



eNews



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, South Africa
E-mail: enews@ifcc.org

International Federation of Clinical Chemistry and Laboratory Medicine



July - August
2015



In this issue

DIVISIONAL REPORTS

- ▶ IFCC Task Force for Young Scientists (TF-YS) at EuroMedLab Paris 2015 3
- ▶ IFCC Task Force on Pharmacogenetics (TF-PG) 5

- A Renaissance Man Shares his Life Experiences 6

- New IFCC corporate member: Helena Biosciences Europe 7

NEWS FROM REGIONAL FEDERATIONS AND MEMBER SOCIETIES

- ▶ Workshop for Latin America:
“Exchange of experiences about the interpretation of ISO 15189” 8
- ▶ 1st Congress of the Romanian Association of Laboratory Medicine 9
- ▶ 8th European Symposium of the Catalan Association for Clinical Laboratory Sciences 11
- ▶ Spanish Society of Clinical Biochemistry and Molecular Pathology (SEQC)
appoints its board of directors 12
- ▶ Spain: SEQC promotes residents training 13
- ▶ Syndicate of Clinical Pathologists in Lebanon (SDBL) Congress Summary 14
- ▶ VII Annual Conference of the Lithuanian Society of Laboratory Medicine 15
- ▶ 4th Joint EFLM-UEMS Congress 16
- ▶ 15th EFLM Continuing Postgraduate Course in Clinical Chemistry
and Laboratory Medicine 17
- ▶ EFLM Bursary recipients at EuroMedLab 18
- ▶ EFLM website has a NEW Homepage: www.eflm.eu 21

- IFCC-PROFESSIONAL SCIENTIFIC EXCHANGE PROGRAMME (PSEP)
 - ▶ My experience at the New York Fertility Services Clinic 22

- News from the IFCC website 23

- IFCC's Calendar of Congresses, Conferences & Events 25

DIVISIONAL REPORTS

IFCC Task Force for Young Scientists (TF-YS) at EuroMedLab Paris 2015

*by Pradeep Kumar Dabla, IFCC TF-YS Chair
Guilaine Boursier, IFCC TF-YS Core Member*

IFCC TF-YS conducted three successful sessions at EuroMedlab Paris 2015. These included one stand-alone educational session, one social gathering and networking evening session (with EFLM YS's), and an open functional meeting. EuroMedlab Congress and organizers presented a great example of advocacy by this unique initiative of supporting the series of YS events by providing exclusive time slots & support at such a large global event.

“Workforce Preparation - Invitation to Contribute”

Monday, 22 June 2015; Time: 9.00 - 12.30

The theme of this workshop/open functional meeting was **“Workforce Preparation - Invitation to Contribute”** where all the registered YS were invited from all over the world. The session was conducted at “Le Palas des Congrès” and was attended by 30 YS representing various regions. The session was moderated by **Dr. Graham Beastall (Past President IFCC)**. As per the theme the session framework was defined so that YS were able to come forward and present their views in the form of five power point slides describing themselves and challenges facing them and the support they expect from TF-YS. This will enable TF-YS to prioritise needs. The session started with **Dr. Pradeep Kumar Dabla (Chair IFCC TF-YS)** describing the overview and functionality of TF-YS, report on past events and future programmes, an important example being “Why we need to join TF-YS”. There were presentations by 7 YS followed by discussion. The important common points selected for discussion were: *Communication, Education and Training, Research & the Future of Laboratory Medicine*. The detailed report, based on these views and presentation, prepared by Dr. Graham Beastall can be found at: http://www.ifcc.org/task-force-young-scientists-web-pages/ystf_upcomingactivities/

Symposium:

“Collaborating Industry with Research & Laboratory-two sides of the same coin- HAVE YOUR SAY”

Tuesday, 23 June 2015; Time: 12.30 - 14.30

This session was conducted with joint efforts and contribution from IFCC TF-YS and EFLM at “Le Palais des Congrès” and attended by 40 YS from around the world.

Universities and industry have been collaborating for over a century. When companies and universities work in tandem to push the frontiers of knowledge, they become a powerful engine for innovation and economic growth. These successful collaborations have been seen as a longterm benefit to these institutions in terms of: substantial streams of external funding, enhanced opportunities for Faculty and Graduates to work on groundbreaking research, vital inputs to keep teaching and learning on the cutting edge of a discipline, and the impact of delivering solutions for pressing global challenges. The session discussed key questions for successful partnership and to prevent failures.

The session was opened with a welcome address by **Dr. Graham Beastall, Dr. Pradeep Kumar Dabla & Dr. Guilaine Boursier (Core Member IFCC-TFYS)**. The first session was chaired by **Dr. Graham Beastall**. **Dr. Damien Gruson (Consultant IFCC TF-YS)** spoke on **“Funding Mechanisms for Research – Developing New Structures or Restructuring the Existing Ones”** with **Dr. Norbert Farkas - Roche Diagnostics**. The initiative was unique as both university and industry people gave their views on funding mechanisms and handling obstacles. The idea was to share the common platform of discussion for successful partnership which is one of the requirements for a seamless relationship.

Article continued on next page

The second session was started with a lecture by **Dr. Pradeep Kumar Dabla** on the topic **“Best Practices for Collaboration between Industry & University”** and chaired by **Dr. Guilaine Boursier**. He stated “There is an out-come-impact gap in collaborations: Promising outcomes of university projects often fail to translate into tangible impacts for the companies involved”. Then he presented case studies to show how they vary widely in their aims, and each had a variety of impacts on the university partner. Dr. Dabla stressed the need of high level strategic partnership for the innovative and economic growth. This was followed by a lecture from Dr. Francois Blanchecotte (President Syndicat des Biologistes & President JIB) on topic **“Medical Laboratory – Need for Promoting Innovation”** where he discussed “Why Innovation increasingly depends on the ability to work together across a number of disciplines“. So it is necessary to encourage multidisciplinary academic programmes and promote the engagement of industry in such programmes to drive a new multidisciplinary culture and curricula. Lastly **Dr. Bernard Gouget** (Co-President EuroMedLab Paris 2015 & Chair Congress Organising Committee) gave his vision about **“Effective Collaboration between Industry & Clinical Research- Need for working together”**. He explained how it is important for the policymakers to ensure a predictable, stable environment of funding and regulation for long-term strategic partnerships. Thus the best people to decide a university’s strategy are its own board and faculty heads with freedom to operate for effective partnership.

We are thankful to all our young colleagues for their presence and debate on such important topics and to

our senior members, especially Dr. Graham Beastall and Dr. Bernard Gouget, for their immense support to bring this successful session. The session was successful in contributing to the critical thinking of opening new horizons for collaboration between industry and the university/research laboratory.

**“IFCC TF-YS Evening Debate:
The Youth EuroMedLab network”**

Tuesday, 23 June 2015; Time: 20.00

The “IFCC TF-YS Evening Debate: The Youth EuroMedLab Network” was organized by **Dr. Bernard Gouget**, and two French YS, Gaëlle Tachon and Guilaine Boursier. The meeting was attended by 85 young scientists from 31 different countries. The meeting commenced by gathering in front of the Eiffel Tower, followed by a cruise on the Seine.

YS had four hours of networking during which each YS had a chance to speak with YS from the thirty different nationalities which were represented. In addition, it was an opportunity to meet nearly all the core members of IFCC Task Force for YS and explored new friendships among the spectacular Paris skyline and its sparkling Eiffel tower.

More information on the event can be found on our webpages and social media: <http://www.ifcc.org/taskforce-young-scientists-web-pages/social-media/>.

Our mailing list: ifcc-taskforce-ys@yahoogroups.com

To subscribe:

ifcc-taskforce-ys-suscribe@yahoogroups.com

Acknowledgements:

IFCC TF-YS, which now has extended to 6 core members, 1 consultant and corresponding members from 26 different countries wishes to thank all those who supported these “IFCC TF-YS” events at Euromedlab Paris 2015 especially Dr. Bernard Gouget, and Dr. Graham Beastall, as well as our young colleagues who participated at the events.

