmandu
6. Secretary: Dr. Suprita Gupta, National Medical College and Hospital, Birgunj
7. Treasurer: Mr. Prasant Regmi, Nepal Medical College (NMC), Kathmandu

Some highlights of the current and past activities of NACC:

1. Organization of National Symposium of Clinical Biochemistry and Laboratory Medicine on March 13-14, 2015.
2. Publication of ANNALS OF CLINICAL CHEMISTRY AND LABORATORY MEDICINE, an official Journal of NACC: <http://nacc.org.np/submit-a-manuscript> or <http://www.nepjol.info/index.php/ACCLM/user/register>. Author guidelines can be found at <http://www.nepjol.info/index.php/ACCLM/about/submissions#authorGuidelines>

Received membership of Asia Pacific Federation for Clinical Biochemistry (APFCB) and International Federation for Clinical Chemistry (IFCC). The association's official web page (www.nacc.org.np) contains the latest news and information.

E-mail: nacc2070@gmail.com



Task Force Young Scientists (TFYS)

ACBICON 2015 - India

by Pradeep Kumar Dabla
Chair IFCC-TFYS



Front row (centre), from left to right: Dr Shalmoli Bhattacharyya, Dr Rajiv Erasmus, Dr Venkatesh Thuppil, Dr Praveen Sharma, Dr MVR Reddy, Dr Pradeep Kumar Dabla, Dr M. Thungapathra

The Association of Clinical Biochemists of India (ACBI) has been supporting the IFCC-TFYS educational sessions since 2010. In continuation of this, the Organising Committee of 42nd National Conference of ACBI-CON-2015, PGIMER, Chandigarh, India supported the TFYS sessions. The sessions were designed especially for Young Scientists (YS) and included Pre-conference “Medical Writing CME” and an inaugural “ACBI-IFCC TFYS Young Scientist Award 2015” fully supported by the Organizing Committee.

The conference was held in the Postgraduate Institute of Medical Education and Research (PGIMER). PGIMER, Chandigarh was conceived in 1960 as a center of excellence to develop patterns of teaching in post-graduate medical education and attempts to produce specialists in several disciplines of medicine with intensive research in the field of health.

[Click here](#) to read the report and the Young Scientists' experiences of participating in and attending “ACBI-IFCC TFYS” Young Scientist Award-2015.



WASPaLM - IFCC TF YS Joint Session, Cancun 2015

**Young specialists in laboratory medicine of the future –
Preparing together**

*by Pradeep Kumar Dabla
Chair, IFCC-TFYS*

WASPaLM in conjunction with Mexican Federation of Clinical Pathology and the Federation of Pathology of Mexico organised the XXVIII World Congress WASPaLM-2015 (18-21 November 2015) in Cancun, a beautiful city located on the Caribbean Sea, in south eastern Mexico, near the centre of the Mayan Civilisation.

This joint session of WASPaLM and IFCC was conducted as a clinical pathology course (CPC9). The goal of the session was to bring young scientists from both sides of the Atlantic together on the same platform for discussion, networking and exchange of ideas in the rapidly changing world of healthcare; both in terms of technology and economic pressures. Clinical laboratories are increasingly involved in assisting



From left to right: Dr. Michael Oellerich (Former President WASPaLM), Dr. Rosa Sierra-Amor (EB-IFCC), Dr. Maurizio Ferrari (President IFCC), Dr. Lai-Meng Looi (President WASPaLM), Dr. Tjin-Shing Jap (Organizing Committee ASCPaLM 2016), Dr. Pradeep Kumar Dabla (Chair IFCC-TFYS)

Article continued on next page

physicians make therapeutic decisions. Laboratories therefore may need to develop different implementation strategies for their hospitals, general practitioners or other clinician clients to increase awareness, thus facilitating adherence of recommendations through acceptance and adoption designs.

The session was opened with welcome addresses by **Dr. Lai Meng Looi**, President of WASPaLM, and **Dr. Maurizio Ferrari**, President of IFCC, coordinated by **Dr. Rosa Sierra-Amor**, EB-IFCC. These were followed by a short introduction to the IFCC-Task Force on Young Scientists (TFYS) by **Dr. Pradeep Kumar Dabla**, Chair IFCC-TFYS. The first talk of the session was given by **Dr. Michael Oellerich**, Director for Europe, WASPaLM, titled *“Future of Laboratory Medicine- Challenges & Opportunities”*. He discussed the major current forces driving clinical laboratory organization and the opportunities of personalized diagnostics. He concluded that despite all challenges we should be optimistic because the new technologies and advances in Molecular Diagnostics provide an environment in which Laboratory Medicine has a chance to grow as an academic profession. The next talk was given by **Dr. Roberto Ruiz-Cordero**, a young WASPaLM scientist doing a fellowship at Anderson Cancer Center, USA. The title of his talk was *“Healthcare & Medical Laboratory- State of Major Transformations”* where he summarized the financing, work environment and key delivery issues and how to tackle them. The third

talk was given by **Dr. Pradeep Kumar Dabla**, Chair IFCC-TFYS, entitled *“Interface Linking Laboratory Medicine & Clinical Medicine - Two sides of same coin”*. He emphasized that the role of the laboratory in patient management should be improved by adding value to laboratory tests through the use of appropriate test requests and utilisation that meet changing testing needs. He explained that the laboratory-clinical interface is of fundamental importance to ensure that the patient is given high quality care. Lastly **Dr. José Francisco Muñoz-Valle**, Professor at the Universidad de Guadalajara, discussed *“Education & Training Programmes Opportunities – Preparing Lab work force”* in which he gave a clear view of the requirements and different educational programmes available in different parts of Mexico for young laboratory scientists.

The meeting ended with a vote of thanks from **Dr. Rosa Sierra-Amor** and the commitment by Senior Leaders of both societies to again conduct such joint educational and networking activities in the near future.

The TFYS would like to thank all Senior Members of WASPaLM, IFCC and the participants for their attendance and support. The session was successful in contributing to the understanding of the current trends in Laboratory Medicine and in allowing young scientists to be aware of future challenges and opportunities.

For information & Queries:

Dr. Pradeep Kumar Dabla, Chair IFCC-TFYS

E-mail: pradeep_dabla@yahoo.com



Demosthenes Panagiotakos University in Athens, Greece will give an invited lecture during the official dinner on *“The protective role of*

IFCC GC Madrid 2016

"Mediterranean diet may lower cardiovascular risk!"

A debate dinner with a famous Greek colleague: Demosthenes Panagiotakos

by **Bernard Gouget**

Chair, IFCC General Conference

Mediterranean diet on cardiovascular disease, risk: Environmental Health Perspectives”.

Cardiovascular Disease (CVD) remains the leading cause of death and disability worldwide, with increased hospital discharge rates, posing a serious public health issue and an economic burden. Recent demographic

transitions, including ageing of the population, low fertility, urbanization and shift towards unhealthy behaviours have resulted in tremendous increase in the prevalence of several cardiometabolic disorders (i.e., hypertension, obesity, diabetes). According to WHO, and other international Organisation reports, a substantial number of cardiac episodes could have been prevented through lifestyle modifications (i.e., diet, physical activity, smoking cessation). Regarding secondary prevention, it is well documented that effective cardiovascular rehabilitation requires a multi-disciplinary approach, including medical treatment, as well as proper lifestyle changes. Diet has been recognised as one of the most important modifiable and preventable factors, being undoubtedly beneficial in primary prevention, as well as among cardiac patients. However, studies among CVD patients are scarce and with inconclusive results. The most studied dietary pattern is the Mediterranean-type diet, with several observational studies and clinical trials demonstrating its protective role against first, as well as recurrent cardiac events, whereas evidence regarding other well known models, including Western-type, Vegetarian, Asian-type and Dietary Approaches to Stop Hypertension (DASH) diet, are rather limited. Despite the important findings from numerous studies, there is no doubt that the Mediterranean diet is being progressively lost, especially in the younger generations. Therefore, immediate actions are needed by public policy makers in order to preserve the wisdom of our ancestors.

The debate will be coordinated by Prof. **Damien GRUSON**, PhD, EUSpLM, FESC, Professor of Biochem-



Damien Gruson

istry and Endocrinology, department of laboratory medicine of the Cliniques Universitaires Saint Luc, Brussels and member of the research unit on Endocrinology Diabetes and Nutrition (EDIN) unit of the Catholic University of Louvain (UCL).

