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International Federation of Clinical Chemistry and Laboratory Medicine



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2017



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Philippe Gillery, new Chair of the IFCC Scientific Division (SD)

by Philippe Gillery
Chair, IFCC Scientific Division



Prof. Philippe Gillery

Prof. Philippe Gillery, MD, PhD, is Professor of Biochemistry and Molecular Biology at the Faculty of Medicine of Reims, University of Reims Champagne-Ardenne, France. He is the chair of the Laboratory of Paediatric Biology and Research and of the Biology and Pathology Department of the University Hospital of Reims, France.

He was previously Vice-Chair of the IFCC Scientific Division (SD) before being nominated as Chair in January 2017. He is Associate Editor for the Clinical Chemistry and Laboratory Medicine Journal.

His research interests are related to the effects of non-enzymatic post-translational modifications on protein structure and functions, and to their involvement in the pathophysiology of diabetes mellitus and other chronic diseases like atherosclerosis and chronic kidney diseases. He has published more than 180 articles in peer-reviewed journals.

His major strategic orientations for the IFCC Scientific Division are as follows:

- 1. Maintain and amplify the high level of involvement of IFCC-SD in the field of standardization / harmonization**
 - Continue and/or complete ongoing projects, with a robust performance management and adherence to agreed timelines
 - Pick up priority measurands, in relation to the harmonization consortium
 - Identify new areas, in collaboration with key partners (auto-immune tests, drugs).
- 2. Maintain and amplify the visibility of IFCC scientific activities inside and outside IFCC**
 - Participate actively in all IFCC and regional federation meetings, in scientific meetings of clinical societies in areas covered by SD and in IFCC publications
 - Reinforce relations with partners (BIPM, NMIs, WHO), focussing on specific expert areas of the SD.
 - Strengthen interactions with other IFCC divisions or task forces for identifying new markers suitable for standardization / harmonization, in cooperation with corporate members (importance of clinical relevance and interest for effective implementation of the tests in laboratories)
- 3. Prepare for the future**
 - Focus SD activities on new areas of clinical chemistry and laboratory medicine
 - Close co-operation with other IFCC divisions, including any new focus on innovation.
 - Select and involve new members in SD Cs and WGs (key actors getting older or retiring, specific skills required in new areas of interest), especially young scientists (with EB support and the sustainability).
 - Ensure the maintenance of IFCC networks (cf C-TLM).

Thank you and farewell to Ian Young

by **Maurizio Ferrari**
IFCC President

Professor Ian Young completed his term as Chair of the IFCC Scientific Division (SD) at the end of 2016. He had served in this capacity for two three-year terms having previously served two three-year terms as Vice Chair. Therefore, much of the international acclamation for the work of the SD can be credited to the leadership shown by Ian.

At any point in time the SD is overseeing twenty work streams through the SD Committees and Working Groups. Whilst all members of SD share the mentoring of these work streams it is the Chair who coordinates the activity and who facilitates discussion on progress. A visit to the list of IFCC publications reveals a large number of scientific articles arising from SD. In particular the SD has achieved success in facilitating the preparation of reference measurement procedures and reference materials for a wide range of clinically important biomarkers including enzymes, hormones, tumour markers and disease specific markers.

In addition to his work within IFCC Ian has also represented IFCC at important international organizations, especially in the European Union and the United States. The high visibility and reputation of IFCC depend on this external IFCC activity.

Throughout this period Ian has been employed in high profile roles within academic healthcare in Northern Ireland. He is currently the Chief Scientific Advisor and Director of Health and Social Care Research, in the Department of Health, Northern Ireland. Previously, he was Director of the Centre for Public Health, Queen's University Belfast, where he is Professor of Medicine. He has a wonderful portfolio of research publications with over 390 peer-reviewed original articles and reviews – many in high impact factor journals.

Ian's contribution to our profession has recently been recognized. He is the 2017 recipient of the AACC Award for Outstanding Contributions through Service to the Profession of Clinical Chemistry – a fitting recognition of his exceptional contribution.

Ian is not retiring from representative roles for in May 2017, he becomes President of the Association for Clinical Biochemistry and Laboratory Medicine (ACB), which is the IFCC Full Member in the UK.

IFCC owes a huge debt of gratitude to Ian. We hope that he will return to another IFCC role in the not too distant future. So 'thank you Ian, and farewell' (for now?).



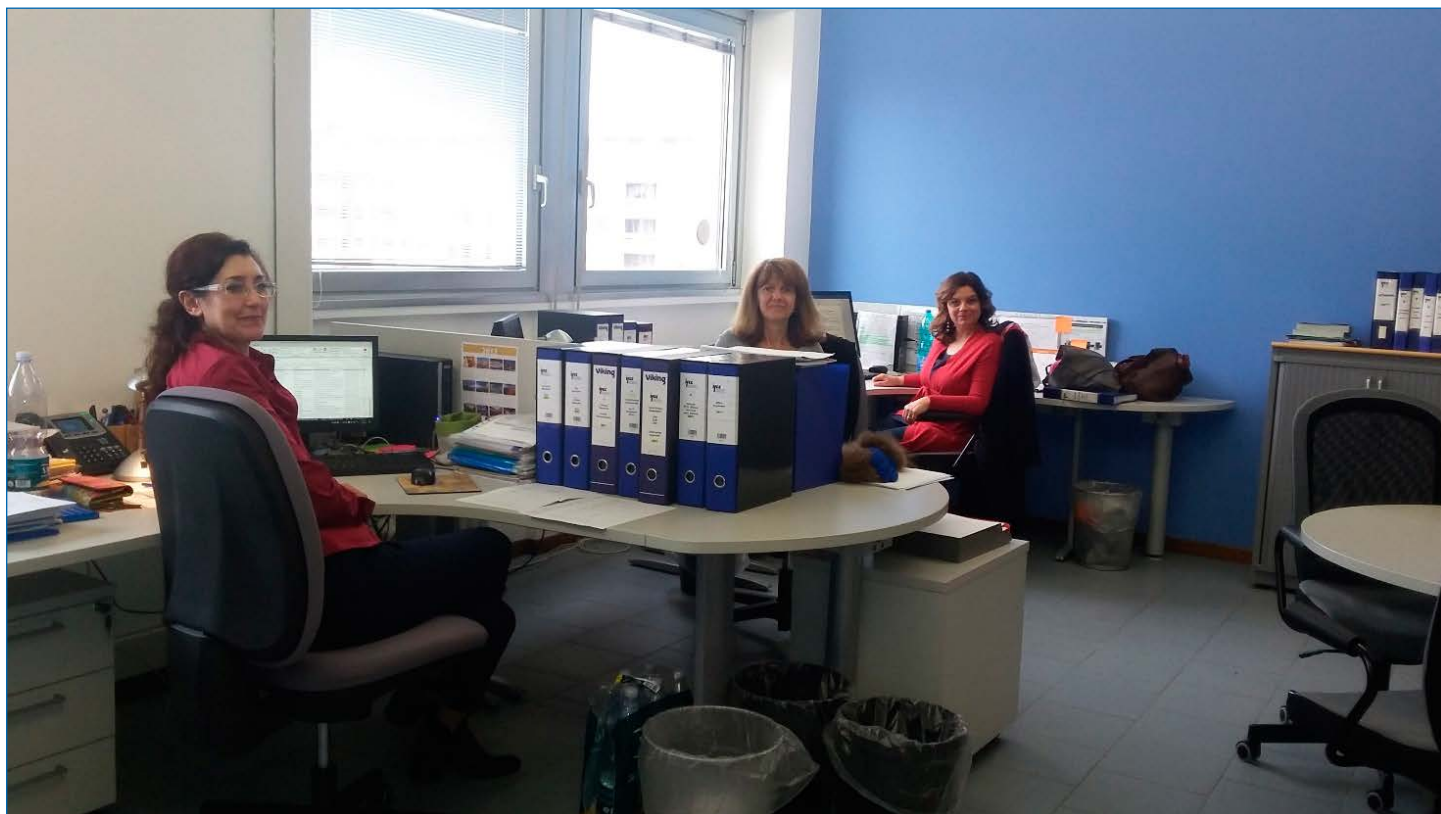
Prof. Ian Young



Scientific Division Executive Committee

L to R: Heinz Schimmel, IRMM Consultant; Philippe Gillery, Chair; Gary Myers, JCTLM Rep.; Ian Young, SD Past Chair; Joseph Passarelli, SD EC Secretary; Christa Cobbaert, SD Vice Chair

New IFCC Office in Milan!



The IFCC Office team in the new location

We are excited to announce that IFCC has a new office in Milan.

The new IFCC premises are located in the MZ International Group offices in Milan (<https://www.mzcongressi.com/site/eng-group-home>).

The new office has been operational since mid-January and demonstrates IFCC commitment to growth and expansion, and commitment to deliver outstanding services to all IFCC members and partners.

The IFCC office is responsible for carrying out, under the direction of the EB and in conjunction with Division and Committee members, all the administrative and communication activities of the Federation. The IFCC Office reports to the EB through the Secretary. The IFCC Office is responsible for the efficient administration of IFCC affairs and maintains the Archives of the organization. It also maintains contacts with Member societies and it assists the regional organizations with which the IFCC has agreements, as well.



Paola Bramati

Paola Bramati, in IFCC since 2005, is responsible for the contacts with the Executive Board. She is in charge for the activities related to the IFCC membership (Full Members, Affiliates and Corporate), as well as the Scientific Division, and Administrative duties linked to IFCC Finances.

Paola's background is connected to communication, tourism and marketing. Before joining IFCC, she worked for more than 15 years in the airline business dealing with day-to-day passengers' operations, sales, marketing and pricing. Her education is related to foreign cultures and languages, as she had the chance to study abroad learning English, Spanish, French and German.



Silvia Cardinale

Silvia Cardinale, in IFCC since 2014, is in charge for the activities of the Congresses and Conferences Committee, as well as of the Education and Management Division.

Before joining IFCC, she worked for 16 years in an American multinational publishing house as Marketing and Communication Assistant and lately as Assistant to the General Manager. She was responsible for the commercial agreements and for the contacts with other associated companies in Europe and worldwide. Her education is related to her Degree in Modern Foreign Languages and Literatures.



Silvia Colli Lanzi

Silvia Colli Lanzi, in IFCC since 2011, is in charge for supporting the activities of the Communication and Publications Division, as well as those related to IFCC special projects, such as Professional Exchange Programmes, Scholarships and Awards, and IFCC Task Forces.

Silvia has been working in the communication industry for more than two decades and she is responsible for the press desk and the communication activities for some Italian and international companies; she is a member of the BD of an Italian non-profit cooperative organization helping disadvantaged workers to integrate into the labour market.

The Joint Committee for Traceability in Laboratory Medicine (JCTLM)

An example of global leadership from IFCC

by **Graham H. Beastall**

IFCC representative on the JCTLM Executive Committee

programme, described in a series of articles in e-News during 2016.