For any queries and suggestions:

Dr. Pradeep Kumar Dabla, Chair IFCC TF-YS

Email: pradeep_dabla@yahoo.com



IFCC-TF-YS Evening Cruise – 23 June 2015

IFCC Task Force on Pharmacogenetics (TF-PG)

by Prof. Dr. Ron van Schaik
IFCC TF-PG Chair



IFCC TF-PG members: R. van Schaik, M. Neumaier, M.W. Linder, M. Pirmohamed, H.J. Guchelaar, B. Jordan

On 21 April 2015, the HORIZON2020 Personalised Health Care program PHC24-101, closed submissions for the second stage proposals. One of the submitted proposals came from the European Pharmacogenetics Implementation Consortium (Eu-PIC), with IFCC TF-PG chair Prof Ron van Schaik as Principal Investigator.

The Eu-PIC consortium has its roots in the IFCC TF-PG and combined forces with the European Society for Pharmacogenomics and Personalised Therapy (ESPT), with Prof Gerard Siest as president.

The total Eu-PIC consortium consists of 18 European Countries, 37 institutions and 106 participants. The aim is to implement Pharmacogenetics in current health care plans in 18 EU countries, taking into account availability of analyses, dosing advices, quality control, education, health care insurer participation and regulatory representation.

The IFCC is represented by IFCC president Prof. Maurizio Ferrari both in the Eu-PIC Board, as well as one of the two Eu-PIC workpackage leaders on Dissemination. The total Eu-PIC grant application is €15.4 million. A final decision is expected in September 2015. For more information, please visit: www.eu-pic.net.

Knighthood for Prof Pirmohamed

IFCC Task-Force member Prof. Dr. Munir Pirmohamed, received a knighthood in the United Kingdom from Queen Elizabeth II in the Queen's Birth-

day honours list 2015 for services to medicine. Prof Pirmohamed is the University of Liverpool's David Weatherall Chair in Medicine and Consultant Physician at the Royal Liverpool University Hospital. He holds the only NHS Chair in Pharmacogenetics in the UK and is Director of the Medical Research Council's Centre for Drug Safety Sciences.



Prof. Dr. Munir Pirmohamed

The IFCC and the IFCC TF-PG congratulate Sir Munir on the receipt of this well deserved honour!



A Renaissance Man Shares his Life Experiences

by Joseph Lopez

*Immediate Past President, APFCB
and past IFCC Executive Board Member*

Most successful people achieve recognition in one field of endeavour. Fewer achieve it in two. Rare, however, is the individual who has received success and recognition in three. Such a person is Dr. Tan It Koon, founder and past president of both the Singapore Association of Clinical Biochemists (SACB) and the APFCB. He also served on the council of Singapore Society of Pathology (SSP) and Federation of Asian & Oceanian Biochemistry (FAOB). Besides his pioneering contribution to the advancement of the practice of clinical biochemistry in Singapore and the Asia-Pacific region, he is an accomplished musician and a painter of international renown. He can truly be described as a renaissance man without any sense of hyperbole.



Dr. Tan It Koon

Dr. Tan graduated with the BSc Honours (First Class) and PhD degrees from the University of Singapore (now known as the National University of Singapore, NUS). He obtained the MCB professional qualification during his postdoctoral studies in the UK. Subsequently he also became a Fellow of the UK Royal College of Pathologists and the Academy of Clinical

Biochemistry, USA. He then embarked on a long career at the Singapore General Hospital that spanned over 40 years.

He has authored or co-authored more than 140 scientific papers on many aspects of clinical biochemistry and sat on the editorial boards of the profession's more renowned international journals. Dr. Tan taught in both the Science and Medical Faculties of the NUS and served as an examiner for MSc, PhD and MD candidates. During this time he was appointed to board and management positions in many local, regional and international professional bodies, including the Singapore Professional Centre and the Singapore National Science Council. Dr. Tan was elected to the IFCC Executive Board and was appointed by WHO as a Member of its Expert Panel on Health Laboratory, and the Committee on Biological Standardisation.

Dr. Tan was conferred two distinguished National Day Awards by the Singapore Government, one for excellence in public administration and provision of a highly proficient clinical laboratory service, and another for very significant contributions to cultural and community development in Singapore. He received the SACB-Boehringer Mannheim and SSP-Becton Dickinson awards for outstanding contributions to the advancement of clinical biochemistry and pathology respectively.

For initiating the series of APFCB Congresses, the APFCB News, education and collaborative research programs for over 20 years, he received the APFCB inaugural Distinguished Service Award. A special award was conferred by Becton Dickinson for his pioneering and continued efforts in raising awareness of pre-analytical problems affecting the quality of patient testing results, through lectures and publications in the Asian-Pacific region.

Article continued on next page

Dr. Tan has been a practitioner and advocate of the arts since his schools days. He is an accomplished pianist, who has won several performance and composition competitions in Singapore and Malaysia. He championed the advancement of the arts in Singapore and has time and again sat on or chaired many national bodies, such as the National Theatre Trust, Singapore Cultural Foundation, Singapore Festival of Arts, Singapore Dance Theatre, Forum of Fine Art and the South-East Asia Art Association.

In addition, Dr. Tan is an accomplished Chinese brush painter of renown. His talent has seen his works featured in major local and international exhibitions since 1971. His works have appeared on

the covers of the APFCB News and featured in Clinical Chemistry.

In February this year Dr. Tan was invited by the NUS Alumni Office to share his multi-dimensional life experiences in science, art and music with members of the alumni, the teaching staff, postgraduates and undergraduates.

His presentation took almost 3 hours. In the first half, he shared his experience and showed his art works. This was followed by a piano recital featuring works by Bach, Elgar, Schubert, Chopin, Grieg, Field, Joplin, etc. The recital was followed by a dinner. The NUS Museum is currently holding an exhibition of his works of art from March to August this year.

New IFCC corporate member: Helena Biosciences Europe



Helena Biosciences Europe is a leading medical diagnostic company with an international reputation comprising two flagship business divisions that specialise in the design, manufacture and support of instrumentation, applications and software for acetate, agarose and fully automated Clinical Capillary Electrophoresis (CCE), as well as reagents and instrumentation for diagnostic testing of disease and blood disorders relating to Coagulation, Haemophilia, Thrombophilia, Fibrinolysis and Platelet Function.

Proudly manufacturing in Great Britain, with commercial and plant facilities based in the North East of England, Helena Biosciences has achieved its status as a market leader due to a commitment to quality and innovation, and the dedication to customers and partners through continual training and technical support.

Strategically targeting rapidly evolving markets, the company has carved a strong market presence in both of its flagship divisions, thanks in part to its focus on

dedicated R&D, manufacturing and training facilities. Helena Biosciences' extensive product portfolio and in-house manufacturing expertise has advanced quality and market competitiveness in two distinct ways. Firstly, Helena Biosciences has succeeded in providing laboratories worldwide with integrated testing solutions, including instrumentation, reagents and software for electrophoresis, coagulation and platelet function systems. Secondly, the company has been able to build strong partnerships with international laboratories and companies with customised reagent solutions streamlined for a range of modern and leading analytical platforms, providing cost-efficiencies, quality and technical excellence for a diverse assay portfolio.

All of these have led to Helena Biosciences' enviable reputation as a trusted partner to diverse customers across the world in both clinical electrophoresis and haemostasis environments. As a pioneering manufacturer and supplier for almost four decades, and with such a strong focus on customer training and support, Helena's name is now globally recognised as representing innovation, quality and reliability.

Website: www.helena-biosciences.com

Workshop for Latin America: “Exchange of experiences about the interpretation of ISO 15189”



by Rosa Sierra-Amor

Corresponding Member, IFCC WG News

Maria Amelia Acuña

Argentinan Accreditation Body

Milena Monari

Chilean Society of Clinical Chemistry

Imilce Zuta, PTB Germany



Latin America is a large region formed by countries from North, Central, South America, and the Caribbean. In the effort of implementing ISO 15189 in laboratory accreditation, accreditation bodies and professional societies in laboratory medicine were invited to *exchange experiences on the interpretation of ISO 15189*.