Damien Gruson has already been catching people's eyes as an up-and-coming brilliant scientist in the fields of lab medicine, doing exciting things now and with promise for even more in the future. The new generation has a bold and integrated vision to lead the lab medicine revolution in a collaborative spirit and to foster multidisciplinary collaboration within the Europe and international federations. There is no doubt at all that the discussion will be held with wit and insight, eloquence and a great sense of humour in collaboration with the team of the young scientists: Dr. Pradeep DABLA, Chair IFCC TF-YS, his international group and Guilaine BOURSIER as a liaison with the Spanish group.



News from the IFCC Website

eJIFCC Volume 27 No 1 - February 2016

A new issue of the eJIFCC is now available. eJIFCC Vol 27, n°1 is devoted to harmonization of clinical laboratory test results. Two respected laboratory scientists, Ms. Jillian Tate from Australia, and Dr. Gary L. Myers from the US, have guest-edited the issue, inviting international specialists to contribute their experience and expertise. Harmonization is a fundamental aspect of quality in laboratory medicine and a strong current focus, with the ultimate goal of improving patient outcomes through provision of accurate and actionable laboratory information.

[Read more](#)



XVIII Ordinary National Congress Bolivian Society of Clinical Biochemistry 25 - 27 November 2015

by Dr. Alvaro Justiniano Grosz

President of Bolivian Society of Clinical Biochemistry

A SUCCESSFUL MEETING: XVIII ORDINARY NATIONAL CONGRESS OF THE BOLIVIAN SOCIETY OF CLINICAL BIOCHEMISTRY

The congress took place in the Convention Centre of the Oruro, Bolivia and was sponsored by the IFCC. This was a momentous event for biochemical professionals in Bolivia in a small city rich in culture, folklore and hospitality and the first time that the city has held an event of this magnitude.

The congress was attended by 250 professionals and 200 final year students of Clinical Laboratory Sciences from around the country. Each of the activities sponsored by the IFCC-VLP had an average of 100 attendees who unanimously agree that the subjects were developed with a very fluid dialogues of questions and answers despite the long and complex programme.

We had the participation of three leading practitioners of Clinical Biochemistry sponsored by the IFCC. The areas covered were: Dr. Eduardo Aranda (Chile) "Thrombosis and Coagulation" ; Dr. Leverton Ortiz (Chile) "Quality Control in Microbiology" ; Dr. Juan Pablo Gramatico (Argentina) "Process management - Accreditation of Quality in Clinical Laboratories".

There were also leading members of the Latin American Confederation of Clinical Biochemistry (CO-LABIOCLI). Dr. Carlos Navarro - President, Dr. Roberto Garcia Vice President, Dr. Manuel Arca - and Dr. Felix Acuña Secretary - Treasurer. They presented seminars on the situation of the in Latin America Professional Biochemist "Inserting the Professional Biochemist in the Health Team" Dr. Carlos Navarro; "Human Resource Training - Certification of Professional Practice"; Dr. Manuel Arca; "Phases of the

UN EXITO EN BOLIVIA CON LA REALIZACIÓN DEL XVIII CONGRESO NACIONAL ORDINARIO DE LA SOCIEDAD BOLIVIANA DE BIOQUÍMICA CLÍNICA

En el marco de las XVIII Congreso Nacional Ordinario de la Sociedad Boliviana de Bioquímica Clínica. Llevado a cabo en fechas 25, 26 y 27 de Noviembre del año en curso. Realizado en el Centro de Convenciones IV Centenario de la ciudad de Oruro-Bolivia. El mismo que contó con el auspicio de la IFCC, este trascendental evento para los profesionales Bioquímicos Bolivianos tuvo un realce aún mayor ya que el mismo se llevó en la ciudad de Oruro, una ciudad pequeña pero muy rica en cultura, folklore y la hospitalidad de su gente además de ser la primera vez que se realiza un evento de esta magnitud en dicha ciudad.

En todo el Congreso Nacional Ordinario de la Sociedad Boliviana de Bioquímica Clínica se registraron 250 Profesionales y 200 Estudiantes de último semestre de las carreras del ámbito de las Ciencias del Laboratorio Clínico de todo el País y en cada una de las actividades patrocinadas por la Federation of Clinical Chemistry and Laboratory Medicine (IFCC) en el Visitor Lecturer Programme (VLP), se contó con una media de 100 asistentes. Los cuales manifestaron su conformidad en el 100% de los temas desarrollados, con un muy fluido dialogo de preguntas, respuestas y el mantenimiento del 100% de la sinergia asistentes disertantes, pese a lo largo y complejo del contenido de los Programas.

Contamos con la participación de 3 destacados profesionales de la Bioquímica Clínica Patrocinados por la IFCC. Las Áreas abarcadas fueron: Dr. Eduardo Aranda de (Chile) Curso Intra Congreso titulado "Trombosis y Coagulación", Dr. Leverton Ortiz de (Chile) Intra Congreso titulado "Control de Calidad en Microbiología", Dr. Juan Pablo Gramático de (Argentina) Intra Congreso titulado "Gestión por procesos - Acreditación de la Calidad en los Laboratorios Clínicos".

Además se contó con la con la participa1111ción de los principales miembros de la Confederación Latino-

Process Analytical Laboratory A: should I worry? “
Dr. Roberto Garcia.

A few institutions also sponsored courses and lectures, eg Wiener Foundation of Argentina, who sponsored the pre-congress Cancer and Tumor Markers Course by Dr Alicia Seine Daminato; , the Jose Luis Castaños Foundation of Spain, the "Biological quantities related to the Medical Emergencies" Dr. Luis Garcia de Gadiana Romualdo; the National Quality Control Programme of Brazil (PNCQ) with lectures "Phases of the Process Analytical Laboratory", the "Program Evaluation Course Internal and External Quality "; Dr. André Valpassos Guimaraes. In addition, El Microscopio was also featured with the thematic "Laboratory Medicine Based on Evidence "by Dr. Hernan Farres-Taie.

In summary, the programme features 19 speakers, of whom 75% were Bolivian.

For the first time the awards were given for the best work presented in the form of a poster, where the Wiener Award for Best Free Paper was presented to Dra. Betraiz Nina, working with its anticoagulant Lupico.

Also in the short time available delegates were able to make short visits to explore the city of Oruro, see the folklore and the typical carnival of the city and other points of general interest from the historical perspective, complete with a tour of the campus of the Latin American private university with the Faculty of Biochemistry. They were also able to exchange experiences with teachers of the university and to tour some public and private laboratories to get an idea of the situation in Oruro.

It is noteworthy that prior to completion of Congress, there was a course sponsored by the Wiener Foundation- entitled "Cancer and Tumor Markers". Similarly, there were parallel administrative meetings held where the National Executive Committee of the Bolivian Society of Clinical Biochemistry was renewed. In that event again confidence in the direction of the national body was given to Dr. Alvaro Justiniano Grosz who will lead the institution until 2018.

americana de Bioquímica Clínica (COLABIOCLI). Dr. Carlos Navarro - Presidente, Dr. Roberto García- Vice Presidente, Dr. Manuel Arca - Secretario y Félix Acuña – Tesorero. Quienes presentaron conferencias referidas a la situación del profesional Bioquímico en Latinoamérica "Inserción del Profesional Bioquímico en el Equipo de Salud" Dr. Carlos Navarro, Formación del Recurso Humano - Certificación del Ejercicio Profesional Dr. Manuel Arca, El Laboratorio en la Fase Analítica debemos preocuparnos ? Dr. Roberto García.

Se apoyó de manera directa por medio de Instituciones que también patrocinaron cursos y conferencias magistrales, como la Fundación Wiener de Argentina, que patrocinó el Curso pre congreso Cáncer y Marcadores Tumorales Dra. Alicia Sena de Daminato, la fundación José Luis Castaños de España, con el Curso “Magnitudes Biológicas Relacionadas con las Urgencias Médicas” Dr. Luis García de Gadiana Romualdo, el Programa Nacional de Control de Calidad de Brasil (PNCQ) con conferencias magistrales “Fases de los Procesos Analíticos en el Laboratorio”, el “Programa de Evaluación Interna y Externa de la Calidad” Dr. Dr. André Valpassos Guimaraes, también participó la Radio el Microscopio con temáticas referidas “Medicina de Laboratorio Basada en la Evidencia” Dr. Hernán Fares Tai.

En resumen el programa total desarrollado, conto con un total de 19 disertantes. 75% Bolivianos y 25% Extranjeros. En las modalidades Cursos pre e intra Congreso, conferencias magistrales y temas libres. Por primera vez se efectuó la premiación del mejor trabajo libre presentado bajo la modalidad poster, donde se hizo entrega del Premio Wiener al mejor Trabajo Libre presentado el cual recayó en la colega Dra. Betraiz Nina, con su trabajo Anticoagulante Lupico.