One area of harmonisation where IFCC is a global leader is in helping to reduce the between method variability of important biomarkers. The IFCC Scientific Division, working in collaboration with the diagnostics industry, has a proud record of producing reference materials and reference measurement procedures (methods) that may be adopted as 'global standards' for the production of the methods used in every clinical laboratory. This initiative is conducted in partnership with JCTLM.

HISTORY OF JCTLM

A detailed history of JCTLM has been published recently [4]. The JCTLM was established in 2002 through a declaration between IFCC, the International Bureau of Weights and Measures (BIPM), and the International Laboratory Accreditation Cooperation (ILAC) in response to the implementation of the European Community Directive 98.79/EC on in vitro medical



www.jctlm.org

INTRODUCTION

Laboratory medicine specialists will be aware of the growing importance of global harmonisation as a driver for reducing variability in clinical laboratory results. Today it is recognised that harmonisation should be considered across the total testing process [1] and IFCC and its Regional Federations are giving active leadership in this area as recent special editions of journals confirm [2,3]. Harmonisation is a key component of the IFCC 'Shaping the Future'

Article continued on next page

devices. Today these three organisations are supported by almost 40 other organisations as National, Regional and Stakeholder Members of JCTLM. IFCC provides both Executive Board and Scientific Division input to the JCTLM Executive Committee.

WHAT DOES JCTLM DO?

The aim of JCTLM is to support world-wide comparability, reliability and equivalence of measurement results in laboratory medicine, for the purpose of improving health care and facilitating national and international trade in *in vitro* diagnostic devices, by:

- promoting the concept of traceability of measurement results to the Système International d'Unités (SI) or, where necessary, to other internationally agreed references;
- evaluating reference materials, reference measurement procedures and reference measurement services for laboratory medicine with respect to conformity with appropriate international standards;
- producing educational materials and activities promoting the value of traceability in laboratory medicine and raising awareness amongst stakeholders;
- promoting close links between Reference Laboratories in Laboratory Medicine and National Metrology Institutes;
- facilitating the identification and prioritisation of measurands requiring international traceability and comparability and thereby encouraging appropriate organisations to accept responsibility for the development of suitable reference methods and measurement procedures and certified reference materials;
- encouraging the *in vitro* diagnostic (IVD) industry to apply the agreed reference measurement systems;
- encouraging EQAS organizers to apply the agreed reference measurement systems.

WHERE CAN I FIND MORE INFORMATION ABOUT JCTLM?

There are two linked sources of information about JCTLM, as per the following details.

1) www.jctlm.org

This new website has been designed to provide educational support and regular news updates on the importance of traceability in laboratory medicine and on reducing between method variability as a contributor to improved patient safety and better clinical outcomes. The website provides freely available educational support in three main categories: relevant publications; presentations made at international conferences; and support materials including webinars and PowerPoint presentations. This website will be most useful to trainers and trainees in laboratory medicine and to laboratory medicine specialists. It is also a traceability portal to the wider healthcare community.

2) www.bipm.org/jctlm/

This website has been established for many years as the JCTLM database. From this website it is possible to access, at no charge, the large list of available reference materials, reference methods and reference laboratories. This website is used widely by diagnostics companies, National Metrology Institutes and those actively involved in method standardisation projects.

The 2017 JCTLM Newsletter was published in March and may be accessed from either of the two websites.

HOW CAN IFCC MEMBERS ENGAGE WITH JCTLM?

IFCC Members can engage with JCTLM by:

- Becoming a National, Regional or Stakeholder Member of IFCC. This will extend the global reach and influence of JCTLM and facilitate two-way communication. There is no cost involved in achieving JCTLM membership. A leaflet on JCTLM membership may be downloaded from [here](#).
- Including a symposium or workshop on traceability in laboratory medicine in a regional or national scientific meeting. JCTLM will be happy to suggest speakers.
- Ensuring that training in laboratory medicine includes content on traceability in laboratory medicine, as recommended by a recent editorial [5]. Suitable material for trainees is available from www.jctlm.org.
- Providing a link from your website to: www.jctlm.org and/or www.bipm.org/jctlm/.

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Rincon Iberoamericano, WG-IANT de IFCC y su Plan de trabajo para 2017

por María del Carmen Pasquel
Chair del WG-IANT



El Grupo de Trabajo de Iberoamérica de Nomenclatura y Traducción (WG-IANT por sus siglas en inglés) perteneciente al Rincón Iberoamericano (RIA) de la Federación Internacional de Química Clínica y Medicina de Laboratorio (IFCC), tuvo su última reunión en Buenos Aires – Argentina, el pasado 2 de diciembre de 2016, la reunión estuvo presidida por la Dra. María del Carmen Pasquel de Ecuador y la Secretaria Dra. Elizabeth Guillen de Paraguay, participaron los miembros de Argentina, Brasil, Bolivia, Chile, Colombia, Cuba, España, Guatemala, Perú, Paraguay, República Dominicana y Uruguay.

Se estableció su plan de trabajo para el año 2017, siendo un punto importante, invitar a los profesionales de la región Iberoamericana para que se inscriban y apoyen el proyecto AMARA que lo dirige el Dr. Eduardo Freggiaro, de Argentina, quien realizó una amplia explicación durante el encuentro, manifestó que AMARA es una plataforma de eAcademy/IFCC, que sirve en este caso para traducir del inglés al castellano o viceversa, todo lo que sea de interés en la

medicina del laboratorio: videos, conferencias, cursos, talleres, etc. en un mismo tiempo por varios profesionales inscritos previamente, luego revisado por otro grupo de expertos hasta obtener una traducción final, optimizando tiempo y recursos.

En otro punto el grupo del Rincón Iberoamericano se refirió a la revista electrónica Diagnóstico *In Vitro* (DIV), que tiene como objetivo principal mantener informados a los profesionales de ciencias del laboratorio de Iberoamérica, sobre: noticias, novedades, entrevistas, artículos científicos, editoriales e información que permita una actualización constante de lo que sucede en la región sobre medicina del laboratorio; en la reunión se revisó su presentación en la web y se estableció su contenido, formato y frecuencia de cada cuatro meses de la revista DIV para el año 2017.

El RIA ha proyectado realizar cursos *on line* como introducción de los conocimientos que culminaran en talleres presenciales en los países de la región que lo soliciten de las sociedades científicas a las



**Grupo de Trabajo Iberoamericano de Nomenclatura y Traducción (WG-IANT).
Reunión Argentina CALILAB 2016**

De pies de izquierda a derecha: Hernán Fares Taie (Argentina), Eduardo Aranda (Chile), Antonio Antúnez de Mayolo (Perú), Gabriel Lima Oliveira (Brasil), Juana Ortellado (Paraguay), Rafael Calafell (España), Alba Marina Valdes (Guatemala), Alvaro Justiniano (Bolivia), Ana Quiala (Cuba), Beatriz Varela (Uruguay), Santiago Fares Taie (Argentina).

Sentadas de izquierda a derecha: María Lasta (Argentina), Lourdes Cruz (República Dominicana), María del Carmen Pasquel (Chair /Ecuador), Elizabeth Guillen (Secretaria/Paraguay), Stella Páez de Bolívar (Colombia).
Grupo que se reunió en Buenos Aires. Argentina.



Autoridades del CALILAB 2016, FBA, IFCC y WG-IANT,
después de la ceremonia de Clausura

<http://www.ifcc.org/ria/>, <http://www.ifcc.org/div/>, Facebook: [rinconiberoamericanoifcc](https://www.facebook.com/rinconiberoamericanoifcc)

que pertenecen sus miembros; el año 2017 será para el control de calidad en la fase pre analítica, validación de métodos cualitativos y hematología, con el apoyo de la tecnología de Instituciones como la Fundación Bioquímica Argentina (FBA) y la IFCC.

Una sección de la revista DIV es para los jóvenes científicos de IFCC (TY-YS), uno de sus miembros Santiago Fares Taie, de Argentina, realizó la presentación de una página web recientemente creada: lab-surfing.com, donde los jóvenes profesionales a nivel mundial pueden acceder a becas, intercambio de conocimientos y hospedaje, según el área que desean especializarse o el país donde desearían realizar su capacitación, siendo un mecanismo conveniente y económico para los jóvenes científicos. La revista DIV, también tiene en su contenido entrevistas destacadas que se hayan realizado en la radio *on line* "El Microscopio", que también auspicia IFCC y la dirige el Dr. Hernán Fares Taie que es corresponding member del WG-IANT.

El WG-IANT de RIA, se comprometió a seguir trabajando para fortalecer la comunicación, conocimiento y lazos de amistad de los profesionales de la medicina de laboratorio de toda la región Iberoamericana.

El encuentro del WG-IANT se realizó gracias a las facilidades y apoyo dado por el Dr. Roberto García, Presidente de FBA y del Congreso CALILAB 2016.

Le invitamos a conocer más de la revista electrónica Diagnóstico *InVitro* (DIV) y del Rincón Iberoamericano (RIA) en:

Lab Medicine at the heart of cultural dialogue and the universal sharing of languages

by Bernard Gouget

Councillor for Public Health FHF, Chair-Human Health Care Committee-COFRAC
Chair IFCC-Nominations Committee, Secretary General-International Francophone Federation
of Clinical Biology and Laboratory Medicine (FIFBCML)

An Arabic proverb says: “*al lougha fârisson yah'milou-ka ila biladen baïda*”, meaning “*language is a messenger carried to distant countries*”.

The VI Journées of the International Francophone Federation (FIFBCML) and the VII Congress of the Syndicate of Biologists of Lebanon, held from 2-5 March 2017, brought together more than 600 biologists from twenty countries to share ideas, in Beirut, at the heart of Lebanon, a country whose beauty has been celebrated by many French poets and novelists. This was a successful gamble for Dr. Christian Haddad, SDBL President, Dr. Marc-Antoine Zablith, Chair organizing Committee, Dr. Salam El-Samad, Chair Scientific Committee, who committed themselves to pooling energies and resources between Mediterranean, Arab, African, francophone and European countries in order to promote quality laboratory medicine and to reinforce the strong bonds between Lebanon, FIFBCML, the Arab Federation (AFCB) and the IFCC.