Almost a year ago, the Chilean Society of Clinical Chemistry, a full member society of IFCC, in conjunction with the PTB (Technical Cooperation) from Germany, organized a meeting in Santiago de Chile on 4-6 August 2014, where professional societies, accreditation bodies and metrology institutes met to discuss how accreditation was conducted and how metrology institutes were addressing laboratory medicine requirements. Those present decided to organize a *workshop on exchange of experiences on laboratory accreditation* in the region.

This task was jointly accomplished with the Inter-American Accreditation Cooperation (IAAC) in collaboration with the PTB and the 4 day workshop programme was organized, in Guatemala City, on 12-15 May 2015, by the host organization, the Guatemala Accreditation Body (OGA).

Santiago de Chile meeting with the participation of professional societies, accreditation bodies and metrology institutes, 4-6 August, 2014



Workshop attendees: “Exchange of experiences about the interpretation of the ISO 15189”, 12-15 May 2015, Guatemala City, Guatemala

The following countries were represented by a team formed by representatives each from an accreditation body and a professional society: Argentina, Colombia, Costa Rica, Cuba, Chile, Ecuador, El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras, Jamaica, Mexico, Paraguay, Peru and Uruguay.

During this workshop, the requirements for achieving laboratory accreditation were discussed by representatives from most of the accreditation bodies of the region. In addition, assessors of ISO 15189 and laboratory professionals from professional societies were invited to speak about “the standard”. Issues related to management and technical requirements were also highlighted. The main idea was to learn and to listen to other accreditation entities, about their experiences and development of accreditation programs.

Problems and solutions, metrology issues, reference materials, and other aspects of the standard were discussed. For the 2015-2017 period, the need to continue working on harmonization of the interpre-

tation of the standard was emphasized. The training and strengthening of the assessor competence in applying the standard were highlighted as key aspects, which could also be extended to other relevant sectors of the clinical laboratory because the expert members of professional societies also collaborate with the accreditation bodies.

The speakers and facilitators came from Argentina, Chile, Mexico, Spain and Peru discussed how countries had achieved this. Mexico implemented the standard on a voluntary basis but recently, more laboratories have become interested in applying ISO 15189. Other countries, e.g., Argentina and Chile were the first to initiate the process; in the case of Argentina, laboratories have become motivated to work on adapting activities for compliance with the standard, but this process for is mostly in early days of implementation. Others are now moving forward, e.g. Uruguay, and few more, e.g. Ecuador, have government interest as well.

1st Congress of the Romanian Association of Laboratory Medicine



Sighișoara
20-23 May 2015

*Assoc. Prof. Dr. Ioana Brudașcă,
RALM president*



Opening ceremony. Speaker: Ioana Brudașcă, RALM president



IFCC president Prof. Maurizio Ferrari

Article continued on next page

The 1st Romanian Association of Laboratory Medicine (RALM) Congress was held on 20-23 May 2015 in Sighisoara. The congress was organized under the auspices of IFCC and EFLM and in collaboration with the Romanian Society of Microbiology, the Romanian Society of Hematology and the Universities of Medicine and Pharmacy in Târgu Mureș, Cluj Napoca, Iași, București.

The congress was the first event organized by RALM, the new unique national professional society which was formed in 2015 by the merger of the two former societies (the Romanian Association of Medical Laboratories and the Romanian Society of Laboratory Medicine).

The congress was attended by over 350 participants. IFCC representatives invited were IFCC President, Prof Maurizio Ferrari IFCC Past President, Dr Graham Beastall Other invited speakers from abroad were Dr Päivi Laitinen (HUSLAB Helsinki Finland), Prof. Vladimir Palicka (Charles University in Prague, Faculty of Medicine, Czech Republic) and Prof Janos Kappel-mayer (University of Debrecen, Hungary). Prof Ferrari, Dr Beastall and Dr Laitinen were supported by the Visiting Lecturers Programme of the IFCC. Many of the Romanian speakers are teachers from the medical faculties of Bucharest, Cluj Napoca, Târgu Mureș, Iași. As our association is very interested in motivating young laboratory professionals, many communications were presented by young colleagues, most of

them PhD fellows. Two awards were granted each, for the best poster and for professional activity, respectively.

The scientific programme covered a large area of themes in laboratory medicine (clinical chemistry, microbiology, hematology, genetics, molecular biology) presented in 46 posters, 43 oral communications and 35 plenary reports. Many of the presentations focused on quality assessment, standardization, traceability, technology, instrumentation and method evaluation, performance criteria of laboratory tests, laboratory errors and patient safety showing the interest of the participants in the improvement of our professional activity.

During the discussions that followed the presentations, the participants had the opportunity to share their experience and to identify solutions for the scientific or technical issues they are confronted to in their everyday practice.

Congress abstracts were published in a supplement of Romanian Review of Laboratory Medicine (RRML).

An important event at the congress opening session was the presentation of the 3rd edition of the book "Clinical Chemistry - practical implications" by Minodora Dobreanu (editor), published by University Press Târgu Mureș in 2015. The book is a comprehensive clinical chemistry textbook, very useful to

all medical laboratories professionals, as well as to clinical practitioners.

As our profession is in a permanent partnership with the clinical diagnostic industry, during the congress an exhibition of reagents, equipment, supplies, software, was organized by 19 companies. Eight workshops were organized by clinical diagnostic providers, and these were an excellent opportunity for the development and trans-



Poster session

fer of technical innovations to clinical laboratory professionals.

At the general assembly elections were organized for the new executive board of RALM, which includes the following positions:

- **President:** Associate Prof Dr Ioana Brudașcă
- **Vicepresidents:** - Prof. Dr Minodora Dobreanu
- Dr chem. Constanța Popa
- **Member:** Dr Adrian Man
- **Secretary:** Dr. Daniela Miricescu
- **Treasurer:** Biol. Ariadna Radulescu

➤ **The national representatives are:**

- Associate Professor Dr Ioana Brudasca,
NR for IFCC
- Dr. chem. Constanța Popa, *NR for EFLM*

The scientific quality and the diversity of the presentations, the excellent organization, the appealing social programme, as well as the unique charm of the historical city of Sighisoara (one of the most beautiful and well preserved inhabited citadels in Europe, listed by UNESCO as a World Heritage Site) fully contributed to the success of this scientific and professional event.



8th European Symposium of the Catalan Association for Clinical Laboratory Sciences

by Gloria Soria

Catalan Association of Clinical Laboratory Sciences



The VIII European Symposium of the Clinical Laboratory and *In vitro* Diagnostic Industry, co-organized by the Catalan Association for Clinical Laboratory Sciences and the Catalan Society for Biology, was held on 5-6th May 2015 in Barcelona, under the IFCC auspices and IUPAC sponsorship.

The subject of the Symposium was Point of Care Testing. The objective of this Symposium, which was to create a discussion forum to share experiences between the various professionals involved in Point of Care Testing and to promote the quality of results and the safety of patients, was achieved.

Twenty-three speakers from different European countries and more than 170 attendants gathered and exchanged their opinions. Simultaneous translation between Catalan, Spanish and English languages was available.

The opening conference, entitled “*How to cope with change*” introduced the topic from the point of view of the professionals, who need to face constant changes due to advances in technology.

The scientific program was structured in four two-hour debates, as an open discussion between experts and with the active participation of the audience. In the first roundtable, experiences in rapid diagnostic units were discussed. In the second, the role of clinical laboratory professionals in coordinating point of care tests was debated. The third discussion was about the implementation of strategies and tools to ensure quality and accreditation of these tests. Finally, with the help of the *in vitro* diagnostics industry and universities, the latest technological developments in this field and future trends were presented in the last debate.



The Spanish Society of Clinical Biochemistry and Molecular Pathology (SEQC) appoints its board of directors

The Spanish Society of Clinical Biochemistry and Molecular Pathology (SEQC) has named a new president, vice-president and one member at-large to the board of directors.