Así mismo en el corto tiempo disponible pudieron realizar cortas visitas que les permitieron explorar la ciudad de Oruro, ver el folklore y el típico carnaval de la ciudad así como otros puntos de interés turístico general de la histórica, completado con un recorrido por el campus de la Universidad Privada Latinoamericana que cuenta con la Facultad de Bioquímica, efectuando intercambio de experiencias con los Docentes de dicha Universidad, para concluir se efectuó un recorridos por algunos laboratorios Públicos y Privados para tener una idea de la situación de los Laboratorios Clínicos en la ciudad de Oruro.

Es de destacar que el día previo a la realización del Congreso Nacional Ordinario en fecha 25 de Noviembre se realizó un curso pre congreso patrocinado por la Fundación Wie-



Opening ceremony: XVIII Ordinary National Congress of The Bolivian Society of Clinical Biochemistry
Ceremonia de inauguración: XVIII Congreso Nacional Ordinario de la Sociedad Boliviana de Bioquímica Clínica

At this event representatives of all branches of Bolivia were present: Beni, Cochabamba, La Paz, Potosí, Santa Cruz, Sucre, Tarija, Oruro, Pando and Regional Gran Chaco.

I consider it highly praised by the organizers and attendees this collaborative activity with the IFCC under the VLP, hoping to have in future events under the auspices of IFCC to the improvement and access to the cascade of knowledge by our professionals in activities planned from the Bolivian Society of Clinical Biochemistry.

I would like to praise the organizers and attendees for this collaborative activity with the IFCC VLP programme and we hope to have future events under the auspices of the IFCC to improve and cascade the

ner- Titulado “Cáncer y Marcadores Tumorales” así mismo paralelamente los tres días se llevaron adelante las reuniones administrativas, el IV Congreso Nacional Extraordinario y el XVIII Congreso Nacional Ordinario, evento que se realiza cada tres años y es donde se renueva el Comité Ejecutivo Nacional de la Sociedad Boliviana de Bioquímica Clínica. En el citado evento nuevamente se otorgó la confianza en la dirección de la entidad nacional al Dr. Álvaro Justiniano Grosz quien conducirá la institución hasta el 2018. En este evento se contó representantes de todas las filiales de Bolivia: Beni, Cochabamba, La Paz, Potosí, Santa Cruz, Sucre, Tarija, Oruro, Pando y la Regional Gran Chaco.

Considero que ha sido altamente valorada por los organizadores y asistentes esta actividad colaborativa con la IFCC en el marco del VLP, esperando contar en eventos futuros con los auspicios de IFCC a fin del mejoramiento y acceso a la cascada del conocimiento por nuestros profesionales

knowledge of our professionals in activities planned by the Bolivian Society of Clinical Biochemistry.

This event allowed us to demonstrate the ability of the Bolivian organization to organize such events especially in view of the challenge of organizing the Second International Conference of the Bolivian Society of Clinical Biochemistry to be held in Cochabamba in September 2017 and the Ordinary and XIX National Congress of the Bolivian Society of Clinical Biochemistry, to be held in the city of Santa Cruz in the month of November 2018.

en actividades programadas desde la Sociedad Boliviana de Bioquímica Clínica.

Un evento que nos permitió mostrar la capacidad de Organización de los profesionales Bolivianos de este tipo de eventos, constituyéndose en un reto la organización de las II Jornadas Internacionales de la Sociedad Boliviana de Bioquímica Clínica a efectuarse en la ciudad de Cochabamba en el mes de septiembre 2017 y el XIX Congreso Nacional Ordinario de la Sociedad Boliviana de Bioquímica Clínica, a llevarse a cabo en la ciudad de Santa Cruz en el mes de Noviembre de 2018.



News from the Turkish Biochemical Society (TBS)

Turkish Biochemistry Society celebrated its 40th year at the 27th National Biochemistry Congress

*by Ferhan Girgin Sagin
Vice-President of TBS*

The Turkish Biochemical Society (TBS) celebrated its 40th anniversary with a number of scientific and social activities during the Congress held in the charming city of Antalya on 3-6 Nov 2015. The meeting was organized under the auspices of IFCC and EFLM, along with contributions from well-known IVD companies. More than 600 participants attended, and nearly 150 of them were postgraduate students. The opening

ceremony started with the honorary speech of Nazmi Ozer (the former president) who gave a wonderful overview of the history of TBS with many photos from the past activities, then the honour awards were given to colleagues who had served 40 years in the society.

The scientific programme of the Congress covered a wide range of interesting presentations which focused on quality assessment, standardization and



TBS Executive Board with former and honorary presidents

Article continued on next page

method evaluation, performance criteria of laboratory tests, laboratory errors and patient safety. One of the most interesting plenaries was given by Assistant Prof. Dr. Mazhar Adli (Adli Lab, University of Virginia) about CRISPR/Cas9 technology that is used for epigenome editing, chromatin structure manipulation, and imaging purposes. As there are a number TBS members who are also very active in IFCC or EFLM working groups/committees, the 27th National Biochemistry Congress included some unique sessions. One was the Laboratory Management session led by Sedef Yenice (Chair of the IFCC-C-CLM) and Matthias Orth (Germany, another member of the C-CLM). Yesim Ozarda, member of the IFCC-C-RIDL, presented an exciting story of the determination of haematology reference ranges in Turkey. Lulufer Tamer, TBS corresponding member of the IFCC-CMD talked about the therapeutic use of microRNA's and Sevgi Eskioçak, TBS corresponding member of the IFCC-C-STFT gave an update on guidelines and clinical applications of thyroid function tests.

Guidelines on Clinical Laboratory Management of Chronic Kidney Disease, written by Dogan Yucel, TBS President and a member of the IFCC-TF-CKD was distributed to all participants of the Congress. Abdurrahman Coskun, TBS member of the EFLM WG-BV, rationally questioned quality specifications in clinical

laboratories and addressed the hot topic of biological variation. TBS also has a very effective working group on Preanalytical Phase, led by Mehmet Senes. The work was introduced in a session, and a very fruitful product of the group's work, '*Handbook of the guidelines for obtaining venous blood samples (phlebotomy)*' was distributed to all participants of the Congress.

We were all very pleased with the scientific quality and the diversity of the presentations, the lively scientific interactions and networking as well as the appealing social programme of the Congress. The success of this conference is a great motivation and challenge for the future of TBS.

Last but not least, TBS is proud of its 40 years of history. Forty years of continuous and outstanding work brought the success in the development of the society. TBS, with its members, contributed immensely to the improvement and advancement of the clinical laboratory profession in Turkey and members in biochemistry and molecular life sciences, two areas that form the scaffold of all developments in laboratory medicine. The outcome is an active society with more than 2200 members and 3 branches in Istanbul, Izmir and Adana.



TBS executive board and participants at the Gala Dinner.

by **Mario Plebani**
Chair, TFG-PSEP

Chair: *Mario Plebani (IT)*

Members:

*Janne Cadamuro (AU), Kathleen Freeman (UK),
Tim Lang (UK), Finley MacKenzie (UK),
Maurice O’Kane (IE), Wytze Oosterhuis (NL),
Elisa Piva (IT), Rita Ribeiro (PT), Hanna Ritzén (SW),
Laura Sciacovelli (IT), Pieter Vermeersch (BE)*

The rationale for the decision to create an EFLM Task & Finish Group on Performance Specifications for the extra-analytical phases (TFG-PSEP) has been clearly explained in a recently published paper (Plebani M. The Quality Indicator Paradox. Clin Chem Lab Med. 2015 Dec 7).

The old management adage “You can’t manage what you don’t measure”, in fact, is applicable to clinical laboratories as measurement is of fundamental importance in achieving improvement. In laboratory medicine, the measurement of analytical quality through internal quality control and external quality assessment (EQA) programmes has led to a significant improvement in accuracy in terms of both precision and trueness. However, in the last few decades, a large body of evidence has demonstrated the high vulnerability of the pre- and post-analytical phases. This finding depends on numerous factors, including the complexity of the processes entailed, limited automation and standardization, and the involvement of different healthcare operators at the interface between laboratories and clinical practices.

In this context, a pressing issue is the lack of valuable quality indicators for evaluating, monitoring and improving the extra-analytical phases. There is the need for identifying reliable quality indicators and to define performance specifications in both pre- and post-analytical phases of laboratory testing. This, in turn, should allow clinical laboratories to identify priorities in establishing corrective and preventive actions for “in house” improvement programs; in ad-

dition, this information provides an objective benchmark between different laboratories, thus allowing the comparison of performances in the extra-analytical phase, as already assured to analytical results in conventional EQA schemes.