The official language of Lebanon is Arabic. However, half the population speaks French and English is also widely used. Therefore, the opening ceremony was in Arabic while French and English were mixed in throughout the three days of science revolving around new diagnostics, innovation and clinical strategies. A WHO representative recalled that antimicrobial resistance creates one of the greatest challenges to global public health today. It is causing worldwide loss of ability to effectively treat and cure many infections and has extraordinary long-term danger to health with major implications and consequences for modern medicine, health systems, development, economics, agriculture. There is evidence of misuse and abuse of antibiotics worldwide both by providers and by users. It is today, a critical issue in Syria because since the beginning of the crisis 6 years ago the control of communicable diseases

as Tuberculosis, AIDS have been often beyond control. The new biomarkers were also a hot topic: biomarkers in the diagnosis of dementia with a clear evidence on the utility of the cerebrospinal biomarkers; cardiac biomarkers on prognosis and management of heart failure and new tools for colorectal cancer screening to prepare the Lebanon national campaign. In addition, the congress discussed many aspects of quality management, standardization of the methods and harmonization of the results. Automation and consolidation of the medical labs, emergency tests, blood transfusion clinical application of flow cytometry in acute leukemia drew large number of participants. The opportunities and challenges of *m-health (Mobile Health)* were discussed as it is an evolving strategy that is changing the way the world operates today. Communicating and working in a multi-network environment is an issue for the profession. The marriage of diagnostics and mobile connectivity means more than just a new stream of gadgets. It is the next big wave of where the diagnostics field will go. Mobile health provides an opportunity for lab medicine to be more efficient and to achieve important cost reductions by enhancing an individual patient's stake in the management of their health, with wellbeing apps encouraging the adoption of healthier lifestyles, collectively improving public health. Mobile health devices furthermore allow the user to monitor vital signs and provide valuable support to healthcare professionals.

A brilliant presentation on the evolution of haematology was a chance to revisit the history of Lebanon. It is one of the oldest countries in the world. It is named a hundred times in the Old Testament and the metaphor for it: “*country of cedars*” is widely cited in the Bible. The Holy Book says that these majestic trees were planted by God Himself, hence

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their eternal longevity. Lebanon is small in area and population, but great in the values that it embodies: tolerance, dialogue, openness to the world and ability to accomplish a miracle: bringing together Christians, Muslims and agnostics to live under the same government by perpetuating the aspiration of nations that want to share culture, science and language. In Lebanon, French is cultural fact and a social choice, both based on ancient and emotional ties with France. For both of these reasons, Lebanon has occupied a privileged place from the outset in the organizations of the French-speaking world. In the fullest sense of the term, French is a language loved by the Lebanese. It is, for many folks, more than an idiom, a sum of values, a factor of East-West cultural osmosis, a symbol of openness to the world, a passport for a better future. Economic globalization is expressed in English and constrains all countries, including France. To be convinced, if need be,

that English now prevails over French, it is enough to see and read the shop signs and advertising posters on the road from Beirut to Byblos, which are all the more aggressive in that they are often not even translated into Arabic. The capital of Lebanon is much more than the Paris of the Middle East: it is a city with multiple identities, a gem that must be defended in the heart of a tormented region.

It was a great honour for French-speaking delegations and delegations of the Arab Federation to be received by General Michel Aoun, President of Lebanon (photo). He sent us a strong message: *“Lebanon is a harbor of stability and freedom. The general interests of peace should be prioritized, the dynamics of cooperation in the field of education and research should be strengthened, and the knowledge of how to live together should be valued”*. It is up to us to proudly carry these values beyond the Middle East, everywhere in the world!



The International Francophone Federation (FIFBCML) and the Arab Federation of Clinical Biology (AFCB) delegations received by Michel AOUN, President of the Republic of Lebanon (in the middle, between Dr. Ch HADDAD, immediately in front of the flag, and Dr. Marc Antoine ZABLITH)

New IFCC corporate member: Shanghai Kehua Bio-Engineering Co., Ltd.

KHB 科华生物

IFCC is glad to welcome a new Corporate member, Shanghai Kehua Bio-Engineering Co., Ltd.

Shanghai Kehua Bio-Engineering Co., Ltd. (KHB) was founded in 1981, focusing on the IVD business. In July 2004, KHB listed on the Shen Zhen Stock Exchange and is now one of the largest developers, manufacturers and marketers of in vitro diagnostic products in China, offering products mainly in two primary business segments: Diagnostic Reagents and Diagnostic Laboratory Instruments.

Based on the innovation center and post-doctoral workstation with excellent R&D professionals and talents, Shanghai Kehua Bio-Engineering Co has built a world class R&D platform.

KHB has successfully broadened its market reach by introducing more advanced products and new product lines that address different end-user segments. To date, KHB has obtained registration certificates (SFDA) for 180-plus products and 67 have been CE-marked. (Website: www.skhb.com)

EML registrations deadlines EuroMedLab 2017

<http://www.athens2017.org/go/registration>

Registration

Before April 30, 2017

Full Registration	€ 680 (€ 548 + 24 % VAT)
Young Registration (= < years)	€ 340 (€ 275 + 24 % VAT)
Day registration Except Thursday	€ 310 (€ 250 + 24 % VAT)
Special Thursday Registration (BCLF & EQALM)	€ 190 (€ 153 + 24 % VAT)

After April 30, 2017

Full Registration	€ 860 (€ 693,50 + 24 % VAT)
Young Registration (= < years)	€ 460 (€ 370,96 + 24 % VAT)
Day registration Except Thursday	€ 370 (€ 298,38 + 24 % VAT)
Special Thursday Registration (BCLF & EQALM)	€ 250 (€ 202 + 24 % VAT)

On-Site Registration

Full Registration	€ 925 (€ 745,96 + 24 % VAT)
Young Registration (= < years)	€ 495 (€ 399,19 + 24 % VAT)
Day registration Except Thursday	€ 430 (€ 346,77 + 24 % VAT)
Special Thursday Registration (BCLF & EQALM)	€ 300 (€ 242 + 24 % VAT)



IFCC WorldLab 2017 – Poster abstract registration deadlines

<http://www.durban2017.org/page/abstracts/abstracts>

Abstracts should be submitted by **15th May 2017**.

Confirmation of receipt: Receipt of the abstract will be acknowledged by e-mail immediately after submission.

Notification of acceptance or rejection: Authors will be notified of acceptance or rejection **before 15th July 2017**.

Registration: The presenting author of each abstract must register for the congress with **“Full Registration”**.



News from the IFCC Website



IFCC eNews Flash March 2017

IFCC eNews Flash March edition is now available. This issue includes: Introduction of the Candidates for IFCC Secretary and Treasurer positions; Quick links to the eJIFCC on "Recent Advances in Pediatric Laboratory Medicine"; Registration and abstracts submission details for the Durban WorldLab Congress; an Invitation to participate in the IFCC Annual Survey; and 14 eAcademy modules on Quality Management and Accreditation. Stay tuned with IFCC, read the eNews Flash!

[Read more](#)

News from the IFCC Website



DiV — February - April issue, 2017

Enjoy the contents of the new DIAGNÓSTICO IN VITRO February issue!

El Grupo de Trabajo de Iberoamérica de Nomenclatura y Traducción WG-IANT, al iniciar este nuevo año, deseamos a nuestros apreciados lectores un excelente 2017, y nuestro compromiso de realizar el trabajo planificado en noviembre del 2016 en la última reunión de trabajo, manteniendo el objetivo de nuestra razón de ser que es el ofrecer información científica actualizada y una comunicación fluida con los profesionales de las ciencias del laboratorio en Iberoamérica.

In this issue, WG-IANT confirms its commitment to carry out the work planned in November 2016: offering up-to-date scientific information and continuous communications with the professionals of Laboratory Medicine in Latin America.

[Read more](#)

IFCC – Task Force Young Scientists (TFYS)

ACBICON - 2016 – Manipal University, Mangaluru, India
12-15 December 2016

by *Pradeep Kumar Dabla*
Chair, IFCC-TFYS



IFCC-TFYS organized a **Pre-Conference CME**, at 43rd National Conference ACBICON-2016, Kasturba Medical College, Manipal University, Mangaluru, India. The theme of session was designated as **“Career Opportunities for Young Scientists”** to bring orientation of different career perspectives for Young Clinical Biochemists. Further, TFYS has also conducted **“ACBI-IFCC TFYS Young Scientist Award 2016”** successfully. The programme was fully supported by Organizing Committee and led by members of IFCC & ACBI.

PRECONFERENCE CME, 12TH DECEMBER 2016

Since 2010, IFCC-TFYS has put in efforts for the education and training of young scientists and conducted sessions in various National & International meetings. A biochemistry degree opens up a range of highly-skilled careers that incorporate aspects of both biology and medicine. Although many biochemists work in traditional laboratory and research environments, others find career opportunities in fields ranging from business and



Left to right: Chiranjit Ghosh, Dr. G. Revathy, Dr. Namita Mahalle, Dr. Angel Mercy Sylus, Dr. Prasenjit Mitra

sales to consultation and law. The session was opened with welcome address by **Dr. Poornima Manjrekar**, Secretary Organising Committee followed by IFCC-TFYS Chair, **Dr. Pradeep Kumar Dabla**. The session was chaired by **Prof. Praveen Sharma**, EB-APFCB & Dr. Elizabeth Frank, EB-APFCB. **Dr. Bernard Gouget**, EB-IFCC was also present to support the session. **Dr. Pradeep Kumar Dabla** gave the first talk of the programme titled **“Exploring research opportunities for young scientists”** where he explained what it takes to fit your goal if you look at various research positions that may differ widely with respect to requirements. The

Article continued on next page

next talk was delivered by **Prof. Ullas Kamath**, Dean Manipal University, Professor of Biochemistry titled **“Teaching and Academics Opportunities for Young Scientists”** followed by **Prof. Praveen Sharma** titled **“Publishers & Medical writing Career”** stating these jobs are in demand and they have to write protocols, clinical trials reports, and patient information for the pharmaceutical industry, **regulatory authorities etc.** **“Biotechnology Industry & Career”** was presented by **Dr Elizabeth Frank** whereas **“Laboratory Service Delivery”** by **Dr Anna Velts**, Head Lab, West Tallinn Central Hospital explaining advances in biotechnology & Laboratories followed by **“IVD Industry & Career”** from **Dr Sandeep Sewlikar**, Head - Medical and Scientific Affairs, Roche Diagnostics India. In end, the live webinar was conducted by **Dr Graham Beastall**, UK, Past President IFCC on **“IFCC Vision of Research & Career for Young Scientists”** explaining initiatives & opportunities created for young scientists by IFCC and further future prospects. This was moderated by **Dr Bernard Gouget**. Young scientists were excited to exchange and solve their queries live with experts. Vote of thanks & Closing remarks were added by Dr Elizabeth Frank & Dr Pradeep Kumar Dabla.

“ACBI-IFCC TFYS” YOUNG SCIENTIST AWARD- 2016 14TH DECEMBER 2016

The **“ACBI-IFCC TFYS” Young Scientist Award-2016** were novel ideas of Asia Pacific Federation of Clinical Biochemistry (APFCB)-EB. So, this 2nd mini award competition was chosen to provide young researchers an opportunity to focus on and develop interest in **«Research»**. The ultimate aim of this program

is to foster and secure excellent young researchers since ACBI-IFCC TFYS Awards-2015.