The new board now consists of:

- Dr Imma Caballé, **president**;
- Dr José Luis Marín, **vice- president**;
- Dr José Ángel Cocho, **treasurer**;
- Dr Josefina Mora, **secretary**;
- Dr Francisco, **director**
- A. Bernabéu, **director**
- Dr Ángeles Giménez, **director**
- Dr Patrocínio Chueca, **director**
- Dr Dolors Balsells, **director**
- Dr Anna Padrós, **director**

Dr Caballé, the incoming SEQC president for the next six years, replaces Dr Álvarez, who had occupied this position for the last eight years. Dr Caballé is the first woman to reach the presidency of the Society. Since 2007, Dr Caballé has served in various roles on previous boards, as a director and vice-president.

“One of the priority strategic goals of the SEQC’s board of directors is to promote professional recognition of the clinical laboratory and contribute to the training and scientific knowledge of our members. We will attempt this mainly through the strengthening of institutional relations with European scientific societies,” Dr Caballé explains.

Also, Dr Caballé points out that *“the goals set in terms of training and education of the members are very high, not only through international grants, which give the opportunity to work in a lab outside Spain,*



SEQC Executive Board Members

but also through residents grants, providing job experience in difficult times.”

The new board has as a priority to ensure that SEQC members are represented in international societies, such as the European Federation of Clinical Chemistry and Laboratory Medicine (EFLM) and the International Federation of Clinical Chemistry and Laboratory Medicine (IFCC). *“In fact, there are now 20 people*

from SEQC serving in working groups in international associations. We are working proactively on many issues of core subjects and specialities in Spain. Our aim is to standardize the training given to residents across countries,” says the new president.

In this new phase, SEQC will work to promote regulation of quality guarantee systems, as is already the case in the rest of Europe.



IFCC Website News

2015.07.13 - IFCC Annual Report 2014

The 2014 IFCC Annual Report is now available. All the activities performed in 2014 by IFCC at a glance.

[Read more](#)

SEQC

The Spanish Society of Clinical Biochemistry and Molecular Pathology (SEQC) promotes residents training

The Spanish Society of Clinical Biochemistry and Molecular Pathology (SEQC), through its board of directors, seeks to promote and provide a higher profile to clinical laboratory specialists. To this end, the Society will increase the number of grants and double the amount granted, this year to €96,000.

Dr Imma Caballé, SEQC’s president, explains that the Society is committed to residents, their future and their training. The SEQC... *“recognises how difficult it is to find a job once the residence has been completed and therefore we have decided to double the amount of grants and keep the residence period free of fees.”*

Dr Caballé adds that *“our goal is to facilitate and contribute to the improvement of continued training through diverse activities, including seminars, web-based lectures, pre-congress courses, Scientific Committee sessions, the publishing of monographs and documents with expert recommendations, etc.”*

Dr Dolores Balsells, a member of SEQC’s education committee and the secretary of the Fundación José Luis Castaño, emphasizes the need for constant training efforts to maintain professional competencies in the clinical lab speciality, since *“scientific advances in*

methodology and diagnostic proceedings, instrumental techniques, robotics or information systems require that specialists in this field update their knowledge constantly.”

In order to support resident and post-resident training in the different areas of clinical laboratory, SEQC –through Fundación José Luis Castaño– has launched this year **eight post-residence grants**, twice as many as in previous editions (financed equally by the Fundación and by SEQC).

Also, SEQC subsidizes five grants to cover **registration costs of all courses** and meetings organised by SEQC and this year is offering five **international grants** for stays in labs in foreign countries where there is a scientific society subsidiary of IFCC (International Federation of Clinical Chemistry and Laboratory Medicine).

Through these actions and through the creation of a Residents committee within the scientific committee, the board of directors wants to reflect its concern for the future of residents and post-residents *“since they will become the driving force of our Society a few years from now”* according to Dr Balsells.



The Syndicate of Clinical Pathologists in Lebanon (SDBL) Congress Summary Beirut, 16-18 April 2015

by *SDLB*

The Syndicate of Clinical Pathologists in Lebanon (SDBL) held its 6th congress and the 5th scientific journey of the Federation Internationale Francophone de Biologie Clinique et de Medecine de Laboratoire (FIFBCML) in Beirut, Lebanon on 16-18 April 2015, under the patronage of his Excellency, the Minister of Public Health, and in collaboration with the International Federation of Clinical Chemistry and Laboratory Medicine (IFCC), the Arab Federation of Clinical Biology (AFCB), the Lebanese Order of Physicians and the Lebanese Order of Pharmacists. The organizing committee was constituted of Dr. Christian Haddad, Dr. Myrna Germanos Haddad and Dr. Marc-Antoine Zablith.

The congress was attended by around 600 people from the USA, several European countries (Austria, Belgium, Bulgaria, France, Germany, Italy), and numerous Arab countries (Tunisia, Algeria, Egypt, Libya, Morocco, Palestine, Sudan, Syria). The congress was inaugurated by the President of the Syndicate, Dr.

In his opening speech, Dr. Haddad stressed the recent achievements of the syndicate aimed at adding value to the laboratory medicine profession in Lebanon such as the organization of an obligatory continuous medical education program as well as an accreditation program for private laboratories.

In addition to exhibition stands by companies working in laboratory medicine, the scientific programme of the congress was diverse and included workshops and lectures covering various topics in laboratory medicine:

- Quality control, quality assurance and statistics, the ISO 15189 and its application in Lebanon.
- Microbiology workshops surveyed antibiogram interpretation, antibiotic resistance, novel diagnostic techniques (MALDI-TOF), HIV and hepatitis B. A dedicated session additionally discussed the diagnosis, epidemiology and the increase in tuberculosis in Lebanon due to the Syrian conflict.
- Among the numerous sessions there was a focus on the role of molecular biology in diagnosis (as in prenatal screening). Additionally, the future of molecular biology in laboratory diagnosis was discussed.
- Besides several sessions about transfusion medicine and the restructuring of transfusion practices in Lebanon, haematology lectures covered a variety of blood disorders and flow cytometry and clinical cases.
- The congress also included the display of posters by young researchers encompassing various research project topics.



Dr Mohammed TOUIMI-BEN-JELLOUN, Dr Bernard GOUGET, IFCC,
Dr Christian HADDAD, President SDBL,
Dr Marc Antoine ZABLITH, President FIFBCML

Christian Haddad, in a ceremony attended by the Ambassadors of Belgium and France as well as several ministers and representatives of the health sectors in Lebanon.

Last but not least, the congress attendees were able to enjoy several social activities and excursions to touristic sites in Lebanon.



VII Annual Conference of the Lithuanian Society of Laboratory Medicine

"Role of laboratory medicine in chronic diseases management"
Vilnius, 17 April 2015

by LSLM

The Lithuanian Society of Laboratory Medicine is the main Lithuanian society which unites specialists in laboratory medicine – laboratory medicine physicians and medical biologists working in clinical laboratories as well as carrying out research at universities and institutes. Membership is also open to laboratory technicians and students for participation in the educational events and training. Currently, 250 specialists of laboratory medicine are full members of the Society.

The VII Annual Conference of the Lithuanian Society of Laboratory Medicine was held in Vilnius, Crowne Plaza Conference Centre on 17 April 2015 and was attended by more than 200 participants. It is expected that in Europe average life span will increase. One or more chronic diseases might burden the advancing age of many Europeans and the incidence of these diseases is climbing alarmingly. Average expenditure for health care is increasing rapidly at older age. Chronic disease costs could have a severe impact on health care system. This is why the shift from treatment to prevention and management of chronic diseases is needed. Today's laboratory medicine – automated, digitalized and accredited – plays a major role in accelerating this shift and providing innovative tools for chronic disease screening, early detection and management in order to extend healthy life years.