Following the announcement at the 1° EFLM Strategic Conference to create the TFG-PSEP and to nominate Prof. Mario Plebani as chair, we have discussed the aims and mission of the group at the EFLM General Assembly in Paris last June, and thereafter members who expressed interest for the activities of the WG were co-opted and have started work.

Currently, the TFG has 14 members but this is an opportunity to ask interested scientists to join the TFG by sending an email to the Chair (mario.plebani@unipd.it). The first initiative, in cooperation with two other EFLM WGs on Pre- and Post-analytical phase, has been the development of a questionnaire on the state-of-the-art of quality indicators and performance specification in the extra-analytical phases. This questionnaire has been distributed to more than 1000 laboratory professionals and to all Presidents of EFLM National Societies. On the basis of the answers received, the TFG should be able to better understand current problems and define the path to promote the identification and establishment of performance specifications in the extra-analytical phases.

The second initiative is the organization of an International Conference titled “*Towards performance specifications for the extra-analytical phases of laboratory testing*” that will be held in Padova on the 27th of October 2016.

We would like to take this opportunity to invite all interested laboratory professionals and Scientific Societies to send proposals, suggestions and even criticisms to the Chair of the TFG-PSEP to better address the work of the group on the basis of the true needs and current problems of all laboratory professionals.

Chair: Ferruccio Ceriotti (IT)

Members:

George Klee (US), Pilar Fernández-Calle (SP), Gunnar Nordin (SW), Mauro Panteghini (IT), Sverre Sandberg (NO), Thomas Streichert (DE), Joan-Lluis Vives Corrons (SP)

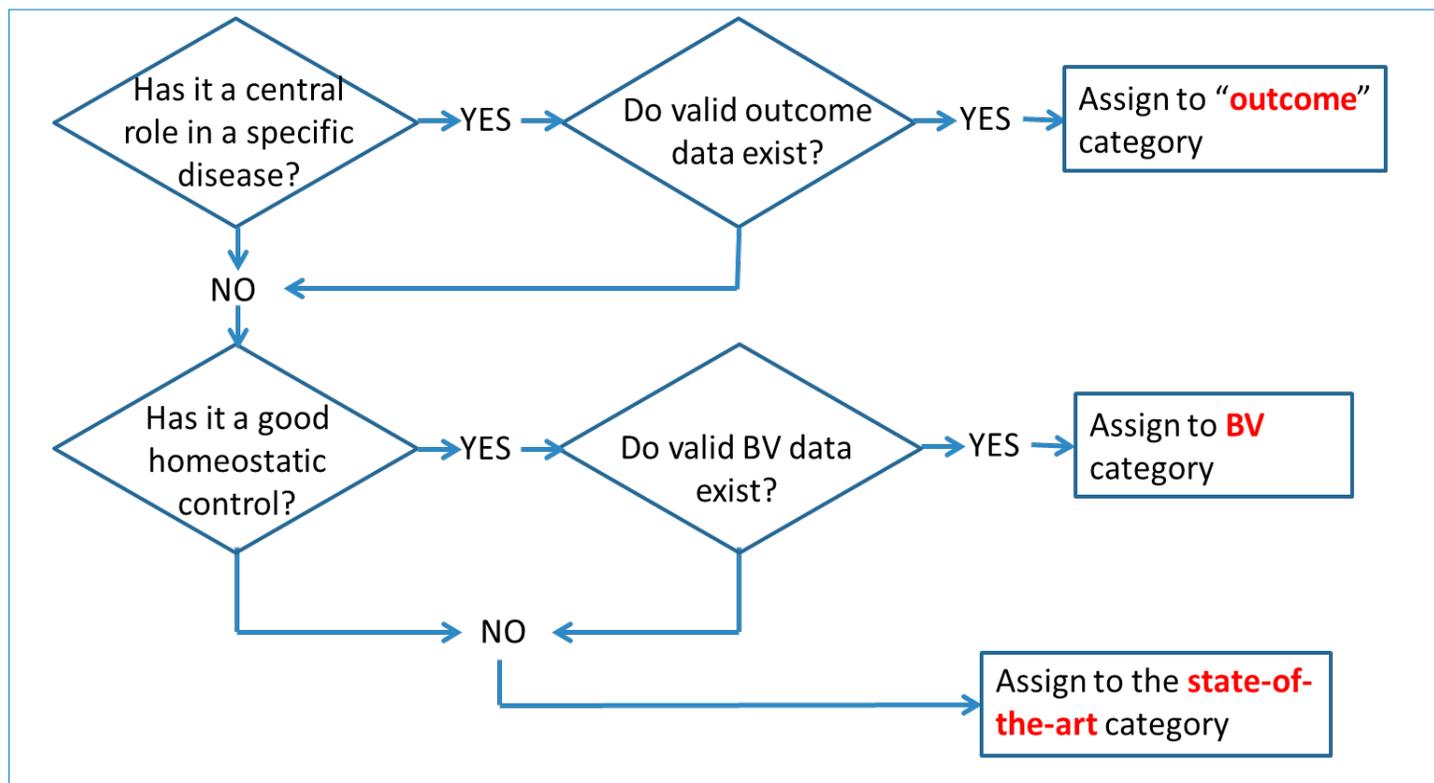
The Task and Finish group “Allocation of laboratory tests to different models for performance specifications” (TFG-DM) has the following terms of reference: to allocate different tests to different models recognized in the Strategic Conference Consensus Statement and to give an overview and a reason for why tests are allocated to the different models. The foreseen deliverables are a list of laboratory tests allocated to the different analytical performance specifications (APS) (starting with the most common) to

be put on the EFLM website and a paper describing the rationale behind listing the different tests in the different model groups. In order to complete this task the group is working on the preparation of a manuscript describing the rationale for allocating the tests to the 3 models for the definition of APS described in the EFLM Strategic Conference held in Milan in 2014.

The proposal of TFG-DM is summarized in Figure 1.

Model 1: Outcome. If the test has a central and well defined role for decision-making in a specific disease or a specific clinical situation, the model of choice should be based on the effect of analytical performance on clinical outcomes. Examples of such analytes are total cholesterol, glucose, HbA1c, serum albumin, cardiac troponins.

Figure 1 Workflow describing the principle for assigning a test to the different APS models



Model 2: Biological variation. The method based on components of biological variation of the measurands should be applied to measurands that do not have a central role in a specific disease or clinical condition, but where the measurand is under strict homeostatic control to preserve its concentrations in the body fluid of interest. In this way the “noise” introduced by the uncertainty related to the measurement procedure will not influence significantly the signal provided by the concentration of the analyte. Typically this model applies to electrolytes and minerals in serum or plasma (e.g. sodium, po-

tassium, chloride, bicarbonate, calcium, magnesium, inorganic phosphate) whose concentration are under strict hormonal control. Other analytes where the model applies well are creatinine, cystatin C, uric acid, total protein.

Model 3: State-of-the-art. This model should be used for all the measurands that cannot be included in models 1 or 2. E.g. Urinary analytes: sodium, potassium, chloride, calcium, magnesium, inorganic phosphate, creatinine, urea, uric acid, etc. or enzymes such as aspartate aminotransferase, alanine aminotransferase or gamma-glutamyltransferase.



EFLM Symposia at the EuroMedLab Congress 2017, approved by the Scientific Programme Committee of the Congress



DATE TO FOCUS ON



1 November 2016:

Deadline for poster abstract submission

30 April 2017:

Deadline for reduced registration fees

EFLM Symposium on Performance Specifications in Laboratory Medicine (Part I)

Chair: M. Panteghini (Italy)

- 1) Defining performance specifications in laboratory testing (M. Panteghini)
- 2) The new EFLM biological variation database based on a critical appraisal checklist (S. Sandberg)
- 3) Criteria for allocation of laboratory tests to the three Milan models for performance specifications (F. Ceriotti)

EFLM Symposium on Performance Specifications in Laboratory Medicine (Part II)

Chair: S. Sandberg (Norway)

- 1) Are total error and uncertainty of measurement two sides of the same coin? (W. Oosterhuis)
- 2) Performance specifications in EQAS (G. Jones)
- 3) Performance specifications in extra-analytical phases (M. Plebani)

EFLM Symposium on Harmonisation in Laboratory Medicine

Chair: M.S. Graziani (Italy)

- 1) The contribution of the EFLM WG-PRE to the harmonisation of preanalytical phase of laboratory examination process in Europe (A.M. Simundic)
- 2) Harmonisation of medical laboratory accreditation: the importance of being involved in all steps (W. Huisman)
- 3) Harmonising the recognition of specialists in laboratory medicine across Europe (G. Wieringa)
- 4) Steps towards harmonisation of the evaluation process in the continuous professional development of laboratory medicine specialists in Europe (E. Topic)

Thanks to the outgoing EFLM Committee Chairs: Prof. Elizabeta Topic (HR) and Prof. Elvar Theodorsson (SE)

by Ana-Maria Simundic
EFLM Executive Board Secretary
by Sverre Sandberg
EFLM President Elect

Prof. Elizabeta Topic (Croatia) – Chair of the EFLM Education and Training Committee 2010-2015



Prof. Elizabeta Topic has finished her third term as the chair of the EFLM Committee for Education and Training (C-ET). During the long six years of her office, Prof. Topic has made a substantial contribution to the work of EFLM, its C-ET committee and its working groups. Thanks to her chairmanship, we have

seen many outcomes which have received the appreciation of the EFLM Executive Board as well as that of many colleagues throughout the EFLM National Societies.