Five young scientists from all over India covering all zones of ACBI were selected. The selection was done by senior members of the committee of ACBI and IFCC from number of requests received on the basis of their research work. Awardee young scientists presented their papers and were given full registration, travel and 3night accommodation supported by organising committee, ACBICON-2016. The session was chaired by **Dr. Jayashree Bhattacharjee**, Director and Professor, Biochemistry, LHMC, Delhi & **Dr. Pradeep Kumar Dabla**, Chair, IFCC-TFYS. Five awardee young scientists presented their research work: **Prasenjith Mitra, G Revathy, Chiranjith Gosh, Namita Mahale, Angel Mercy Sylus** and they represented 5 zones of the ACBI. IFCC-TFYS is thankful to all our senior members ACBI & IFCC for conducting TFYS sessions successfully.

THE YOUNG SCIENTISTS' EXPERIENCE OF “ACBI-IFCC TFYS” YOUNG SCIENTIST AWARD-2016

Dr. Prasenjith Mitra

AllIMS, Jodhpur

I would like to sincerely thank IFCC and ACBI for awarding me the prestigious ACBI-IFCC TFYS 2016 award at ACBICON-2016 for the paper entitled *‘Isolation and characterization of a compound from *Ageratum conyzoides* Linn. responsible for anti-gastric ulcer activity in albino rats’*. It is a tremendous honour to be acknowledged by such an esteemed, prestigious organization. It was an amazing, memorable experience. I am grateful for this opportunity and I am sure



Prasenjith Mitra



G. Revathy



Chiranjit Ghosh



Namita Mahalle



Angel Mercy Sylus

this will add tremendously to my research career. The TFYS award is a great recognition for young scientists aiming high for a research career and it surely is a motivation for the entire fraternity. Thank you IFCC and ACBI once again.

Dr. G. Revathy

JIPMER, Puduchery

I, Dr. G. Revathy, feel immensely grateful for being awarded the prestigious IFCC-Task Force Young Scientist award 2016 at Mangalore ACBICON 2106 conference and for providing me an opportunity to present my work entitled '*Does methotrexate monotherapy ameliorate systemic inflammation and endothelial dysfunction in psoriasis*' in the august gathering of eminent faculties and researchers. I wish to express my sincere thanks to IFCC and ACBI for providing me with this special opportunity in this early stage of my career. It has been a real motivation and drives me further into research activities. It has been a highly beneficial and a very informative session to take my work forward. I appreciate ACBI and IFCC for encouraging the young researchers and for providing us with such an informative opportunity.

Chiranjit Ghosh

Satyendra Nath Bose National Centre for Basic Sciences, Kolkata

It is my great pleasure to write about my experience at the ACBI-IFCC TFYS Award function in 2016. I would like to thank the entire IFCC team for selecting me for the ACBI-IFCC TFYS Award and also ACBI for providing me a prestigious platform to present my work in their annual conference. I presented my research work entitled '*Monitoring of blood glucose profile from exhaled breath analysis for the diagnosis of pre-diabetes and type 2 diabetes*'. Here, I demonstrated a new method to estimate the blood glucose levels of a subject from the exhaled breath carbon dioxide isotopes analysis.

From my opinion, TFYS is a very good platform to all young researchers who pursue their research work in innovative fields in order to improve public health. I do believe that it is a very inspiring award to the young researchers like me to motivate us to do cutting-edge research in the future. Therefore, I am really grateful to IFCC for recognizing me through this award.

Dr. Namita Mahalle

Deenanath Mangeshkar Hospital, Pune

I, Dr. Namita Mahalle, Deenanath Mangeshkar Hospital, Pune-India, was awarded the prestigious ACBI-IFCC Task Force Young Scientist Award-2016 for my research on "*Oral administration of cyanocobalamin causes higher increase in circulating holotranscobalamin than hydroxocobalamin: An Indo-Danish study with different doses of cobalamin*". I am thankful to ACBI-IFCC for giving me opportunity to present my work at ACBICON 2016 at Mangaluru. ACBI-IFCC has created a great platform for sharing our respective experiences in research, discussing current trends and latest technologies. I appreciate the team of ACBICON 2016 for the efforts taken to conduct a very well organized and informative conference which enriched my knowledge. Recognition to my research work, by this prestigious award has given me confidence and motivated me to work hard in my research area. I would like to offer my sincere gratitude to ACBI and IFCC.

Dr. Angel Mercy Sylus, JIPMER, Puducherry

Firstly, thank you for organizing such an inspiring and successful conference. This was my first experience at the ACBI conference and I am very grateful for having the opportunity to interact with the ACBI team. I presented my research work entitled "*Effect of Clomiphene Citrate on IL-10, Nitric Oxide and MMP-9 in Women with Polycystic Ovary Syndrome*." It was a good learning experience and I'm glad that my paper was awarded the ACBI-IFCC TFYS 2016. I received many enlightening comments and suggestions from participants of the conference. I am especially thankful to the IFCC team for giving me such a prestigious award and an unique platform to present my research work, thus inspiring and motivating me to do more research in future. The conference was an excellent occasion for researchers to come together and share their research work and I was fortunate to have the opportunity to meet and learn directly from many great and experienced researchers. I deeply appreciate the efforts of the team for putting up such a stimulating and fruitful conference. I had a great time and learned a lot, and was very touched by your warm hospitality despite all the demands on your time. Overall ACBI 2016 was an enriching experience for me and my heartfelt congratulations to the organizing committee for making it a huge success.

APFCB - 14th Congress 2016 – Taipei, Taiwan

Theme: “*Preparing Young Scientists Workforce*”

14th Asia–Pacific Federation for Clinical Biochemistry and Laboratory Medicine Congress was successfully conducted in Taiwan in 2016 and hosted by the Chinese Association for Clinical Biochemistry (CACB) in Taiwan. Taipei is one of the most vibrant cities in Asia and ultimate tourist destination. The congress was chaired by **Dr. Woei-horng Fang**, who is also President, CACB. IFCC recognized the need for a support group to help young scientists. Thus Task Force - Young Scientists (TFYS) was built in 2010. The aim of TF-Ys is to ensure that young scientists make a significant and growing contribution to the activities of IFCC and other National programmes. By now, IFCC-TFYS is able to cross barriers and created a strong young

scientists support group involving more than 30 global IFCC member countries supported by the senior members. We also have our additional larger online network of young scientists covering global regions.

This joint session of APFCB & IFCC-TFYS was conducted on 27 November 2016 and moderated by TFYS core members **Dr. Lara Omolara Popoola**. The purpose of session was to summarise and share the current status and activities of TFYS to bring networking at next level. The first talk was initiated by **Dr. Pradeep Kumar Dabla**, Chair IFCC-TFYS titled “*Introduction to Workforce & TFYS-Webinars*”. He gave details of current status of TFYS, members, programmes conducted, various initiatives and then he focused on last two “*Webinars*” conducted by TFYS. Webinar gives us the



opportunity to continue to reach a wider target group and connecting in different time zones conveniently. It also enables a broadcast of the recording with questionnaires. **Dr. Danni Li**, member TFYS explained the **“Mentorship Program and Future Plans”**. By now we were able to conduct two interviews of Mentor and Mentee. The mentoring relationship is built on mutual trust, respect and communication, and thus helps mentee for personal and professional development. **“Lab-Surfing.com”**, a tool developed by **Dr. Santiago Fares Taie**, member TFYS to connect YS, improve communication and make exchange programmes easier all around the globe. **“Global Survey Young Scientists”** was conducted by **Dr. Guilaine Boursier**, member TFYS to understand the geographical difference in education, jobs requirements, availability, opportunities. This was to develop the need-based programmes for young scientists. **Dr. Damien Gruson**,

Consultant TFYS & Past Chair explained about **“IFCC-e academy-A Powerful Tool for Distance Learning”**. This new educational tool is being developed by the IFCC C-DL and C-Iel where it is serving as an open educational resource containing distance learning material created and/or reviewed by IFCC experts. The session was concluded by **Dr. Graham Beastall**, Past President IFCC providing details of **“Research Booklet for Young Scientists”**. The aim of this publication is to provide insight into the research process and an overview of the strengths and weaknesses of different research methods to young scientists. The total ten chapters of guide are available as pdf content and a series of webinars. The session was successful in contributing to the understanding of the objectives and various ongoing projects of TFYS developed for networking, education & training of young scientists to build the future of Laboratory Medicine.

News from the IFCC Website

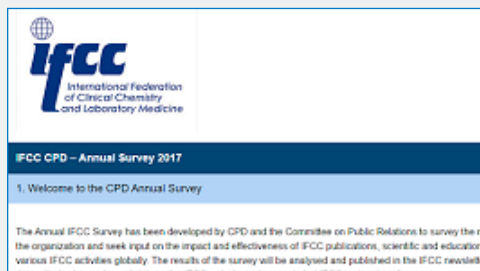


eJIFCC Vol 28 n°1

eJIFCC Vol 28, n°1 is now available. It focuses on Recent Advances in Pediatric Laboratory Medicine (PLM). Guest-editor is Prof. Delvin, Dept of Biochemistry and CHU Sainte-Justine Research Center, University of Montreal, Canada. The PLM dedicated articles highlight how Clinical laboratories' efficacy in assisting physicians in their diagnostic and follow-up endeavours is linked to availability of dependable analytical methods and reliable reference values. Paediatrics is particularly sensitive to this problem as rapid developmental changes associated with child growth, can impose rapid discontinuous changes on the physiology of individuals. The issue also features a Case Report on Congenital hyperinsulinism and a Letter to the

Editor on hemochromatosis, erythrocytosis and the JAK2 p.V617F mutation.

[Read more](#)



News from the IFCC Website

IFCC Membership survey

The 2017 Annual IFCC Survey has been developed to survey the membership across the organization and seek input on the impact and effectiveness of IFCC publications, scientific and educational programs, and various IFCC activities globally. Your feedback is important to design improved educational and communication tools. Please take 10 minutes to complete the survey today! Go to the survey by clicking: https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/IFCC_Membership_2017.

Deadline for submission is: 30 April 2017.

[Read more](#)

News from the Spanish Society of Laboratory Medicine (SEQC^{ML})

SEQC^{ML}

Sociedad Española de Medicina de Laboratorio

The commitment to quality by Scientific Societies in Spain: Five recommendations of things “Not To Do”

The Spanish Society of Laboratory Medicine collaborates with Ministry of Health and 50 societies in the project “A Commitment to Quality by Scientific Societies in Spain”.

The clinical laboratory reinforces its commitment to quality in the National Health System with five recommendations of things “not to do”:



- Unnecessary tests are performed daily in clinical laboratories, despite having little or no efficacy and not being cost-effective.
- Clinical laboratory professionals should be committed to reviewing and evaluating the analytical tests requested by clinicians and avoiding unnecessary testing.
- The SEQCML has a Strategic Plan in advanced stages of development that includes an extensive test optimization policy, with the philosophy of “not to do” at the forefront.