Six plenary presentations covered a wide range of topics related to the most prevalent and critical chronic diseases. The Conference started with Sten Westgard (USA), presenting *on the importance of knowing the state of analytical quality, choosing the right goals and right methods for quality control*. Next speaker Natalie Le Bastard (France) presented the newest data *on application of cerebrospinal fluid biomarkers for early diagnosis of Alzheimer disease*. Radvile Malickaite (Lithuania) reviewed *determination of immunity response to M. tuberculosis meas-*



Sten Westgard (USA)

ured by production of gamma interferon. Nicholas Mills (UK) highlighted *analytical and clinical issues of high sensitive cardiac troponin I testing in patients with suspected acute coronary syndrome*, especially of implementing gender specific normal ranges. Astra Vitkauskiene (Lithuania) shared experience of The Hospital of Lithuanian University of Health Sciences Kaunas Clinics in *laboratory diagnosis and management of cystic fibrosis*. The last presentation, given by Vytenis Kalibatas (Lithuania), summarized available tools provided by *laboratory medicine for prevention of chronic diseases*, helping to cope with challenges and opportunities in today's difficult socioeconomic environment.

Article continued on page 17

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:



Under the auspices of:



The Conference agenda also included IVD manufacturers session and exhibition of diagnostic companies. Laboratory specialists were provided with information about new products and solutions useful in the laboratory routine. At the same time, the Board of the Society in a separate meeting session presented summary of activities and financial situation of the year 2014. The main activities have been national recommendations and guidelines related to pre-analytical phase (patient preparation and sampling, sample storage and transportation, specimen preparation), postgraduate training of laboratory medicine specialists, promotion of laboratory technicians participation in Society activities and development of a dedicated website www.llmd.lt. Later on a Task Force for clinical microbiology was approved. The main goals of the Task Force are to initiate and coordinate clinical microbiology procedures and national documentation, to provide guidance on quality assurance and accreditation for clinical microbiology laboratories across the country, to cooperate with Lithuanian specialists of infectious diseases. Delegates of the meeting unanimously voted for the policies of the year 2015. Major tasks include preparation of recommendations on laboratory tests quality management, guidelines on selection of secondary laboratory and advisory services, external quality assurance and recommendations for authorities performing laboratory certifications. It was decided to continue evolving documents on post-

graduate training of laboratory medicine specialists. Tasks of a Working group on Paediatric Laboratory Medicine were approved.

A day before the Congress, on 16 April 2015, an exciting workshop took place in Crowne Plaza Vilnius. Over 60 laboratory managers and quality control specialists from Lithuanian and Latvian laboratories attended a workshop conducted by Sten Westgard, worldwide-recognized authority in quality management of laboratory medicine. The workshop covered two important topics. The first one titled "Six Sigma Design and Error Budgets" focused on six-sigma concept and how to choose right quality goals and to make metrics work for the laboratory. The second topic of the workshop "Introduction to Risk Analysis and Risk Management" was dedicated to risk management role in ensuring patient safety and different guidelines for risk analysis and quality control.

In the evening, there was the social event at Merchants' Club with an unforgettable concert given by famous Lithuanian opera singer Sigute Stonyte and pianist Jurgis Karnavicius.

The Board of Lithuanian Society of Laboratory Medicine would like to thank everyone who made this Conference such a success: the speakers for sharing their valuable insights and expertise, the chairs for keeping everything running in time and laboratory specialists for their active participation in this meeting.



15th EFLM Continuing Postgraduate Course in Clinical Chemistry and Laboratory Medicine

**How to assess the quality of your method?
24-25 October 2015, Zagreb (Croatia)**

*by Daria Pasalic,
CSMBLM national representative*

We invite you to the 15th EFLM Continuing Postgraduate Course in Clinical Chemistry and Laboratory Medicine (formerly known as the "Dubrovnik Course"), which will be held this year for the first time in Zagreb. This course is organized by EFLM in cooperation with the Croatian Society of Medical Biochemistry and Laboratory Medicine (CSMBLM) and

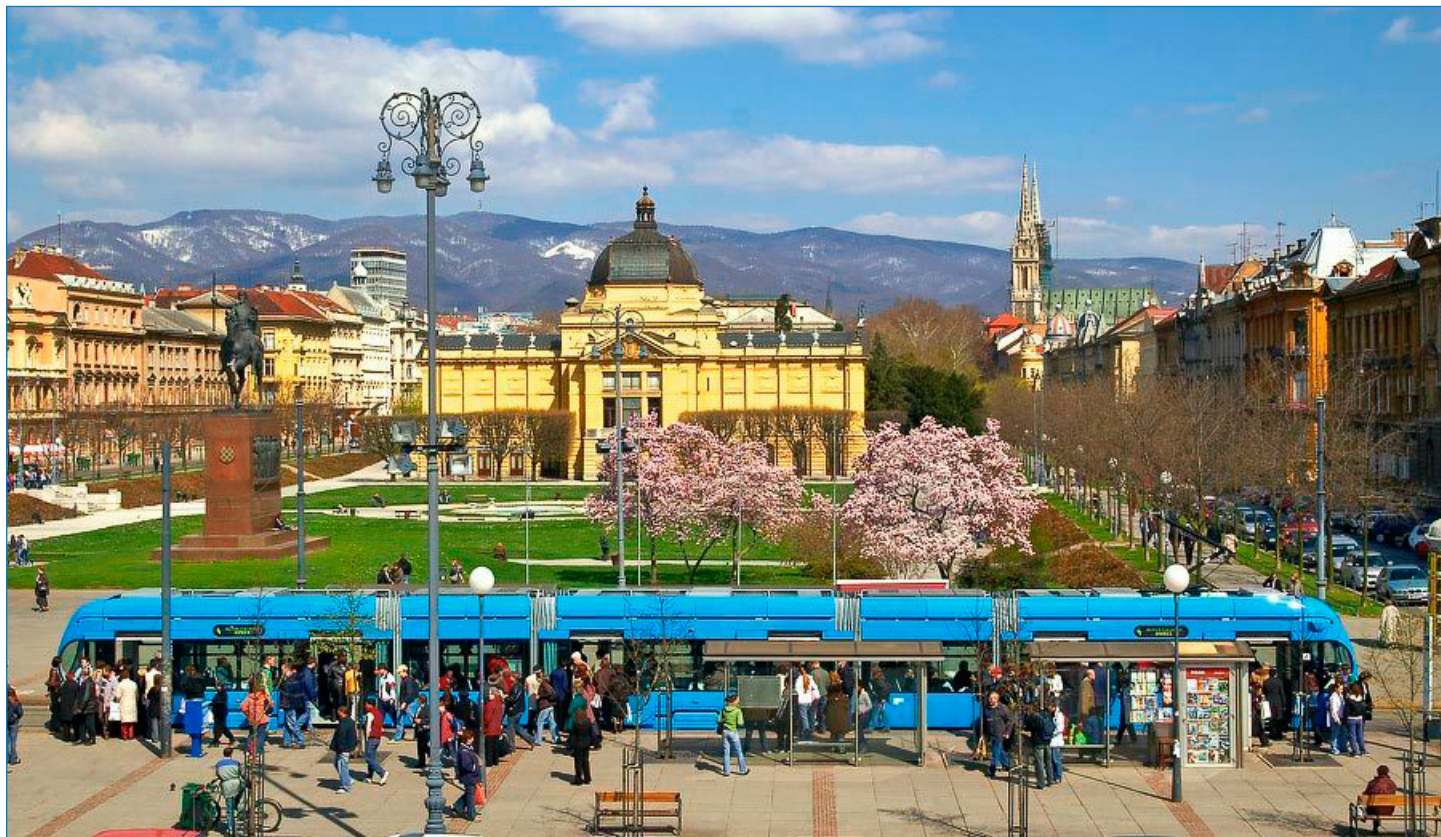
Slovenian Association of Clinical Chemistry and Laboratory Medicine (SACCLM). During the past 14 years, the Dubrovnik Course was established as one of advanced postgraduate courses within the programmes of the Interuniversity Centre Dubrovnik. We have decided to make it more accessible to participants and move it to various venues in Europe, e.g. Zagreb.

This year the Course is designed for those interested in analytical quality and quality management in general. Participants will be able to learn and improve their knowledge of method validation, biological variation, verification of reference intervals, measurement uncertainty, performance criteria, IQA and EQA, six sigma metrics, and many more! Course topics shall be presented by world experts.

For more information, please visit the course webpage: <http://www.eflm-course.org>.

We are looking forward to meet you soon, to hear about your experience and to share with you the knowledge of method quality.