Prof. Topic has built a recognizable postgraduate course in Dubrovnik which has over the years grown into the favourite venue for young colleagues and other professionals eager to learn new things and acquire knowledge. She was also involved into the creation of the various guidelines and documents which have enabled EFLM to better manage its meetings, grant applications, etc. Prof. Topic was a valuable member of many committees which have been involved in the communication and collaboration of EFLM with other international associations, such as IFCC, UEMS and some others. Her experience and knowledge had helped EFLM to strengthen its role and significance within Europe and serve the educational needs of its Member Societies.

Executive Board wishes to formally thank her, for the contribution she has made to EFLM as Chair of the Committee for Education and training.

Her contribution will remain a valuable resource for the future and will be very useful to the new incoming C-ET chair, prof. Ralf Lichtinghagen (Hannover, Germany).

Prof. Elvar Theodorsson (Sweden) – Chair of the EFLM Science Committee 2014-2015



Prof. Elvar Theodorsson has served one term of two years as the chair of the Science Committee (C-S) of EFLM and has decided not to apply for a second term. During his period as chair of the Committee he has been an inspiration for all the working groups (WG) in the committee. He has a specific way of dealing

with people, being always kind, respectful and tried to find the best compromise and avoid conflicts. He always looked at people and treated them individually and not by the book (or by the rules). People liked him and he was a nice person to work with. He had a close contact with the chairs of the WGs and stimulated and encouraged them in their work. In addition, he had refreshing ideas as for example to gather all WG chairs and listen to their views and suggestions. He is a very able team builder and as one of the WG chairs put it like this: "*...he made you feel that you belong to an organisation that really cares and that respects your expertise*". And indeed, it is really important for EFLM to show that we appreciate all the voluntary work that people is doing.

Elvar also had good communication with the EFLM Executive Board being straightforward with his opinions and ideas so that we could be able to develop

EFLM activity. With his huge experience, he was a great resource in many different and difficult questions. He was a driving force for EFLM to engage in applications for European grants. We do hope that EFLM also in the future will have the opportunity to

use the expertise of Elvar to the benefit of its members. His contribution will remain a valuable resource for the future and will be very useful to the new incoming Science Committee chair, Prof. Eric Kilpatrick (Doha, Qatar).



Welcome to the new EFLM Committee Chairs: Prof. Eric Kilpatrick (UK) and Prof. Ralf Lichtinghagen (DE)

by MariaStella Graziani

Chair, EFLM Communication Committee

EFLM is delighted to welcome the new Chair of the Science Committee (Prof. Eric Kilpatrick) and the new Chair of the Education & Training Committee (Prof. Ralf Lichtinghagen) wishing them all the best for their future contribution to the Federation. EFLM is sure that the professional competence and the personal attitudes of the two new Chairs could assure a great success to the EFLM activities. Here below, some information on Prof. Kilpatrick and Prof. Lichtinghagen.

Professor Eric Kilpatrick



Professor Eric Kilpatrick is the Division Chief in Clinical Chemistry at Sidra Medical and Research Centre in Qatar. He is also the honorary Professor of Clinical Biochemistry at Hull York Medical School and is the Past President of the Association for Clinical Biochemistry and Laboratory Medicine (ACB) in the UK.

After graduating in medicine from the University of Glasgow in 1988 he trained in Clinical Biochemistry in Glasgow and then Manchester before being appointed as the consultant Head of Department of Clinical Biochemistry at Hull Royal Infirmary in 1998, subsequently becoming the Clinical Director for Pathology. In 2015 he moved to become the inaugural Division Chief for Clinical Chemistry at Sidra. Professor Kilpatrick's other leadership roles include being Chair of UK national audit in his field of medicine

between 2004 and 2010 as well as providing expert advice to the UK Government and the National Institute for Health and Care Excellence (NICE) on aspects of diabetes care. He has also represented the UK on global task forces related to diabetes and laboratory medicine.

Academically, he gained his higher MD degree from Glasgow in 1996, with his thesis combining his interest in the laboratory medicine and clinical diabetes. Since then, he has become an international authority on assessing glucose control in diabetes and has published ~150 articles peer-reviewed articles contributing, in 2006, to him becoming the first honorary full Professor from Hull at Hull York Medical School. He has additionally gained recognition by receiving international lectures and awards from countries such as the UK, Canada and Australia.

Professor Ralf Lichtinghagen



Professor Lichtinghagen received his doctorate at the Ruhr-University Bochum and started his continuing education in Clinical Chemistry in 1991.

Now he is Deputy in the Institute of Clinical Chemistry and Director of the MT-LA-School of the Hannover Medical University.

He has been Member-at-Large of the Executive Board of the German Society of Clinical Chemistry and Laboratory Medicine (DGKL).

Article continued on next page

Currently, he plays an active role in the commission for recognition of the qualification “Clinical Chemist” by the DGKL as well as in the working group on bioinformatics of the DGKL. He has a long standing experience in

the field of laboratory management as well as professional education. He is actively involved in research and development in Laboratory Medicine as documented by many publications in internationally renowned journals.



News from PSCP - Pakistan CME Seminar on ‘World Osteoporosis Day’

by Lena Jafrii

Member of Executive Council, PSCP

Pakistan Society of Chemical Pathology in collaboration with the Metabolic Bone Disease Forum, Section of Chemical Pathology, Department of Pathology & Laboratory Medicine, Aga Khan University, Pakistan Orthopedics Association and Pakistan Society of Rheumatology, organized a CME Seminar on ‘**World Osteoporosis Day**’ on Tuesday, 20 October 2015, at Aga Khan University, Karachi Pakistan. Renowned experts from Aga Khan University delivered talks and discussed complicated cases. Dr. Imran Siddiqui, Associate Professor Chemical Pathology and Interim Chair, Department of Pathology & Laboratory Medicine welcomed the participants and appreciated the efforts of Metabolic Bone Disease Forum in creating awareness of bone health on ‘**World Osteoporosis Day**’.

Dr. Aysha Habib Khan, Associate Professor and Section Head of Chemical Pathology, Department of Pathology & Laboratory Medicine in her introductory speech discussed the objectives of the Metabolic Bone Research Group and Metabolic Bone Disease Forum and informed of the educational activities over the past years. She presented an overview of the epidemiology of osteoporosis, highlighting the issues in Pakistan and shared findings of various studies from Aga Khan University Hospital.

Dr. Maseeh uz Zaman, Associate Professor and Section Head Nuclear Medicine, Department of Radiology gave a comprehensive talk on interpretation and limitations of Dual Energy X-ray Absorptiometry (DXA) Scan. The availability and access to DXA ma-



Group picture of presenters and members of Pakistan Society of Chemical Pathology at the CME Seminar on World Osteoporosis Day at Aga Khan University, Karachi Pakistan

Article continued on next page

chines is an issue in Pakistan and the expense of DXA scans makes them unavailable for the majority even if the machine is made accessible.

Ms. Muzamila Mughal, a nutritional expert, highlighted the importance of diet, exercise and lifestyle for good musculoskeletal health, including its role in maintaining future mobility and quality of life. In line with World Osteoporosis theme 2015 '*Serve up bone strength throughout life*', she stressed that adequate dietary intake of calcium and vitamin D is essential for good bone health.

Management of primary osteoporosis was discussed by Dr. Masood Umar, Associate Professor and Orthopedic Surgeon. The key aspect of his discussion was a comprehensive treatment strategy for patients with osteoporosis.

Dr. Lena Jafri Assistant Professor Chemical Pathology and Member Executive Council Pakistan Society of Chemical Pathology emphasized the need to identify secondary osteoporosis in clinical set-up.

Dr. Mehmood Riaz, Assistant Professor, Department of Medicine, gave an enlightening talk on steroid-induced osteoporosis.