The Spanish Society of Laboratory Medicine (SEQC^{ML}), a member of the “**Not To Do**” project of the Ministry of Health, has implemented 5 recommendations

to reinforce its commitment to quality and efficiency in the National Health System. These are guidelines aimed at reducing the number of unnecessary tests in daily use at clinical laboratories, that is, those that have not demonstrated efficacy, have little or dubious effectiveness, and are not cost-effective.

The creation of the recommendations and the inclusion of the SEQC^{ML} in this project respond to the need for “*direct involvement of the clinical laboratory in this initiative for commitment to quality*”, explains Dr. Francisco A. Bernabeu, member of the Board of the SEQCML and the person responsible for the “**Not To Do**” project. In his view, “*Clinical laboratory practitioners should collaborate with requesting clinicians in seeking to improve the quality and efficiency of patient care.*”

The “**Not To Do**” initiative was launched in 2013 by the Ministry of Health, Social Services, and Equality in response to an initiative of the Spanish Society of Internal Medicine (SEMI), which in turn was based on similar international experiences such as “*Choosing Wisely*” in the United States and that developed by NICE in the United Kingdom. The project is part of the activities of the Spanish Network of Health Technology Assessment Agencies. To date, 50 scientific societies have participated. The SEQC^{ML} joined in 2015, but it was only in 2016 when the five agreements on things “not to do” in the clinical laboratory were presented. The recommendations are as follows:

1. Do not request multiple tests on the initial assessment of a patient with suspected thyroid disease. First, request a test of thyroid stimulating hormone (TSH), and if it is abnormal, continue with additional evaluation or with treatment.

2. The determination of total CK or CK-MB, or AST, or LDH, or myoglobin for the diagnosis of myocardial damage (or myocardial infarction) is not recommended.
3. Do not test for allergen-specific IgE in a patient whose clinical history shows no symptoms of adverse reactions or without previous “*in vivo*” tests. In any case, do not perform systematic studies of various immunoglobulins against allergens without a thorough review of the patient’s medical history.
4. Do not carry out population screening for vitamin D deficiency by measuring serum 25-hyDr. oxy vitamin D (Calcidiol).
5. Do not request a sedimentation rate or erythrocyte sedimentation rate (ESR) to assess inflammation in patients with undefined diagnosis. To detect proinflammatory status in the acute phase, request C-reactive protein (CRP).

Dr. Bernabeu points out that *“these five measures were selected from a large number proposed by the SEQCML expert group, from which 10 were selected and of these the five priority recommendations (through the Delphi method).”* These guidelines were presented, along with those of seven other scientific societies, in the “Commitment to Quality by Scientific Societies in Spain” Conference, held on May 31, 2016.

Dr. Silvia Izquierdo, member of the SEQC^{ML} and President of the Laboratory Accreditation Commission, explains that *“clinical laboratory professionals must make a commitment to review and evaluate the analytical tests requested by clinicians and to avoid unnecessary testing”*. In her opinion, *“sometimes clinicians*

request tests from the laboratory for reasons that deviate from the true purpose: diagnosis, monitoring, confirmation of a clinical suspicion, and prognosis.” It is here that *“the responsibility of the clinical laboratory doctor plays a key role”*. Dr. Izquierdo believes that sometimes lists of services are not updated adequately, and these *“should be revised and modified in accordance with recommendations established by the scientific societies related to clinical laboratories and with agreements established by clinicians”*.

This SEQC^{ML} project is part of its strategic approach to accreditation of clinical laboratories, in which new steps will be taken soon. Dr. Bernabeu explains that *“the SEQC^{ML} has a Strategic Plan in advanced stages of development in which the philosophy ‘not to do’ is a central element. One of the main focus areas of the Plan is the promotion of excellence in scientific and technical activities, in which demand management and benchmarking play a prominent role. Laboratory professionals also have a lot to contribute in their role as consultants, as reflected in the Plan’s focus on enhancing Laboratory Medicine.”*

This is a necessity, as *“variability in the use of the tests available in the clinical laboratory can have consequences for the patient, since it is possible to end up doing analytical determinations that are not effective”*, says Dr. Izquierdo. In this vein, the close relationship between the implementation of new regulations (ISO 15189: 2012) and the **“not to do”** tests stands out. This standard *“makes available to the clinical laboratory professional an appropriate request form”*, which is important for improving quality and efficiency in daily clinical practice.



News from the IFCC Website

Register now for IFCC Satellite Meetings in Durban

Registration is now open for three Satellite Meetings to be held in conjunction with the WorldLab Congress in Durban, South Africa in October. The IFCC POCT Meeting (Saturday 21st October 2017, in Durban), the XIVth International Congress of Paediatric Laboratory Medicine (20-22 October 2017 in Durban), and the Biomarkers for Diabetes Satellite Meeting (26-27 October 2017 in Cape Town).

[Read more](#)



News from the Pakistan Society of Chemical Pathology (PSCP)

PSCP celebrates the World Rare Disease Day Karachi, 10 March 2017

by Lena Jafri

Aga Khan University, Pakistan

The Department of Pathology and Laboratory Medicine, Aga Khan University Hospital (AKUH) and Pakistan Society of Chemical Pathology (PSCP) at AKUH Karachi Pakistan jointly organized 'CME Seminar on World Rare Disease Day' to mark the occasion of World Rare disease Day observed worldwide on the last day of February each year. The objective was to create mass awareness about rare diseases and to ensure that patients with rare disease have access to treatment. We have been organizing this CME since the last 2 years. The theme for this year world rare disease day was research; with the slogan: *'with research, possibilities are limitless!'*



Welcome address by Dr. Aysha Habib

'For most of the rare diseases, the reality is that the answers to most basic questions are missing. It is only through research that identification of previously unknown diseases and understanding of diseases evolve. Research leads to the development of new innovative treatments and in some cases a cure.' said Dr. Aysha Habib Khan, Associate Professor and Section Head, Chemical Pathology, AKUH while delivering the welcome address. She added that research is considered a key in bringing hope to the millions of people living with a rare disease across the world and their

families. Dr. Hafsa Majid, Consultant Chemical Pathologist at AKUH gave an overview of rare diseases and highlighted the challenges faced in the diagnosis of these diseases in Pakistan. She shared the local data of Inherited Metabolic Diseases (IMD) diagnosed with locally available expertise at AKUH for organic acidurias & aminoacidopathies in high-risk Pakistani paediatric population. During the past few years many rare diseases have been reported with further additions to this never-ending list, explained Dr. Majid.

Dr. Zeeshan Ansar, Assistant Professor at the section of Molecular Pathology AKUH, gave an enlightening talk on *'Clinical Application of Multiplex Ligation-dependent Probe Amplification'*. In comparison to PCR, MLPA amplifies multiple genes in one run. Additionally MLPA can detect carrier status of inherited disease. Dr. Salman Kirmani, Associate Professor, Chair Department of Pediatrics and Child Health discussed the importance of chromosomal microarray for diagnosing rare disorders. He explained that with use of this latest technology, it is now possible for smaller and more complex chromosome defects to be identified. Dr. Kirmani explained that this technology is able to identify numerical abnormality; however, it cannot detect structural defects or anomalies easily.



Panel of speakers in the question answer session at 'CME Seminar World Rare Disease Day'

Dr. Lena Jafri, Assistant Professor Consultant Chemical Pathologist at AKUH emphasized the importance of College of American Pathologists (CAP) proficiency testing surveys as an educational and learning tool in her talk *'Competency Based Educational Challenges of Biochemical Genetics Laboratory'*. She discussed few cases from CAP surveys and highlighted its importance in reliability and validity of patient reporting. *'Inherited Metabolic Disorders In Pakistan-reaching the unreached'* was an interesting talk by Dr. Bushra Afroze, Consultant Paediatrician & Clinical Geneticist at AKUH, who specializes in treating IMD. She introduced the audience to her new venture of tele-health clinic between two clinical locations in two different cities of the country. She explained with real life cases how she has been managing patients with rare diseases from a distance. She emphasized that a strong

liaison between clinicians in a country such as Pakistan with limited clinical expertise in IMD can be a pragmatic approach to provide services to more patients at their doorsteps.

Dr. Farooq Ghani, Associate Professor and Service Line Chief Department of Pathology and Laboratory Medicine, in the closing remarks appreciated the teamwork of pathologists and pediatricians at AKUH in putting together this CME seminar and in helping the children and families with rare disease. We know that there is a dearth of awareness regarding these rare diseases and the need of the hour is to spread knowledge about them in order to prepare ourselves in such a way so that we can limit the dreadful effects of such diseases. This CME was an attempt in this regard with eminent speakers from Pathology & Paediatrics.



EFLM – 2016 Annual Report

by Ana-Maria Simundic
EFLM Executive Board Secretary

GENERAL MEETING

EFLM held its ninth General Meeting in conjunction with the IFCC General Conference on 21 March 2016 in Madrid, Spain, where 31 out of 40 EFLM Member Societies (NS), were represented. During the GM EFLM President, Mauro Panteghini (MP), gave a report of the recent EFLM activities since the last GM held in Paris. Also, in the absence of EFLM Treasurer (Huib Storm) MP gave a financial report (i.e. balance sheet report for 2015, internal budget report for 2015 and internal budget plan for 2016). EFLM GM approved the balance sheet for 2015 and the internal budget report for 2015 and plan for 2016.

During the meeting elections were held for EFLM President and Vice President and the meeting unanimously confirmed the position of Prof. Sverre Sandberg, as the next EFLM President and his term of office 2016-2017. There were two candidates for Vice President: Dr. Damien GRUSON (Belgium) and Prof. Michael NEUMAIER (Germany). Michael NEUMAIER was confirmed

by the majority (16/31) of the GM members as the EFLM Vice-President for the 2016-2018.

EFLM EB has already discussed rules for the election of the Regional Federation Representatives in the IFCC Executive Board on several occasions. EFLM EB strongly supports that an individual representing a Region is selected by a Region according to the Region agreed electoral process and that this person participates in the policies and actions of a Region. If a separate election is organized by IFCC to elect a "regional representative" in their EB, EFLM EB thinks that there will not be any structural connection between the Regional Federation (e.g., EFLM) and IFCC. To overcome this situation, MP has presented a proposal for the Election Procedure for European Region in which:

1. The EFLM EB recommends the EFLM President or his/her representative (i.e., a person seated in the EFLM EB) to its Members for being elected at the IFCC EB;

2. The constituent NS officially nominates this person to IFCC for organizing a ballot to have the NRs approval.

The GM has fully supported this proposal and has given the mandate to the EFLM EB to propose an official procedure, which manages all necessary steps in accordance with this decision (including a change in the EFLM statutes if needed). The proposal was voted and approved by more than $\frac{3}{4}$ of the national societies.

EXECUTIVE BOARD

Through the EFLM program entitled *EFLM Presence at NS meetings*, during 2016 EB members participated in four EFLM NS meetings hosted by Slovenia, Romania, Portugal and Sweden.