Please join us at this interactive EFLM Course in Zagreb!



EFLM Bursary recipients at EuroMedLab

EFLM established a number of bursaries for young scientist to attend EuroMedLab in Paris, last June. The three of them who scored highest have been asked to attend the EFLM Symposia and to report their impressions.

Adding value to laboratory tests

Monday, 22 June 2015

By Simona Ferraro

Azienda Ospedaliera "Luigi Sacco"

Milano, Italy

In the first presentation, E. Ajzner discussed the strategy to increase the value of laboratory data by facilitating clinical decision making: the development of laboratory concept: from "Factory" to "Department of Medicine", where laboratory professionals are required to support physicians in the use of laboratory tests and data. The total testing process (TTP) approach claims that laboratory professionals are responsible also for extra-analytical phases of testing process. This implies that test ordering, communication and interpretation of test results have to be

Article continued on next page



Simona Ferraro and the EFLM President at the EFLM booth

managed by the laboratory professionals interfacing with clinicians. In order to improve this role a joint working group of EFLM and European Organisation for External Quality Assurance Providers in Laboratory Medicine (EQALM) on Postanalytical Phase – WG-POST – has been established. The presentation focused on some examples of how laboratory professionals can assist clinicians improve the utilisation of laboratory tests in the post-analytical phase. In particular the positive impact of the management of the results of common tests on clinical action was reported. This resulted in reducing the time to reach the correct diagnosis together with the costs of care. In order to show how errors in test selection may occur, an algorithm to evaluate patients with a prolonged activated partial thromboplastin time (PTT) and a normal prothrombin time was proposed. An additional challenging issue is the development of policies on how to define and manage critical results including exploiting the association between mortality risks and test results. The effectiveness of

introducing standardised algorithms consisting of clinical decision rules and laboratory tests as the one guiding the use of D-dimer testing in the diagnostic work-up of patients with suspected venous thromboembolism was discussed.

In the second presentation, P Vermeersch discussed the clinical relevance of using likelihood ratios (LR) instead of the traditional sensitivity (S) and specificity (SP) and predictive values (PV). S and SP do not account for the distribution of the test results and PV may be limited by the low pre-test probability (disease prevalence). LRs allow one to consider non-dichotomous information and are not influenced by prevalence. This discussion encourages clinical laboratories to provide LRs for test result intervals in order to improve clinical interpretation.

In the third intervention M Pazzagli reported the results of the survey by the joint Working Group of the EFLM and the European Society on Personalised Medicine (ESPT) on whether Laboratory Medicine is able to implement new diagnostic tools and expertise related to “Personalized Laboratory Medicine”. The results imply that Laboratory Medicine requires additional implementations as: new technological facilities in “omics”, training on the new methodologies, incorporation of new competencies in data interpretation and counselling; and improvement of collaboration between professionals of different disciplines.

The meeting explored new and exciting fields of our profession more related to the interaction with clinicians. I feel honoured to have had the opportunity to attend to such an interesting meeting.

Next generation performance criteria for laboratory tests

Tuesday 23 June 2015

by Juan Antonio Vilchez Aguilera
Santa Lucía University Hospital
Cartagena, Murcia (Spain)

The meeting was a success, attended by a crowd of attentive people. The title was the goal that the chair S. Sandberg and colleagues proposed to us in their fantastic lectures at Blue Amphitheatre. The aim was



Juan Antonio Vilchez Aguilera in front of his poster at Euromedlab

to focus on the ‘Consensus statement’ established during the 1st Strategic Conference of the European Federation of Clinical Chemistry and Laboratory Medicine held in 2014 in Milan (Italy). Speakers discussed the analytical performance specifications defined on the basis of three proposed models:

- 1. Performance specifications based on clinical outcomes:** the criteria are based on direct outcome studies, investigating the impact of analytical performance of the test on clinical outcomes, or on indirect outcome studies, investigating the impact of analytical performance of the test on clinical classifications or decisions and thereby on the probability of patient outcomes.
- 2. Performance specifications based on biological variation** that attempts to minimize the ratio of ‘analytical noise’ to the biological signal.
- 3. Performance specifications based on state of the art** that is related to the highest level of analytical performance technically achievable.

This hierarchy proposed should always be accompanied by a statement of the rationale, together with the source and the quality of the evidence behind the recommendation. The role of medical needs assessment and clinical pathways is also very important in the defining the analytical and clinical performance criteria for our laboratory tests.

The meeting presented strategies to establish performance criteria for laboratory tests. So I feel it was a perfect forum to understand which future strategies to implement in our laboratories, to increase the quality of our service. I am happy to have had the opportunity to attend to such a Symposium so important for the future of our profession.

Guidelines – a call for cooperation between laboratory and clinical societies
 Wednesday 24 June 2015
 by Svitlana Demyanets,
 Medical University of Vienna, Austria



Svitlana Demyanets

“Are the physicians of different specialities including laboratory specialists in the preparation of guidelines? What are the barriers to guideline compliance? Who is responsible for guidelines?”— with these and other intriguing questions Prof.

J. Barth from United Kingdom opened the EFLM Symposium on Wednesday, 24th of June in Blue Amphitheatre.

The topic was then illustrated by examples about the use of high-sensitive troponin T and BNP as markers of acute coronary syndrome and heart failure, respectively; Prof. P. Collinson (UK) reported the results of a number of surveys from 2006 to 2013 carried out by EFLM to determine how far these

guidelines have been adopted. Although there have been significant improvements in biomarker choice considerable confusion remains as to the appropriate decision limits.

Although some guidelines to the management of pre-analytical errors already exist such as the guidelines on phlebotomy, more extensive strategies to cover whole pre-analytical phase are warranted. This was the message of the talk by Prof. K. Grankvist from Sweden.

Finally, Prof. Langlois from Belgium impressively demonstrated how successful the cooperation between the laboratory specialists and clinicians could

be. His experience with the collaborative project between European Atherosclerosis Society and EFLM in dyslipidaemia laboratory testing clearly demonstrated the importance for close and fruitful cooperation between laboratory and clinical societies that would lead to improvement in quality management in patients' diagnostic and therapy.

Overall, the Symposium was very interesting ; the talks fully demonstrated that only a strict collaboration between clinical laboratories and clinicians is successful in overcoming the barriers for the guideline compliance. This is a goal EFLM is working hard and successfully on.



EFLM website has a NEW Homepage www.eflm.eu

*by Maria Stella Graziani
Chair of the EFLM Communication Committee*



The EFLM Communication Committee is happy to announce that for a more user friendly view and access to the EFLM website contents, a new homepage has been released.

It can be reached from both the current domain: www.efcclm.eu; and a **new one**: www.eflm.eu (easier to remember!) We invite you to bookmark the new address www.eflm.eu on your PC (the previous domain will remain available only for a short time).

In addition to the page dedicated to the news from the Federation, two new pages : **“News from National Societies”** and **“News from Companies”** have been created. We invite all EFLM Society Members and EFLM Corporate Partners to send to the EFLM office, the news that they may wish to diffuse to a wide and highly professional audience.

We encourage all of you to report to the EFLM office any problem you may encounter during your visits, so that we can try to fix them rapidly. We hope you may appreciate the initiative. Have a nice web-navigation!

IFCC-PROFESSIONAL SCIENTIFIC EXCHANGE PROGRAMME (PSEP)



My experience at the New York Fertility Services Clinic

by Zineb Meski
Spain

I was treated as a member of the staff. I learned a lot from the laboratory and the clinical point of view. I became familiar with the following methods.