Real life challenging cases of osteoporosis were presented by Dr. Hafsa Majid, Resident Chemical Pathology and panel of experts pitched in with their expertise on diagnosis and management. The panel consisted of renowned endocrinologist and President Pakistan Society of Endocrinology, Dr. Saeed Maher, Dr. Saleha Ishaq, consultant rheumatologist at AKU, Dr. Amin Chinoy, President Pakistan Society of Orthopaedics and Director Kiran Hospital Dr. Akhter Ahmed.

The closing remarks were delivered by Dean Medical College, Dr. Farhat Abbas who appreciated the role of faculty in holding a seminar on World Osteoporosis Day and in creating awareness of an ignored disease affecting a large part of our population. The CME seminar was successful in bringing together delegates from different disciplines in Pakistan.

Reported by: Dr. Lena Jafri

Section of Chemical Pathology

*Dept. of Pathology and Laboratory Medicine
Aga Khan University Hospital*

*Member Executive Council Pakistan Society
of Chemical Pathology*



News from Society of Medical Biochemists of Serbia

The 18th Annual "Professor Ivan Berkeš" Scientific Conference - 3 December 2015

by Snežana Jovičić

Liaison Member of the IFCC eNewsletter Working Group

The annual activities of Society of Medical Biochemists of Serbia are traditionally wrapped up in December with the *Professor Ivan Berkeš scientific conference* dedicated to the life and work of one of the most prominent figures in medical biochemistry science and profession in the former Yugoslavia. Professor Ivan Berkeš, an esteemed mentor and founder established the post graduate programme in medical biochemistry at the University of Belgrade School of Pharmacy. Under his leadership, several dozen candidates attained Master of Science and Doctoral degrees, and over 150 medical biochemists obtained

their specialist degrees. Professor Berkeš authored over 200 papers in leading international and national journals, and several books.

The conference was organised, as usual by the Executive Director of the Society of Medical Biochemists of Serbia and the successor of professor Berkeš in leading and guiding medical biochemistry in the last thirty years, professor Nada Majkić-Singh. The conference was held under the patronage of the Society of Medical Biochemists of Serbia, Scientific Foundation „Professor Ivan Berkeš“, and the Institute of Medical Biochemistry, Military Medical Academy.

Article continued on next page



Laureates of the Scientific Conference “Professor Ivan Berkeš”
with N. Majkić-Singh, Z. Šegrt, S. Ignjatović, J. Pejović and Z. Šumarac

The chairs were professor Svetlana Ignjatović, Dr. Janko Pejović, and Dr. Zorica Šumarac. Representative of the Head of the Military Medical Academy, colonel professor Zoran Šegrt welcomed the gathering and expressed his great admiration for the medical biochemistry profession and the honor of being the host of this important event for the eighteenth time. Vice-Dean for Education of the University of Belgrade School of Pharmacy, professor Marina Milenković, gave the welcome and emphasized the significance of professor Berkeš's work and the scientific conference and the awards of the Scientific Foundation were delivered to the best pharmacy students that graduated in the past year. This was also the part of tradition, since the Scientific Foundation was established support and award valedictorians of the two graduate programs of the University of Belgrade School of Pharmacy. This year's laureates were Branislava Šupljeglav, Master of Pharmacy-Medical Biochemist, and Milan Milojević, Master of Pharmacy.

The scientific programme of the Conference included presentations of doctoral theses in medical bio-

chemistry at the Universities of Belgrade during the past year. The lectures included research on the oxidative stress biomarkers. Dr. Danijela Ardalić (Indicators of oxidative stress, lipid profile, and paraoxonase 1 in pregnancy). Dr. Ivana Stanojković (Indicators of oxidative stress and inflammation in chronic obstructive pulmonary disease patients). Dr. Nevena Kardum's (The impact of aronia juice on oxidative status' biomarkers and fatty acid profile). Dr. Danica Čujić (The effect of steroid hormones and antagonists on galectin in human trophoblasts). *in vitro*. The second section described research on enzyme genetic polymorphisms: Dr. Zorica Reljić (The role of genetic polymorphisms of glutathione transferases in the development of Balkan endemic nephropathy); Dr. Mirjana Milivojević (The clinical relevance of osteopontin in diagnosis of ovarian tumors). All lectures initiated vivid discussion among the most recent PhDs and interested audience, which was essential for another successful conference worthy of the memory of a respected mentor and world-renowned scientist.



9th International Conference on Quality Control Mexico City, 24-25 November 2015

*by Ivonne Zamora
BIO RAD Mexico
Rosa I. Sierra- Amor*

WG eNews Corresponding member, IFCC EB Member

Last November, the 9th International Conferences on Quality Control took place at the Crown Plaza Hotel in Mexico City, with an audience of 400 people on site. It was organized by Bio-Rad Mexico, with the auspices of the Mexican Association of Clinical Laboratory Sciences, Full Member society IFCC, and IFCC.

This important and well received event was broadcast live to 14 countries from Latin America and seen by 1889



professionals with interactive discussions by internet based technology. Colleagues participating were from Argentina, Chile, Colombia, Ecuador, El Salvador, Guatemala, Mexico, Nicaragua, Paraguay, Peru, Dominican Republic, Uruguay and Venezuela. Laboratory Professionals could register directly and had full access to the event by an internet live transmission. A code was assigned to each attendee, who received a certificate after completing a questionnaire signed by Prof. Maurizio Ferrari, President IFCC EB.

The Angel of the Independence, Reforma Avenue Mexico City. This conference, sponsored in full by Bio-Rad, has contributed extensively to the improvement of knowledge in quality control and quality management issues of laboratory medicine professionals of the Latin American region. This year, the scientific programme included speakers from Brazil, Costa Rica, Chile, Mexico and United States. Topics were from QC Design and Strategies for Improving Patient Care by David Grenache; Practical Approaches to Risk-Based Quality Control in the Core Laboratory by Nikola Baumann; Management and Quality Control for Network Laboratories by Veronica Bastidas; Quality Control in Immunohaematology and The importance of irregular antibodies search in patients and donors by Cesar Cerdas; Understanding diagnosis of Hemoglobinopathies by Houria El Mouden; Blood typing for the ABO system without discrepancies by Ana Claudia Peron, finalizing with a very detailed description of Risk management in Blood Banks in accordance with ISO 15189 by Hector Baptista. With this annual conference, Bio-Rad has continued committed improving education of laboratory professionals from Latin America. The company is



grateful for the interest and the participation demonstrated by attendees and speakers and the support of Dr. Rosa Isabel Sierra-Amor on the organization of the event. We take this opportunity to thank IFCC and Bio-Rad for their interest in continuing to organize this important conference in Latin America.

IFCC PROFESSIONAL SCIENTIFIC EXCHANGE PROGRAMME (PSEP)



My experience in Philadelphia

by *Santiago Fares-Taie*
Argentina

During 12 weeks, from 29th June until 18th September 2015, I had the opportunity to visit:

- Congenital Hyperinsulinism Center at The Children's Hospital of Philadelphia (CHOP);
- Genetic Diagnostic Laboratory at University of Pennsylvania (UPenn).

Congenital Hyperinsulinism (CHI) is a multigenic disease characterized by mild or severe hypoglycaemia in newborns and kids. HI is a heterogeneous disorder and hypoglycaemia symptoms are non-specific including: irritability, lethargy, seizure, hypothermia, coma, irreversible brain damage and death. Morphologically, it is characterized mainly in two forms: Focal or diffuse pancreatic lesions. The incidence of the disease is estimated to be 1:40,000 live births.

The objectives of the exchange programme were to learn how to perform the CHI genetic test, the different diagnostic algorithms, mutation analysis and interpretation of the 9 genes associated with this pathology, according to the experience at CHOP and also to develop the HI genetic tests for the Congenital Hyperinsulinism Center at CEMIC, Argentina. At present, HI genetic tests are sent abroad because there are no laboratories capable of doing these tests in Argentina and Latin America.

Genetic testing for HI helps to predict Focal/Diffuse diseases, and in this way, determine which kids will benefit from a PET-Scan study. It also predicts Diazoxide responsiveness (medical treatment) and it is useful and valuable for parental and proband genetic counselling.

The techniques I became familiar with for the genetic study are the following:

- PCR, primer design, PCR set up;

- Real Time PCR for Deletion/Duplication analysis;
- Sanger sequencing;
- Ion Torrent Library preparation;
- Bioanalyzer for DNA quantification;
- Ion Torrent sequencing;
- Mutation analysis: identification and interpretation.

During my visit, I had the opportunity to participate in other activities such as:

- Weekly **Genetic Meetings** where all the health staff gather together to discuss current in- and out-patients at CHOP; and
- **Genetic Rounds** with expositions from the different genetic services of the hospital. I was also invited to observe a PET-Scan study and to collaborate in a research study where we found very interesting results.