The recently proposed amendments to the EFLM Articles of Association have been positively voted by EFLM Member Societies. These amendments allow aligning of EB roles to the new bylaws. Aligning of EB roles and elections for new EB members shall be held during the next GM, on Sunday 11 June 2017 (from h. 14.00 to h. 18.15) on occasion of the 22nd IFCC-EFLM EuroMedLab Congress.

In order to start the whole new EB on 1 January 2018, the GM in Athens will be asked to extend the positions of the present Secretary, Treasurer and Members until 31 December 2017 and to accept the Vice-President position to act as President from 1 January 2018. Originally these positions would stop their 2nd term of office at the date of the GM in 2017, so in Athens in June. At the same time the position of President, Vice-President and Past President would end some months before on 31 December 2017. Considering the appointment in March 2016, the mandate would be 21 months instead of 24. This was approved by the NSs with of more than $\frac{3}{4}$.

The next election of the Executive Board Members will follow the new EFLM Articles of Association and the transitional provision will be applied. EB has recently launched a call for nominations from National Societies for the following positions to serve for the term of office 2018-2019: President-Elect (to serve as President for 2020-2021), Secretary, Treasurer and 2 Members-at-Large.

The deadline to submit nominations is 31 March 2017. Voting for officers of the EFLM Executive Board 2018-2019 shall take place in Athens in June, at the tenth General Meeting.

COMMITTEES

Committee – Communication (C-C)

During 2016, special effort was dedicated to support and promote the work of the EFLM Working Groups that is the backbone of the scientific and professional activities of the Federation. A specific space was created inside the EFLM website where all the WGs could post freely available documents and educational materials to substantiate their activities and projects. A similar effort was dedicated to consolidate the collaboration with the National Societies: the Guidelines issued by the EFLM NSs can now be posted in a dedicated subpage of the website with the aim to build in a near future joint European Guidelines on specific topics. Furthermore, to increase the quality of the EFLM surveys that are prepared and distributed to the NSs rather frequently, a workshop on survey methodology was organized during the EFLM-UEMS Congress in Warsaw. The presence of the EFLM in the social media has been greatly improved during this year: The Federation has now Facebook, Twitter and LinkedIn accounts and a LinkedIn Company page. EFLM has started sharing news using the social media of the EFLM National Societies, IFCC and AACC. In 2016, the EFLM started a project (to be completed in 2017) of restyling the EFLM image including a new website, a new logo and above all, the production and publication of its own Newsletter: the bimonthly EuroLabNews.

Committee – Education and Training (C-ET)

C-ET has been involved in the organization of the 12th Symposium of the Balkan region and is involved in the Congress Organizing Committee for the 23rd Euromedlab in Barcelona and the 13th Symposium of the Balkan region. A new preliminary version of the former EC4 European Syllabus has been assigned to C-ET for finalization of an updated document of an EFLM European Syllabus in 2017. A Task and Finishing Group has been established with 18 members working on a continuing professional development (CPD) crediting system. A cooperation with UEMS is under initiation.

The development of a program for exchanging practice and practical training within EFLM countries is in progress in WG-CPE. WG-ET produced six e-seminars in 2016, recordings were subsequently posted on YouTube. Selected presentations were recorded from the EFLM-UEMS Congress to be presented later on an EFLM e-learning platform, which is also under development.

Committee – Profession (C-P) and EC4 Foundation

Towards the end of 2016, EC4's Board of Governors (the presidents of the EU-based national societies affiliated to EC4) voted for the dissolution of the EC4 foundation and transfer assets such as the EC4 Register of 'Specialists in Laboratory Medicine' to EFLM. More than three quarters of the EU-based NSs voted and among these more than three quarters was in favor. All members of the EC4 Board then voted to dissolve the EC4 Foundation. The change reflected the diminishing infrastructure in EC4 being mirrored by the rising profile and infrastructure in EFLM. This report takes the opportunity to acknowledge the notable building blocks achieved by key individuals in EC4 in pursuit of recognition of specialists under EU Directives such as 2013/55/EU (The Recognition of Professional Qualifications). A Common Training Framework has been proposed to the EU Commission, syllabuses for education/training in laboratory medicine and codes of conduct have been published, and the unifying term of 'Specialist in Laboratory Medicine' has been adopted.

The importance of continuing to pursue recognition was reflected in EFLM's Executive Board decision early December to preserve the function of EC4's Register Commission by establishing a new 'Register Working Group' for whom a key remit will be to grow the Register. The Profession Committee continues to press the EU Commission for acceptance of a Common Training Framework, this in turn being the passport to free professional migration across EU borders as well as acting as a catalyst for raising awareness of laboratory medicine's contribution.

Committee – Quality and Regulations (C-QR)

WG A/ISO was able to achieve the inclusion of the requirement for IVD manufacturers to provide information to the customers on lot-to lot differences in

the new IVD Regulation which will become mandatory in the European Union. C and its WG are working on developing publications in relation with ISO15189 on reference values, retention time, POCT and measurement uncertainty. Representatives of the WG and Committee were active in ISOTC212, CENTC140 and the Healthcare Committee of the EA (European cooperation on Accreditation).

Committee – Science (C-S)

The nine WGs under this Committee (Biological Variation, Cardiac Markers, Guidelines, Harmonisation of the Total Testing Process, Patient-Focused Laboratory Medicine, Personalised Laboratory Medicine, Post-analytical Phase, Preanalytical Phase and Test Evaluation) and the two Task and Finish Groups (Laboratory Testing for Dyslipidaemia and Standardisation of the Colour Coding for Blood Collection Closures) remain highly active in focusing on topics which are of direct relevance in improving the effectiveness of laboratory medicine to patients. Particular highlights include: developing a means of grading the quality of biological variation studies; the lipid guidelines developed collaboratively with the European Atherosclerosis Society; initiatives to establish test unit and blood container colour standardisation; involving scientists in advising patients directly on their laboratory results; and ensuring emerging technologies such as proteomics develop within existing laboratory medicine disciplines

MEETINGS

EFLM organized three meetings during 2016:

1. 12th EFLM Symposium for Balkan Region, May 25–27, 2016; Belgrade (Serbia)
2. 4th EFLM -UEMS European Joint Congress "Laboratory Medicine at the Clinical Interface", 21-24 September 2016; Warsaw (Poland)
3. EFLM Test evaluation course, 9-11 November 2016; Leiden (The Netherlands)

PUBLICATIONS

A complete and updated list of the EFLM publications can be found at EFLM website (www.eflm.eu)

Sverre Sandberg, EFLM President

*by Ana-Maria Simundic,
on behalf of the EFLM Executive Board*

Vic Blaton is not with us anymore. This sad event is an enormous bereavement for our profession. For sure many of our colleagues throughout Europe, who had the privilege of knowing him, join us in expressing condolences to his family and our friends in the Belgian Society.

Vic was a pioneer of our profession in so many aspects, a wise leader with a vision, a warm and intellectual person, a lovely gentleman, a friend and a person with a big heart. Vic dedicated his life to the profession. He was a milestone in the development of laboratory medicine in Europe and beyond. One of his biggest achievements was a merger of FESCC and EC4 into EFCC (currently known as EFLM). He was one of the Founders of EFCC and its first President (2008-2007).

He was especially committed to help and support the non-developed and developing countries in Europe to reach professional and educational standards of the developed countries in the European Community at times of big political and economic changes. He was and will remain a true European, a kind of Grandfather figure in our profession.

His wisdom, warm friendship and smile will be sadly missed.

*By Michel Langlois,
AZ Sint-Jan Brugge-Oostende,
Brugge, Belgium*

Vic Blaton was born on 7 October 1937 in Belgium. He was married to Dina Vandenbroeke and father of five children – Stefan, Sofie, Sylvie, Benedicte, Filip – and 10 grandchildren. He trained in science and

biochemistry at the KU-Leuven (Catholic University Leuven). As PhD he was a postdoctoral fellow at the same University. He followed the postgraduate training to become clinical biologist recognized for laboratory medicine, in 1973.

In 1970, he became director of the Simon Stevin Institute for Scientific Research in Bruges, Belgium. He was working on fundamental and clinical research of lipoproteins in atherosclerosis and cardiovascular diseases, especially on the protective role of high density lipoproteins (HDL) in inflammatory processes of atherosclerosis. Lipidology was his passion, and cardiac prevention became his mission. His main interest was the comparative study of biochemistry in non-human species (primates) in order to find models for studying atherosclerosis development in humans.



In 1977 he was installed as staff member – clinical biologist – in the department of Clinical Chemistry at the AZ St.-Jan Hospital in Bruges and became director of the same laboratory in 1997. His activities resulted in many publications in top scientific journals and in PhD theses of his co-workers. He was founder and President (1996-2000) of the Belgian Lipid Club, a prestigious club of scientists aiming to promote recommendations and treatments for the prevention of cardiovascular diseases.

He became Professor in Medical Biochemistry at the University of Leuven in 1982, and he was nominated as Lecturer and Visiting Professor at the North-Western University Medical School in Chicago, Illinois (1989). He presented and organised many courses and International meetings, such as the European Atherosclerosis Society (EAS) Congress in Bruges in 1998. He was nominated in 1982 as NATO expert – scientific adviser for the prevention of myocardial infarctions in soldiers and in 1992 he obtained the NATO-Award for Sciences. He obtained many other prestigious awards, most recently the EFLM-Roche Award in 2013.

Vic was a leader with a vision and strong pro-European mission. When he was President of the Belgian Society of Clinical Chemistry in 1988-1993, he initiated and participated in the creation of FESCC and EC4. He believed that the creation of a true operational structure is essential for the European harmonization in education and training of the professionals and the laboratory practice guidelines. He became president of FESCC (Forum European Societies in Clin Chem) in 2000 for a first term and in 2003 for a second term. He was able to merge together the two organisations FESCC and EC4 in one new European branch of IFCC, named EFCC – the European Federation of Clinical Chemistry and Laboratory Medicine – in 2007. As first President of EFCC (EFLM) in 2007-2009 and also thereafter, he stimulated the professional integration of countries of the Balkan region in Europe.

Vic was a figurehead, a kind of father figure in times of major political and economic changes in Europe, and not only for our profession. In his career he took part in different activities and founded projects to support the developing countries in Africa and South-America. This illustrates his good heart and engagement for

healthcare and socio-economic welfare, more than laboratory medicine.

Vic will be remembered as a smiling man who always wanted the best for everyone. We will miss his friendship, his advice, his stimulating force, his enthusiasm. We keep the many beautiful moments with Vic alive and in our memory.

**By Gerard Sanders and Rob Jansen,
former EC4 Presidents**

With the death of Vic Blaton on 16 February 2017 at the age of 79 years, clinical chemistry in Europe lost a good friend and colleague who helped to give our profession its current shape.

With the start of the European Union in the 50s of the last century and its gradual extension in the years to follow, it became clear that harmonization of our profession would be an important issue. Many discussions followed and in the late 80s Vic became the Belgian representative in these consultations. In these deliberations that, inter alia, took place in The Hague, Echternach, Pont-a-Mousson and Paris, the contribution of Vic was greatly appreciated.