- 1. Semen analysis:** It is the first and most common laboratory test used for the evaluation of the potentially infertile male patient
- 2. Semen preparation:** This procedure is designed to remove seminal fluid, round cells, cellular debris and immotile sperm.
- 3. IVF:** With this procedure oocytes and sperm are united extracorporally and the resultant zygotes are cultured to a stage appropriate for transfer or cryopreservation.
- 4. Intra-cytoplasmic sperm injection (ICSI):** With this procedure a single sperm is selected and injected into the cytoplasm of the oocyte. The resultant zygotes are cultured to a stage appropriate for transfer or cryopreservation.
- 5. Oocyte cryopreservation:** This procedure can be used in order to postpone fertility for a variety of social and medical reasons as well as for egg donation.
- 6. Embryo transfers:** Based on the American Society for Reproductive Medicine (ASRM) and Society for Assisted Reproductive Technology (SART) data available for 2010, ASRM's guidelines for the number of embryos to be transferred in IVF cycles were revised in an effort to reduce the number of high-order multiple pregnancies (three or more embryos implanted). Multiple gestations lead to an increased risk of complications in both fetuses and mothers.

I also attended several courses and Grand Rounds lectures, most of them organized by the Center of Human Reproduction (CHR).

I was very impressed by the services that New York fertility Services offered and their achievements and I was fortunate to be selected by Dr Batzofin, to do my externship with their program. Thanks to NYFS's great team I was provided with full assistance to make everything easier for me, thanks to the wonderful Dr Scodras and to Dr Batzofin, who were always available for teaching. I was very lucky to be part of a highly qualified, open minded and welcoming team. I learned a lot and I will always be grateful for the knowledge and the new friendships I gained.

I would like to thank the NYFS team: Colleen Ryan, Teresa Randolph, Suzette Salmon, Tiana Belasco, Amy Gallarza, Kristina Salvati-Block, Dr John Scodras and Dr Joel Batzofin.



Article continued on next page

I would also like to thank the Spanish Society of Clinical Biochemistry “SECQ” (Sociedad Española de Bioquímica Clínica y Patología Molecular) for their help and support, as well as Prof. Maurizio Ferrari, President of the IFCC (International Federa-

tion of Clinical Chemistry and Laboratory Medicine) and the PSEP (Professional Management Exchange Programme) panel for giving me the opportunity of having one of the best experiences of my life at the NYFS Clinic.



IFCC Website News

2015.07.26 - Malawi, a new IFCC member

IFCC is glad to welcome Malawi, its 90th Member. The Malawi Association of Medical Laboratory Scientists (MAMLS) was formed in 1998 to serve as an umbrella body with a mission to promote and safeguard the interests of medical laboratory science in Malawi.

[Read more](#)



IFCC Website News

2015.07.10 - Introducing the IFCC eAcademy

The IFCC is delighted to launch the eAcademy, its major educational project. The eAcademy is an open educational resource containing distance learning material created and/or reviewed by IFCC experts for the continuous professional development of members of the IFCC worldwide community.

[Read more](#)



IFCC Website News

2015.07.03 - Dr Graham Jones awarded the 2015 Barry Inglis Medal

The North American Federation of Clinical Chemistry and Laboratory Medicine (NAFCC), formed in December of 2014, represents the American Association for Clinical Chemistry (AACC) and the Canadian Society of Clinical Chemists (CSCC), both member societies of the IFCC. The NAFCC was recognized by the IFCC in February of 2015.

[Read more](#)



IFCC Website News

2015.06.25 - EuroMedLab in Paris has closed

The 21st IFCC EuroMedLab Congress in Paris has now closed. Congratulations to the congress organising committee for bringing together over 4200 registrants and 9600 visitors from the Laboratory Medicine community, representing 106 countries around the world.

[Read more](#)



e-News



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

2015 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, August, October, December)

IFCC Corporate members receive a 25% discount on the above listed prices

How to advertise with us on our IFCC eNews

1. Email us at: enews@ifcc.org to let us know you would like to advertise.
2. Once you have your advert ready please email us the image (get help from our useful tips listed below)
3. Payment must be done before your advert appears in the newsletter, by paying the invoice we will email to you.

Useful tips when making your advert

1. Make sure you have all your contact details on the advert including website, email and telephone number
2. Create the advert using high quality image software programme
3. Supply the advert as a jpg or PDF file in high resolution
4. Size the advert correctly. Available sizes in height x width (mm):
 - ▶ full page = 215,9 x 279,4 mm
 - ▶ half page (horizontal) = 215,9 x 139,7 mm
 - ▶ half page (column) = 107,95 x 279,4 mm
5. All advertising copy/images and payment must be submitted by the following deadlines to ensure inclusion in the newsletter:

N° 1	Jan 22 nd	N° 2	Mar 26 th	N° 3	May 21 st
N° 4	Jul 16 th	N° 5	Sep 24 th	N° 6	Nov 20 th
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

Join us online

Visit our website
www.ifcc.org

Join us on
Facebook 

Follow us
on Twitter 

Join us on
LinkedIn 

IFCC's Calendar of Congresses, Conferences & Events

Calendar of IFCC Congresses/Conferences and Regional Federations' Congresses

Sep 2 - 3, 2015		<i>Turning Science into Caring - 8th Annual Asia Pacific & Japan Scientific Symposium</i>	Bangkok, TH
Sep 24 - 26, 2015		<i>COLABIOCLI 2015 - XXII Congreso Latinoamericano de Bioquímica Clínica</i>	Quito, EC
Dec 4 - 6, 2015		<i>ArabMedLab 2015 - 14th Arab Congress of Clinical Biology (AFCB)</i>	Khartoum, SD
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
Oct 22 - 25, 2017		<i>XXIII IFCC WorldLab 2017</i>	Durban, ZA
May 24 - 28, 2020		<i>XXIV IFCC WorldLab 2020 Seoul</i>	Seoul, KR

