



Communications and Publications Division (CPD) of the IFCC

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International Federation of Clinical Chemistry and Laboratory Medicine





## In this issue

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### EDITORIAL

- ▶ Message from the eNews Editor 4

### THE VOICE OF IFCC

- ▶ IFCC President's Message – July/August 2022 5
- ▶ 11st Beginners' Course in Molecular Diagnostics (C-CMBC /IFCC) 6
- ▶ IFCC Task Force on Outcome Studies in Laboratory Medicine (TF-OSLM): call for Study Proposals 7

### IFCC CELEBRATES 70 YEARS

- ▶ Interview with Prof. Dr. Tahir Pillay, Chair of the IFCC Communications and Publications Division (CPD) 10

### IFCC: THE YOUNG SCIENTISTS

- ▶ News from the first IFCC–Young Scientists Forum 14
- ▶ First WorldLab YS Forum: sessions and topics 18
- ▶ Young Scientists Forum: opinions from the delegates 21
- ▶ Seoul WorldLab 2022 and YS Forum: participation of Young Scientist from the African Federation of Clinical Chemistry and Laboratory Medicine (AFCC) 27

## ❑ **CONTRIBUTE TO IFCC eNews**

- ▶ **Closer to achieving Zero AIDS:  
a Croydon University Hospital best practice** **31**
- ▶ **Improving heart failure care using electronic medical record analytics  
to personalize care: a leading best practice from Prisma Health** **34**
- ▶ **Innovative process improvement strategies  
enable timely care provision during a global pandemic  
with staffing shortages for Banner Health** **36**

## ❑ **NEWS FROM REGIONAL FEDERATIONS AND MEMBER SOCIETIES**

- ▶ **Great success for the 3rd EFLM Strategic Conference!** **40**
- ▶ **News from the Japan Society of Clinical Chemistry (JSCC):  
the 2021 JSCC Article Award** **45**
- ▶ **New board of directors of the Peruvian Medical Association  
of Clinical Pathology for 2022-2024** **47**

## ❑ **IFCC'S CALENDAR OF CONGRESSES, CONFERENCES & EVENTS**

- ▶ **Calendar of IFCC Congresses/Conferences  
and Regional Federations' Congresses** **51**
- ▶ **Other events with IFCC auspices** **53**

## EDITORIAL

### Message from the eNews Editor

*by Katherina Psarra*  
eNews Editor

Dear colleagues,

A vibrant colorful issue of the eNews has been prepared for you, full of energy, youthful, full of the future of the profession.

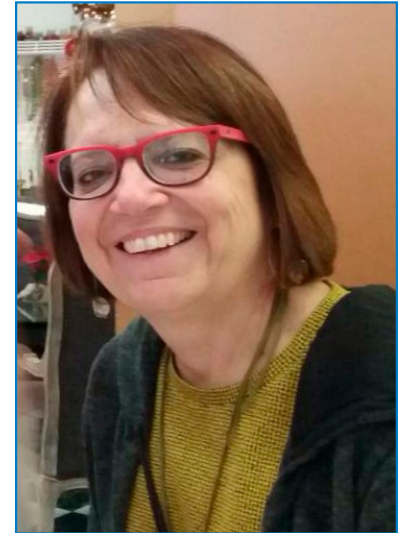
The reports by young colleagues from all over the world are so enthusiastic and thankful! Promises to use the newly acquired knowledge and the new acquaintances caress our ears. We feel relaxed and confident for the future. IFCC guarantees the continuity of Laboratory Medicine all over the world.

The WorldLab in Seoul was a big success. Everybody returned full of excitement, of memories, of new knowledge. Our President in his message is confirming the success and is inviting all IFCC officers and the representatives of the national societies to the General Conference next fall.

In the meantime, enjoy your time off ahead and go through the eNews, to read one more interview by Prof. Tahir Pillay to celebrate 70 years of IFCC, or the enthusiastic report on the EFLM strategic conference by EFLM president Prof. Tomris Ozben. You will find interesting and inspiring the reports from the Univants winners about their successful team work.