From that starting point, it became clear that there should be a European association for clinical chemistry to cover all facets of the field. First, EC4 found its place in the EU and FESCC was created for Europe as a whole.

In EC4 Vic was in 1989, 1990 and 1991 one of the initiators of the so-called European Syllabus to describe the contents of our profession as a prelude to a European directive for our professional domain. In the late 90's he contributed to the publication of the 'essential criteria for quality systems in medical laboratories' which became the first version of ISO 15189, nowadays the worldwide standard for quality of medical laboratories.

In 2005 it became clear that the two organizations should merge and Vic as President of FESCC at that time contributed to the steps necessary for the merge to the new organization and thus became one of the founding fathers of EFLM.

Invitation

EFLM-Abbott Diagnostics Award for Excellence in Outcomes Research in Laboratory Medicine



Announcement

EFLM and Abbott Diagnostics are pleased to announce the EFLM-Abbott Diagnostics Award for Excellence in Outcomes Research in Laboratory Medicine. The Award will be given to the best published paper, as judged by an independent panel of experts, which demonstrates improved outcomes (clinical and/or economic) arising out of the application or improved utilisation of an *in vitro* diagnostic test.

The award was presented for the first time at the 19th IFCC/EFLM EuroMedLab Congress 2011 in Berlin. Thereafter it will be awarded every two years at an EFLM conference. The Award will consist of a certificate and the sum of 10,000 Euro.

Criteria

All entries must be validated studies demonstrating improved outcomes (clinical and/or economic) arising out of the application or improved utilisation of an *in vitro* diagnostic test.

Entries must have been published or finally accepted for publication between 1 February 2015 and 20 April 2017.

Entries must be published in English in a peer-reviewed medical, scientific or health economics journal.

Entries must have been produced by an individual or group working wholly or mainly within Europe (as defined by WHO – www.euro.who.int/countryinformation). The submitting author must be from an EFLM National Society Member.

It is a condition of entry that applicants agree to the use of the data and conclusions presented in the paper for purposes of promotion of laboratory medicine by EFLM. Only conclusions specifically presented in the paper will be used in such materials, and authors will be acknowledged in and have the right of review of any materials produced.

Submission Procedure

Applications for the Award must be submitted by one of the authors of the paper and must be accompanied by:

- Reprint of the publication or (in the case of publications in press), a manuscript copy and a copy of the journal Editor's letter indicating the final acceptance for publication;
- Short CV of the submitting author;
- Statement signed by all authors of the publication consenting to submission of the paper for the Award and to the conditions of entry.

Applications, clearly marked "EFLM-Abbott Diagnostics Award", should be submitted to the EFLM via e-mail to the address eflm@eflm.eu, by 20 April 2017.

Applications will be judged by an independent panel appointed by the EFLM Science Committee including expertise in clinical medicine, evidence-based medicine, health economics and clinical laboratory science.

The Award (10,000 Euro and a framed certificate) will be presented at the 22nd IFCC-EFLM EuroMedLab Congress in Athens (June 11-15, 2017). The Award will be presented to the submitting author, who is responsible for division of the award among his/her co-authors.

For further information on the submission process please contact the EFLM Office: eflm@eflm.eu

Visit us online:



www.eflm.eu



www.abbottdiagnostics.com



EFLM-HyTest Cardiac Marker Award for remarkable scientific work in the field of cardiovascular diseases

The EFLM-HyTest Cardiac Marker Award is granted to a young scientist for remarkable scientific work in the field of cardiovascular diseases. EFLM is very pleased to have partnered with HyTest on this award, through which we intend to achieve wider recognition of the importance of high quality research in the field of cardiac markers among laboratory professionals in Europe.

Eligibility criteria:

The applicant must fulfill the following criteria:

- Age under 40 years;
- Member of an EFLM member country;
- Study accepted for peer-reviewed publication by the submission deadline in which the nominee must be first author

Award timing:

The EFLM-HyTest Cardiac Marker Award is awarded biannually. This year, the award will be presented at the 22nd IFCC-EFLM European Congress of Clinical Chemistry and Laboratory Medicine (EuroMedLab 2017) to be held in Athens (GR) from 11 to 15 June 2017.

Award details:

The selected scientist will receive an award of € 5000 and the costs for attending the EuroMedLab Congress (economy class travel, reasonable accommodation and the congress registration fee).

Submission details:

The applicants should send the reprint of their article or a copy of the editor's letter indicating final acceptance for publication to the EFLM office at eflm@eflm.eu. Articles must have been published or accepted for publication between 1 January 2016 and 20 April 2017. Entries must be published in English in a peer-reviewed scientific journal. Applicants should also send a statement signed by all authors of the publication consenting to submission of the paper for the Award and to the conditions of entry. Submissions will be judged by an independent panel of experts. The nominee must be the first author and a member of an EFLM member society. The Award will be presented to the first author, who is responsible for division of the award among his/her co-authors.

- *Applications deadline:* April 20, 2017
- *Winner will be notified:* April 30, 2017

For further information on the submission process please contact the Chair of the EFLM Science Committee, Prof. Eric Kilpatrick at eflm@eflm.com.

During EuroMedLab in Athens, three EFLM Symposia will be held, covering pivotal topics of Laboratory Medicine and very important learning objectives. **Do consider attending these In Athens!**

Monday June 10; 10.30-12.30. ROOM: SKALKOTAS HALL

Harmonisation in laboratory medicine

CHAIR: Maria Stella Graziani (IT) CO-CHAIR: TBA

SESSION OVERVIEW

Harmonisation is a fundamental aspect of quality in laboratory medicine; its main goal is to provide a better patient outcome producing comparable laboratory information irrespective of where and how the laboratory data have been obtained. Harmonisation involves all the steps of the total testing process (pre-analytical, analytical, and post analytical phase); it embraces however any aspect of the profession: from laboratory accreditation to professional development, to the recognition of laboratory medicine specialists in Europe. The symposium covers these topics with lectures dealing with the harmonisation of the pre-analytical phase, the medical laboratory accreditation, the recognition of the profession in Europe, the continuous professional development.

Ana- Maria Simundic (HR)

The contribution of the eflm wg-pre to the harmonisation of preanalytical phase of laboratory examination process in Europe

(25 min + 5 min discussion)

Wim Huisman (NL)

Harmonisation of medical laboratory accreditation: the importance of being involved in all steps

(25 min + 5 min discussion)

Gilbert Wieringa (UK)

Harmonising the recognition of specialists in laboratory medicine across Europe

(25 min + 5 min discussion)

Elizabeta Topic (HR)

Harmonising the recognition of specialists in laboratory medicine across Europe

(25 min + 5 min discussion)

LEARNING OBJECTIVES

After this session, participants will be able to:

1. Operate to harmonise the steps of the preanalytical phase.
2. Understand the need to achieve a uniform accreditation system in Europe.
3. Recognize the importance to promote the free movement across Europe borders of laboratory medicine specialists assuring that competencies are practiced at an equivalent high quality level.

Wednesday June 14; 10.30 - 12.30. ROOM: LAMBRAKIS HALL

Performance specifications in laboratory medicine - Part 1

CHAIR: Mauro Panteghini (IT) CO-CHAIR: TBA

SESSION OVERVIEW

The session will provide an overview of different models to set performance specifications in laboratory medicine: 1) based on clinical outcome, on 2) biological variation, and 3) state of the art. In addition, it will address the total error concept, and performance specifications in external quality assessment schemes and in the extra-analytical phases.

Mauro Panteghini (IT) Defining performance specifications in laboratory testing <i>(35 min + 5 min discussion)</i>	Sverre Sandberg (NO) The new eflm biological variation database based on a critical appraisal check-list <i>(35 min + 5 min discussion)</i>	Ferruccio Ceriotti (IT) Criteria for allocation of laboratory tests to the three Milan models for performance specifications <i>(35 min + 5 min discussion)</i>
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LEARNING OBJECTIVES

After this session, participants will be able to:

1. Understand the different principles for setting performance specifications.
2. Achieve practical skills in selecting performance specifications for different measurands (analytes).
3. Understand the total error and uncertainty concepts and their role in judging analytical performance.
4. Understand how to set performance specifications and quality indicators in the extra-analytical phases.

Wednesday June 14; 14.30 - 16.30. ROOM: LAMBRAKIS HALL

Performance specifications in laboratory medicine - Part 2

CHAIR: Sverre Sandberg (NO) CO-CHAIR: TBA

SESSION OVERVIEW

The session will provide an overview of different models to set performance specifications in laboratory medicine; 1) based on clinical outcome, on 2) biological variation, and 3) state of the art. In addition, it will address the total error concept, and performance specifications in external quality assessment schemes and in the extra-analytical phases.

Wytze Oosterhuis (NL) Are total error and uncertainty of measurement two sides of the same coin? <i>(35 min + 5 min discussion)</i>	Graham Jones (AU) Performance specifications in EQAS <i>(35 min + 5 min discussion)</i>	Mario Plebani (IT) Performance specifications in extra-analytical phases <i>(35 min + 5 min discussion)</i>
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LEARNING OBJECTIVES

After this session, participants will be able to:

1. Understand the different principles for setting performance specifications.
2. Achieve practical skills in selecting performance specifications for different measurands (analytes).
3. Understand the total error and uncertainty concepts and their role in judging analytical performance.
4. Understand how to set performance specifications and quality indicators in the extra-analytical phases.



News from the IFCC Website

New website on traceability in laboratory medicine

The Joint Committee for Traceability in Laboratory Medicine (JCTLM) is pleased to announce the launch of a new website. This can be accessed at www.jctlm.org.

Read more

Under the auspices of the International Federation of Clinical Chemistry and Laboratory Medicine (IFCC)



Join us to share the latest innovative thinking in the delivery of the best laboratory medicine activities. **Learn** from expert innovators presenting new ways of solving the financial, quality and organizational problems facing us all. **If you want to lead** your laboratory service to “first class” performance then join us and experience the shared experiences of like-minded professionals. **Places** are limited, so first come, first served, so don’t delay register today!