Calendar continued on next page

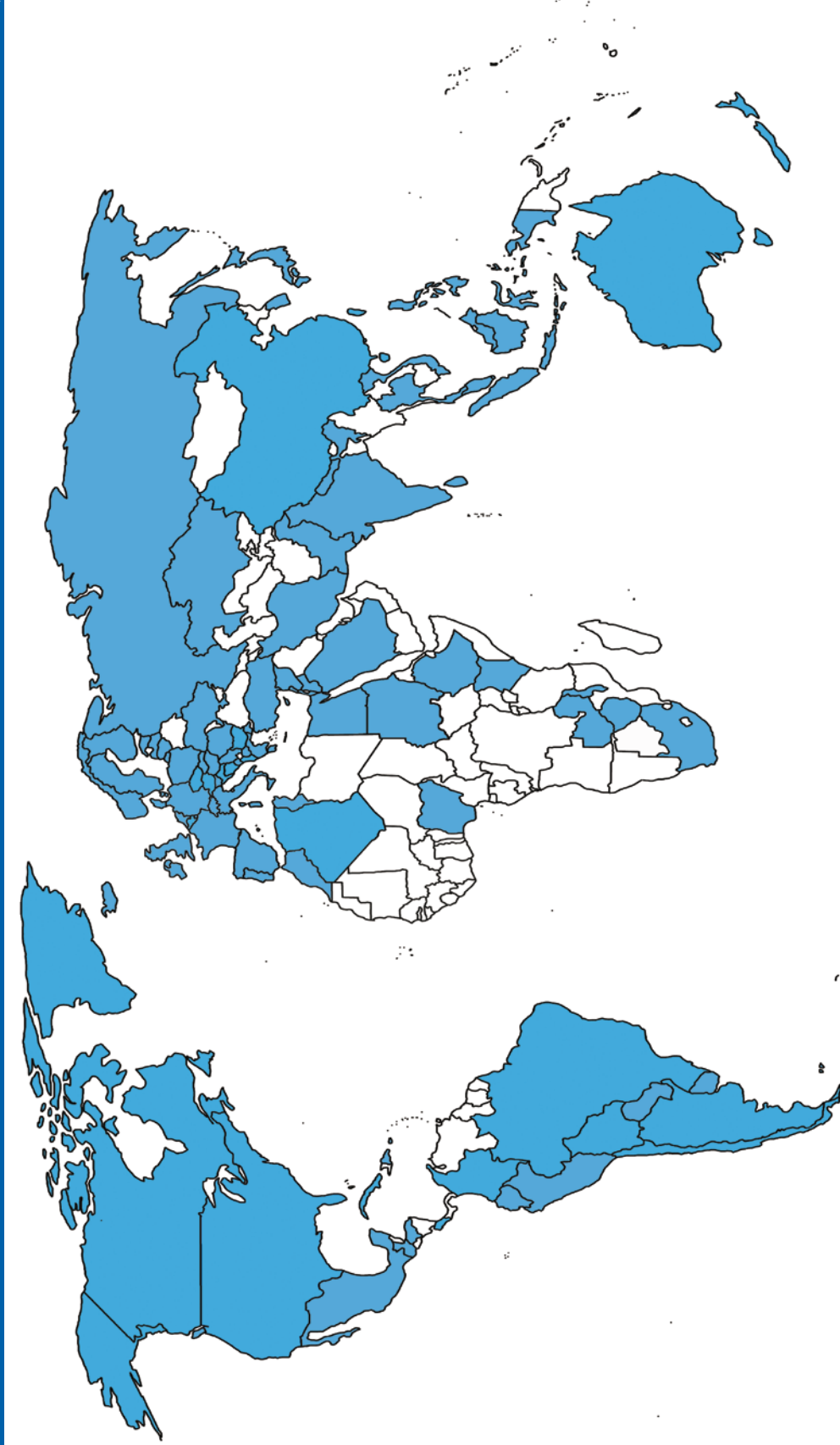
Calendar of events with IFCC auspices

Aug 21 - 23, 2015	<i>Biochemical and Molecular Basis of Multifactorial Diseases</i>	Moron, AR
Aug 29, 2015	<i>High Quality Control Training Course</i>	Mexico City, MX
Aug 31 - Sept 2, 2015	<i>1st International Conference on Natural Products for Cancer Prevention and Therapy</i>	Istanbul, TR
Sep 1 - 3, 2015	<i>6th International Conference and Exhibition on Analytical & Bioanalytical Techniques</i>	Valencia, ES
Sep 15 - 17, 2015	<i>AACB 53rd Annual Scientific Conference - Clinical Chemistry and Endocrinology - Partnerships in Testing</i>	Sydney, AU
Sep 22 - 26, 2015	<i>8th Congress of the Croatian Society of Medical Biochemistry and Laboratory Medicine</i>	Rijeka, HR
Sep 26 - 27, 2015	<i>High Quality Control Training Course</i>	Leon, MX
Oct 7 - 9, 2015	<i>23rd Meeting of the Balkan Laboratory Federation</i>	Sarajevo, BA
Oct 7 - 9, 2015	<i>3rd ESPT Conference "Integration of Pharmacogenomics in Clinical Decision Support"</i>	Budapest, HU
Oct 7 - 9, 2015	<i>IX National Congress of Clinical Laboratory</i>	Madrid, SP
Oct 7 - 10, 2015	<i>XIII Congreso Nacional Bioquímico (CUBRA)</i>	Catamarca, AR
Oct 9 - 12, 2015	<i>Congreso Internacional del Colegio Nacional de Bacteriología</i>	Bogotá, CO
Oct 14 - 17, 2015	<i>12th Annual Congress of Deutsche Vereinte Gesellschaft für Klinische Chemie und Laboratoriumsmedizin e. V.</i>	Leipzig, DE
Oct 22, 2015	<i>International Conference on Laboratory Medicine: "Risk Factors and Personalized Medicine"</i>	Padova, IT
Oct 24 - 25, 2015	<i>15th EFLM Continuing Postgraduate Course in Clinical Chemistry and Laboratory Medicine</i>	Zagreb, HR
Oct 24 - 25, 2015	<i>High Quality Control Training Course</i>	Guanajuato, MX
Nov 3 - 6, 2015	<i>XXVII National Biochemistry Congress</i>	Antalya, TR
Nov 14 - 15, 2015	<i>High Quality Control Training Course</i>	Mexico City, MX
Nov 16 - 17, 2015	<i>IFCC POCT International Symposium</i>	Cancun, MX
Nov 18 - 21, 2015	<i>XXVIII World Congress of the World Association of Societies of Pathology and Laboratory Medicine (WASPALM)</i>	Cancun, MX
Nov 27, 2015	<i>9th International Scientific Meeting "Structuring EQAS for Meeting Metrological Criteria: ready for prime time"</i>	Milano, IT
Mar 9 - 11, 2016	<i>IX National Congress of Clinical Pathology, CONAPAC 2016</i>	Havana, CU
May 12 - 14, 2016	<i>XIII Baltic Congress of Laboratory Medicine</i>	Tartu, EE
Sept 21 - 24, 2016	<i>4th Joint EFLM-UEMS Congress "Laboratory Medicine at the Clinical Interface"</i>	Warsaw, PL
Oct 20 - 22, 2017	<i>XIVth International Congress of Pediatric Laboratory Medicine</i>	Durban, ZA

IFCC Members

Full Members

Albania (AL)	Korea (KR)
Algeria (DZ)	Latvia (LV)
Argentina (AR)	Lebanon (LB)
Australia and New Zealand (AU/NZ)	Lithuania (LT)
Austria (AT)	Luxembourg (LU)
Belgium (BE)	Macedonia (MK)
Bolivia (BO)	Malawi (MW)
Bosnia Herzegovina (BA)	Malaysia (MY)
Brazil (BR)	Mexico (MX)
Bulgaria (BG)	Montenegro (MNE)
Canada (CA)	Morocco (MA)
Chile (CL)	Netherlands (NL)
China (Beijing) (CN)	Nepal (NP)
China (Taipei) (TW)	Nigeria (NG)
Colombia (CO)	Norway (NO)
Costa Rica (CR)	Pakistan (PK)
Croatia (HR)	Paraguay (PY)
Cuba (CU)	Peru (PE)
Cyprus (CY)	Philippine (PH)
Czech Republic (CZ)	Poland (PL)
Denmark (DK)	Portugal (PT)
Dominican Republic (DO)	Romania (RO)
Ecuador (EC)	Russia (RU)
Egypt (EG)	Saudi Arabia
Estonia (EE)	Serbia (SRB)
Ethiopia (ET)	Singapore (SG)
Finland (FI)	Slovak Republic (SK)
France (FR)	Slovenia (SI)
Germany (DE)	South African (ZA)
Greece (GR)	Spain (ES)
Guatemala (GT)	Sri Lanka (LK)
Honduras (HN)	Sudan (SD)
Hong Kong (HK)	Sweden (SE)
Hungary (HU)	Switzerland (CH)
Iceland (IS)	Syrian Arab Republic (SY)
India (IN)	Thailand (TH)
Indonesia (ID)	Tunisia (TN)
Iran (IR)	Turkey (TR)
Ireland (IE)	Ukraine (UA)
Israel (IL)	United Kingdom (UK)
Italy (IT)	United States (US)
Japan (JP)	Uruguay (UY)
Jordan (JO)	Vietnam (VN)
Kazakhstan (KZ)	Zambia (ZM)
Kenya (KE)	Zimbabwe (ZW)



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)

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
Mexico: Federación Nacional de Químicos Clínicos (CONAQUIC A.C.)
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)

Publisher

Communications and Publications

Division (CPD) of the IFCC

Copyright © 2015 IFCC. All rights reserved.

Editor

Tahir Pillay, MB ChB, PhD, FRCPath (Lon), FCPATH (SA)

Department of Chemical Pathology

University of Pretoria, South Africa

E-mail: enews@ifcc.org

Design & Production:



www.insoftdigital.com

Circulation

The eNews is distributed to all IFCC members registered on-line to receive it and to all IFCC sponsors.

Deadlines for Submissions to the eNews

The Communications and Publications Division (CPD) of the IFCC publishes six editions of the e-News per year.

January-February Edition

- submission deadline: [January 22](#)

March-April Edition

- submission deadline: [March 26](#)

May-June Edition

- submission deadline: [May 21](#)

July-August Edition

- submission deadline: [July 16](#)

September-October Edition

- submission deadline: [September 24](#)

November-December Edition

- submission deadline: [November 20](#)

If you want to submit an article or advertisement to be published in the eNews, send it to:

Tahir Pillay, Editor, IFCC eNews

E-mail: enews@ifcc.org

Contents may not be reproduced without the prior permission of the Communications and Publications Division (CPD) of the IFCC.