This fantastic experience would not have been possible without the support of Dr. Alejandra Arias (CUBRA) and Dr. Silvia Quiroga (CEMIC) who supported me and worked hard to gain the IFCC PSEP.

I have to specially thank Dr. Charles Stalney (CHOP's CHI Center Director) and Prof. Arupa Ganguly (UPenn) for accepting me in their laboratories with their people and for sharing all their experience and knowledge.

I also like to thank Kara Snider, Gloria Shen, Carrie Coleman, Nkecha Hughes and Samir Sayed from CHOP and Jennifer Richards, Kimberly Moran, Jessica Ebrahimzadeh, Julia Kelly and Richard Grant from UPenn. It is because of them that I had such a pleasant stay in Philadelphia. They were kind, welcoming, fun and always available for teaching. Finally, I would like to specially thank Dr. Maurizio Fer-

Article continued on next page

rari (IFCC President) and all IFCC members and staff for their generosity, for giving me the opportunity of

having this lifetime opportunity and making HI genetic testing possible in Argentina.



My lab mates at the Genetic Diagnostic Lab at University of Pennsylvania



My experience at the Laboratory of Neurobiology Fatebenefratelli Hospital Rome, Italy

*by Irena Ivanova
Bulgaria*

I had the chance to spend a few weeks in the team of the research lab of neurobiology, Fatebenefratelli Hospital, Rome, supported by the IFCC PSEP program. The project, was focused on the role of trace elements, particularly copper, in the pathogenesis and for prognosis of neurodegenerative disorders such as Alzheimer's disease (AD). The visit was extremely helpful for me to gain deeper knowledge on this specific scientific matter and to acquire new skills in research work. The main aspects of my work were:

1. Approach for the selection of patients with AD;
2. Approach to the study of samples for research purposes – normalization between different analytical runs;
3. Colourimetric measurement of copper in serum;
4. Enzymatic activity determination of ceruloplasmin and clinical interpretation of the copper status in the body DNA extraction procedure for genetic analyzes;

Article continued on next page



Irena Ivanova

5. Determination of serum copper by Atomic Absorption Spectrophotometry – AAnalyst 600 Perkin Elmer.

During my visit, I discussed with Prof. Rosanna Squitti my recent study of copper status in the Bulgarian population. Ms. Mariacristina Siotto assisted with the biochemical analyses for serum samples of healthy Bulgarian individuals.

My joint work with the team of Prof. R. Squitti and the possibility of sharing my knowledge and experience with my Italian colleagues are of a great importance for development of my PhD thesis especially in the part for the role of copper in neurodegenerative diseases.

I was warmly greeted in the scientific group of Neurobiology Department and despite the short time of my visit, I felt a part of this lab team. The people of the Italian lab became not only my partners in the research on copper but also my friends.

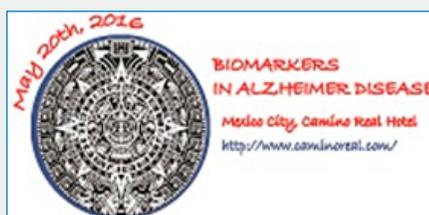
I kindly appreciate the support of IFCC PSEP for the possibility to visit the Laboratory of Neurobiology, Fatebenefratelli Hospital, Rome, Italy. I am deeply grateful to my Italian colleagues: Prof. Rosanna Squitti, Mariacristina Siotto, Ms. Mariacarla Ventriglia, and Carlo Salustri.

News from the IFCC Website: C-EUBD



IFCC has launched a new Committee on Education in the Use of Biomarkers in Diabetes. The Committee is chaired by Prof. Garry John (UK). The IFCC has a highly successful history in developing all aspects of standardisation and quality related to Haemoglobin A1c measurement via its new Committee will explore educational aspects relating to diabetic monitoring and diagnosis including assessing the value of new diabetes markers.

[Read more](#)



News from the IFCC Website: IFCC Roche Conference Biomarkers in Alzheimer Disease

Mexico City
May 20 - 21, 2016

[Read more](#)

Communications and Publications Division (CPD) of the IFCC
Editor: Tahir Pillay, MB ChB, PhD, FRCPath (Lon), FCPATH (SA)
Department of Chemical Pathology - University of Pretoria - Pretoria - South Africa - e-mail: enews@ifcc.org

2016 AD Pricelist for the IFCC eNews

The IFCC eNews is delivered to more than 15,000 laboratory medicine specialists throughout the world and also published on the IFCC website. Circulation includes laboratory directors, clinical chemists, and other clinical laboratory specialists and technologists, as well as leading manufacturers, distributors and dealers in the field.

As an advertiser you get a unique opportunity to showcase your business, your initiatives and products to thousands of readers and potential customers.

The latest issue of the IFCC eNews as well as past archives can be viewed and read online, in full digital format, from either a PC or a mobile device. The digital edition is fully interactive and allows the readers to reach the links by way of a simple click on the editorial content, product news items, or display ads.

The IFCC eNews is issued in English, and it is free-of-charge to all registered readers.

We feature useful information for IFCC and not IFCC members and we include a calendar of the major events in the Clinical Chemistry and Laboratory Medicine field.

The advertising banners are available in the following formats:

ADVERT SIZE	SINGLE EDITION PRICE	*ANNUAL PRICE (6 editions)
Half Page Horizontal/Column	€ 250	€ 1,250.00
Full page (215,9 x 279,4)	€ 400	€ 2,000.00

*PRICES QUOTED ARE YEARLY FOR ADVERTISING IN SIX EDITIONS (February, April, June, July, October, December)

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N° 4	Jul 14 th	N° 5	Sep 22 nd	N° 6	Dec 1 st
6. Send your advertising material by email to: enews@ifcc.org

If you have any questions please get in touch with us, sending an email to ifcc@ifcc.org

News from the IFCC Website – Histories of IFCC members



There are many ways in which the history of clinical chemistry has been documented. Some of these are detailed accounts of the 'legendary' accomplishments of notable clinical chemists that provided our profession with the sound scientific basis that allows us to practice, and that enhances our reputation within the entire medical profession. However, it is just as important to document the significant efforts achieved by groups of like-minded clinical chemists around the world that felt it important to establish a forum in their particular country, region or location that could facilitate the education of clinical chemists, the distribution of information and an improved medium whereby they could communicate with their colleagues around the world.

The History web pages provide insight into the creation, role and achievements of 'Clinical Chemistry and Laboratory Medicine Societies' from all over the world. It documents how the member societies that constitute IFCC were founded, and

how they have grown to maturity. It includes wonderful photographic records of early meetings of those societies and of the individuals that sought to enhance the profession in their own country and in their own unique way. The 'histories' have been provided by enthusiasts from over 50 countries. We hope that this collection will encourage the societies that have not joined in this effort to participate in this important project that greatly enhances the IFCC archives.

[Read more](#)

4th Joint EFLM-UEMS Congress

  
European Union of Medical Specialists
Section of Laboratory Medicine/Medical Biopathology

„Laboratory medicine at the clinical interface“

WARSAW
September 21-24th 2016
Venue: Double Tree by Hilton, Warsaw

Important dates:
Early bird registration: June 15th 2016
On-line registration deadline: July 30th 2016
Abstract submission deadline: April 30th 2016

Under the auspices of:
  

<http://www.eflm-uems.warsaw2016.eu>



MADRID
General Conference

Feeding the future of IFCC

Chair: **Bernard Gouget**

Hotel Auditorium-Marriott, Madrid, Spain
19-21 March 2016

IFCC'S CALENDAR OF CONGRESSES, CONFERENCES & EVENTS

Calendar of IFCC Congresses/Conferences and Regional Federations' Congresses

May 20 - 21, 2016		<i>IFCC Roche Conference Biomarkers in Alzheimer Disease</i>	Mexico City, MX
Nov 26 - 29, 2016		<i>14th Asia-Pacific Federation for Clinical Biochemistry and Laboratory Medicine Congress</i>	Taipei, TW
Jun 11 - 15, 2017		<i>IFCC-EFLM EuroMedLab 2017</i>	Athens, GR
Sep 17 - 22, 2017		<i>XXIII COLABIOCLI Congress 2017</i>	Punta del Este, UY
Oct 22 - 25, 2017		<i>XXIII IFCC WorldLab 2017</i>	Durban, ZA
May 19 - 23, 2019		<i>IFCC-EFLM EuroMedLab 2019</i>	Barcelona, ES
May 24 - 28, 2020		<i>XXIV IFCC WorldLab 2020 Seoul</i>	Seoul, KR