Preliminary Programme

5 October 2017		6 October 2017	
13.00–14.15	Regulatory Matters	9:00–11:00	Adding Value
<i>Ensuring IVD input into clinical evidence</i> Carla Deakin		<i>Consolidation of Laboratory Activities is Necessary: Economic and Clinical Aspects</i> Burhard G. Piper – Limbach Gruppe	
<i>Why is Harmonization and Standardization so difficult?</i> Sverre Sandberg		<i>Digital Pathology: Revolutionizing Histopathology</i> Bernard Colon Roche	
<i>Panel Discussion</i>		<i>Revolution in the Laboratory: Patients as Customers</i> Wytze Oosterhuis	
		<i>Opportunities and Barriers to merging Public Service Medical Laboratories</i> Ian Watson	

14.15–14.45	Coffee break	11.00–11.30	Coffee break
14.45–16.30	The ‘Omics’ revolution	11.30–13.00	Delivering Quality
<i>The Economics of Genomics: “Cost versus Benefit”</i> Mario Pazzagli		<i>Solving Practical Problems: What Colour Should Blood-Tube Tops Be? An Industry & Profession Partnership</i> Ana-Maria Simundic and Stephen Church	
<i>Has Lab on a chip arrived?</i> Albert van den Berg		<i>How can Business Intelligence optimize hospital laboratory workflow’s and deliver a valid contribution to improve quality medicine and the overall profitability</i> Alexander Hoffmann, Abbott Laboratories	
<i>Liquid profiling (biopsy): a new universe for Laboratory Medicine</i> Michael Neumaier		<i>What metrics meaningfully measure lab performance?</i> Mario Plebani	
<i>Panel Discussion</i>			
16.30–17.00	Coffee break	13.00–13.30	Discussion / Future Perspectives
17.00–18.15	Power of Digitalization in Clinical Laboratories - Sepehr Seyedzadeh - Siemens Healthineers	13.30–13.45	Closing remarks
Automation of the Clinical Laboratory Martin Obermeier			
<i>Panel Discussion</i>			
19.30	Welcome cocktail		

For more information visit <http://www.celme2017.cz>.



EFLM publication: an update

by Maria Stella Graziani

Chair, EFLM Communications Committee

Two papers have been recently included in the EFLM Publication list.

1. Recommendation for the review of biological reference intervals in medical laboratories

Henny J, Vassault A, Boursier G, Vukasovic I, Mesko Brguljan P, Lohmander M et al. on behalf of the EFLM Working Group Accreditation and ISO/CEN standards (WG-A/ISO). Clin Chem Lab Med. 2016;54:1893-900.

As clearly stated at the beginning of the article, the paper should not be considered an official EFLM paper.

The document is actually based on the original recommendation of the Expert Panel on the Theory of Reference Values of the International Federation of Clinical Chemistry and Laboratory Medicine (IFCC). Updated guidelines were recently published under the auspices of the IFCC and the Clinical and Laboratory Standards

Article continued on next page

Institute (CLSI) and the paper discusses many of the proposed recommendations.

Among the proposals, the document summarizes: (i) The terminology, which is often confusing. (ii) The method for the determination of reference limits. (iii) The procedure allowing the medical laboratories to fulfil the requirements of the regulation and standards.

2. Sample collections from healthy volunteers for biological variation estimates' update: a new project undertaken by the Working Group on Biological Variation established by the European Federation of Clinical Chemistry and Laboratory Medicine.

Carobene A, Strollo M, Jonker N, Barla G, Bartlett WA, Sandberg S et al. on behalf of the EFLM Working Group Biological Variation (WG-BV). Clin Chem Lab Med 2016;54:1599-608.

The paper describes the results of a European project aimed to establish a biobank of samples from healthy subjects to be used to produce high quality data on Biological Variation (BV). A biobank of 18,000 aliquots was established consisting of 120 aliquots of serum, 40 of EDTA plasma, and 40 of citrated-plasma from each enrolled subject (n = 91). This biobank of well-characterised samples collected under controlled conditions will allow us to deliver an European resource to enable production of contemporary BV data.

IFCC – Roche Travel Scholarships at 14th APFCB Congress 2016 - Taipei



Left toRight: Purvi Purhoit (IN), Wiradewi Lestari (ID), Prof. Ozben, IFCC Treasurer, Rajesh Kumar Gupta (NP), Dr Beastall, IFCC Past President, Ahmed Sibtain (PK), Prof. Ferrari, IFCC President



Reports by Scholarships recipients are available at: [www.ifcc.org/ifcc-communications-publications-division-\(cpd\)/ifcc-publications/enewsletter/enews-volumes/links-to-articles/2017-2-travel-scholarships-apfcb-taipei-26-29-nov-2016/](http://www.ifcc.org/ifcc-communications-publications-division-(cpd)/ifcc-publications/enewsletter/enews-volumes/links-to-articles/2017-2-travel-scholarships-apfcb-taipei-26-29-nov-2016/).

PSEP Report: Raylton Chikwati, Zimbabwe

Raylton Chikwati, Department of Chemical Pathology, University of Zimbabwe, Harare, Zimbabwe was awarded an International Federation of Clinical Chemistry Professional Exchange Program Scholarship (IFCC PSEP) and spent three months (21 November 2016 -18 February 2017) at the National Health Laboratory Services, Development Laboratory in the Department of Chemical Pathology at the University of Witwatersrand, Johannesburg, South Africa. Professor Jaya George (Head of Department) and Ms. Tracy Snyman, (Laboratory Unit Supervisor), were his immediate mentors.



Prof. Jaya George, Raylton Chikwati and Tracy Snyman

[Read here the Report of Raylton Chikwati](#)

IFCC Calendar of Congresses, Conferences & Events

Calendar of IFCC Congresses/Conferences and Regional Federations' Congresses

<p>Jun 10 - 11, 2017</p>		<p><i>Satellite Meeting "Management of Inborn Errors of Metabolism: from Diagnosis to Treatment"</i> EuroMedLab Athens, 2017</p>	<p>Athens, GR</p>
<p>Jun 10, 2017</p>		<p><i>Satellite Meeting "Metabolic Bone Disease: The Role of the Clinical Laboratory"</i> EuroMedLab, Athens 2017</p>	<p>Athens, GR</p>

Article continued on next page

Jun 11 - 15, 2017		IFCC-EFLM EUROMEDLAB 2017	Athens, GR
Jun 15 - 16, 2017		<i>Satellite Meeting "Diabetes" EuroMedLab, Athens 2017</i>	Athens, GR
Sep 17 - 20, 2017		<i>XXIII COLABLIOCLI Congress 2017 and XI Uruguayan Congress of Clinical Biochemistry</i>	Punta del Este, UY
Oct 20 - 22, 2017		<i>XIV International Congress of Pediatric Laboratory Medicine WorldLab Durban 2017</i>	Durban, ZA
Oct 21, 2017		<i>IFCC-POCT Satellite Meeting - WorldLab Durban 2017</i>	Durban, ZA
Oct 22 - 25, 2017		XXIII IFCC WORLDLAB - DURBAN 2017	Durban, ZA
Oct 26 - 27, 2017		<i>IFCC Satellite Meeting "Biomarkers for Diabetes" - WorldLab Durban 2017</i>	Cape Town, ZA

May 19 - 23, 2019		IFCC-EFLM EUROMEDLAB 2019	Barcelona, ES
May 24 - 28, 2020		XXIV IFCC WorldLab - Seoul 2020	Seoul, KR

Calendar of events with IFCC auspices

Apr 20 - 21, 2017	<i>1st Conference on Medical Laboratory Accreditation and Quality Systems: European Answers</i>	Tehran, IR
May 10 - 12, 2017	<i>II Turkish In Vitro Diagnostic (IVD) Symposium, BIOMARKERS</i>	Izmir, TR
May 10 - 13, 2017	<i>2nd Conference of Romanian Association of Laboratory Medicine</i>	Timișoara, RO
May 11 - 13, 2017	<i>VIII Baltic Transfusion Medicine Congress and the I Latvian Congress in Laboratory Medicine</i>	Riga, LV
May 17 - 18, 2017	<i>9th European Symposium on Clinical Laboratory and In Vitro Diagnostic Industry "Stat Tests in Clinical Laboratory"</i>	Barcelona, ES
May 30 - 31, 2017	<i>VI International Symposium Clinical Laboratory and Quality</i>	Barcelona, ES
Jun 11 - 14, 2017	<i>44° Congresso Brasileiro de Analises Clinicas</i>	Joao Pessoa, Paraiba, BR
Aug 22 - 25, 2017	<i>72° Congreso de Bioquimica 2017</i>	Buenos Aires, AR
Sep 19 - 21, 2017	<i>18th International Metrologie Congress</i>	Paris, FR
Sep 21 - 22, 2017	<i>13th EFLM Symposium for Balkan Region</i>	Belgrade, SRB
Oct 4 - 7, 2017	<i>3rd International Symposium on Advances in Circulating Tumor Cells (ACTC)</i>	Rhodes, GR
Oct 5 - 6, 2017	<i>CELME 2017</i>	Prague, CZ
Oct 18 - 20, 2017	<i>LMCE 2017 & KSLM 58th Annual Meeting</i>	Seoul, KR
June 12 - 15, 2018	<i>XXXVI Nordic Congress of Clinical Chemistry</i>	Helsinki, FI

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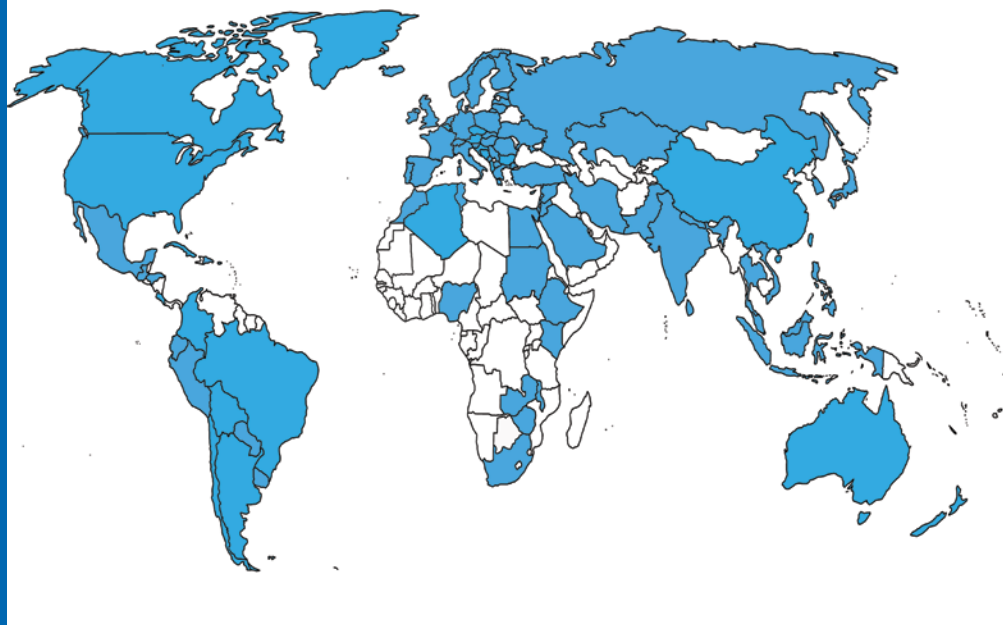
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Nepal: Nepalese Association for Clinical Chemistry (NACC)
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Russia: Regional Association for Clinical Laboratory Diagnosis, St. Petersburg
Spain: Asociación Española de Farmacéuticos Analistas (AEFA)
Turkey: Society of Clinical Biochemistry Specialists (KBUD)
Ukraine: Association for Quality Assurance of Laboratory Medicine (AQALM)

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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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