Calendar continued on next page

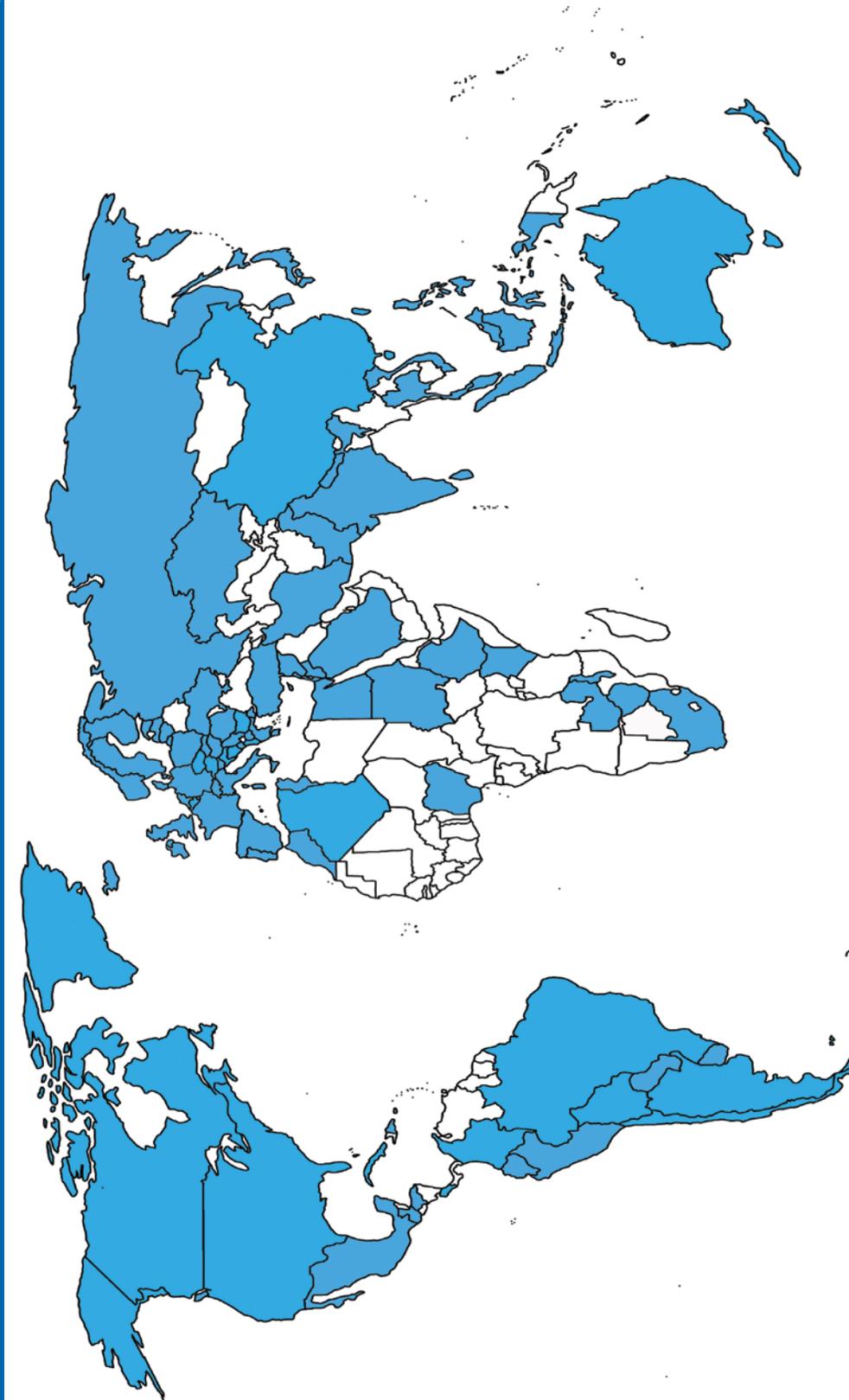
Calendar of events with IFCC auspices

Feb 18 - 20, 2016	<i>Turkish In Vitro Diagnostic (IVD) Symposium</i>	Izmir, TR
Feb 27, 2016	<i>11th Annual Meeting of Quality Assurance and Topics on Nutriogenetics, Nutriogenomics and Immunology Upgrades</i>	San Luis Potosi, MX
Mar 3 - 5, 2016	<i>College of Chemical Pathologists of Sri Lanka 1st Annual Academic Sessions 2016 (CCPSL AAS 2016)</i>	Colombo, LK
Mar 3 - 5, 2016	<i>XII Congress of the Catalan Association for Clinical Laboratory Sciences</i>	Sitges, ES
Mar 9 - 11, 2016	<i>Flow Cytometry Course</i>	Cordoba, AR
Mar 9 - 11, 2016	<i>IX National Congress of Clinical Pathology, CONAPAC 2016</i>	Havana, CU
Mar 24 - 25, 2016	<i>5th International Conference on Vitamin D Deficiency and its Clinical Implications</i>	Abu Dhabi, UAE
Apr 12, 2016	<i>POCT COURSE: Importance, diagnostic application and accreditation</i>	Mexico City, MX
Apr 20 - 22, 2016	<i>10th International Conference of Clinical Laboratory Automation (Cherry Blossom Symposium 2016)</i>	Seoul, KR
May 12 - 14, 2016	<i>XIII Baltic Congress of Laboratory Medicine</i>	Tartu, EE
May 12 - 13, 2016	<i>XIV Meeting of the SEQC Scientific Committee</i>	Madrid, ES
May 18 - 21, 2016	<i>1st Conference of Romanian Association of Laboratory Medicine (RALM)</i>	Cluj Napoca, RO
May 18 - 20, 2016	<i>Congreso Nacional de Residentes Bioquimicos</i>	Buenos Aires, AR
May 25 - 27, 2016	<i>XX Congress of Medical Biochemistry and Laboratory Medicine</i>	Belgrade, SRB
May 26, 2016	<i>12th EFLM Symposium for Balkan Region</i>	Belgrade, SRB
Jun 14-17, 2016	<i>35th Nordic Congress of Clinical Chemistry 2016</i>	Odense, DK
Sept 21 - 24, 2016	<i>4th Joint EFLM-UEMS Congress: "Laboratory Medicine at the Clinical Interface"</i>	Warsaw, PL
Oct 20-22, 2016	<i>Joint Meeting of the "3rd Congress on Controversies in Thrombosis & Hemostasis" together with the "8th Russian Conference on Clinical Hemostasiology and Hemorheology"</i>	Moscow, RU
Oct 27, 2016	<i>International Conference on Laboratory Medicine "Towards performance specifications for the extra-analytical phases of laboratory testing"</i>	Padova, IT
Apr 19 - 22, 2017	<i>The 9th International and 14th National Congress on Quality Improvement in Clinical Laboratories</i>	Theran, IR
Oct 20 - 22, 2017	<i>XIVth International Congress of Paediatric Laboratory Medicine</i>	Durban, ZA

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Affiliate Members

- Brazil: Sociedade Brasileira de Patologia Clínica / Medicina Laboratorial (SBPC/ML)
- India: Association of Medical Biochemists of India (AMBI)
- Iran: Iranian Association of Clinical Laboratory Doctors (IACLD)
- Jordan: Society for Medical Technology & Laboratories (SMTL)
- Mexico: Federación Nacional de Químicos Clínicos (CONAQUIC A.C.)
- Nepal: Nepalese Association for Clinical Chemistry (NACC)
- Palestine: Palestinian Medical Technology Association (PALMTA)
- Philippines: Philippine Council for Quality Assurance in Clinical Laboratories (PCQACL)
- Russia: Regional Association for Clinical Laboratory Diagnosis, St. Petersburg
- Spain: Asociación Española de Farmacéuticos Analistas (AEFA)
- Turkey: Society of Clinical Biochemistry Specialists (KBUD)
- Ukraine: Association of Clinical Chemistry & Laboratory Medicine of Ukraine (ACCLMU)

Regional Federations

- Arab Federation of Clinical Biology (AFCB)
- African Federation of Clinical Chemistry (AFCC)
- Asia-Pacific Federation for Clinical Biochemistry and Laboratory Medicine (APFCB)
- European Federation of Clinical Chemistry and Laboratory Medicine (EFLM)
- Latin America Confederation of Clinical Biochemistry (COLABIOCLI)
- North American Federation of Clinical Chemistry and Laboratory Medicine (NAFCC)

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- submission deadline: [July 14](#)

September-October Edition

- submission deadline: [September 22](#)

November-December Edition

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Tahir Pillay, Editor, IFCC eNews

E-mail: enews@ifcc.org

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