With my best wishes for a great break ahead (including until the eNews returns in September)!

*Katherina Psarra*



Katherina Psarra, MSc, PhD



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## THE VOICE OF IFCC

### IFCC President's Message – July/August 2022

*by Khosrow Adeli*  
IFCC President



Prof. Khosrow Adeli  
PhD, FCACB, DABCC, FAACC

Greetings to you all in the IFCC family! I hope that everyone is having an enjoyable summer season.

It was wonderful to see so many of you at the **WorldLab 2022** in June, which was hosted by the Korean Society of Clinical Chemistry and jointly held by IFCC and the Asia-Pacific Federation of Clinical Biochemistry (APFCB). More than 3,000 attendees, visitors, and exhibitors from countries around the world were able to participate, despite multiple challenges with the ongoing pandemic and obtaining visas to travel to South Korea. As promised, the conference organizing committee delivered excellent scientific and social programs. This included the President and Speaker's dinner, held just outside the lively city of Seoul, during which 10 awards were presented in an IFCC Award Ceremony. I would like to express my sincere thanks to Professor Won-Ki Min, Professor Jehoon Lee, Professor Junghan Song and Professor Sail Chun of the Korean Society of Clinical Chemistry (KSCC) as well as Professor Endang Hoyaranda and the APFCB Executive Board for supporting this successful scientific event.

Leading up to the WorldLab 2022, IFCC held its first-ever **Young Scientists Forum**. A total of 40 scholarships were provided to trainees in developing countries to attend this forum and the WorldLab meeting. Excellent presentations were delivered by young scientists from around the globe, including Africa, Asia, the Middle East, Europe and Latin America. Given the success of this forum, IFCC plans to make this an annual event, providing opportunities for new young scientists to take part each year. A big thank you is owed to the Taskforce on Young Scientists (TF-YS), Professor Tomris Ozben as well as Silvia Colli-Lanzi and Smeralda Skenderaj of the IFCC Office for organizing and managing this important event where young scientists can present and discuss their activities in laboratory medicine and build on career skills.

Now that the WorldLab 2022 has wrapped up, our next event is the **2022 IFCC General Conference**, which will be held in Brussels, Belgium, from **October 25-30, 2022**. All IFCC Officers, including Members of Committees and Taskforces, as well as Presidents of National Societies and Regional Federations, have been invited and encouraged to attend. If you are planning to attend but have not yet confirmed, please email the IFCC Office as soon as possible before the mid-July deadline. Of note, the IFCC Office will be closed from Friday, August 5th until Monday, August 15th (both inclusive).

Wishing everyone in the IFCC community a wonderful summer holiday! As always, feel free to email me at [president@ifcc.org](mailto:president@ifcc.org) with your feedback, questions, or concerns.

Cheers, Khosrow 😊

# 11st Beginners' Course in Molecular Diagnostics (C-CMBC /IFCC), Niğde, Turkey



The C-CMBC of the International Federation for Clinical Chemistry and Laboratory Medicine (IFCC) in collaboration with the **Turkish Biochemical Society (TBS)** and Faculty of Medicine, Niğde Halisdemir University will run a course for Beginners in Molecular Diagnostics in the basic techniques and procedures of designing, setting-up, performing and validating of molecular tests, their application in health care and quality assessments, between **4-10 September 2022**.

The course comprises lectures, lab work and seminars; participation is limited to 30 participants.

For more information please visit: <http://moldiagnosticscourse2022.com>.

Applicants should contact the course co-ordinator,  
Aylin Sepici Dinçel MD, PhD email: [asepicidincel@gmail.com](mailto:asepicidincel@gmail.com).



# IFCC Task Force on Outcome Studies in Laboratory Medicine (TF-OSLM)

Research Funding Available



## CALL FOR STUDY PROPOSALS

IFCC's Task Force on Outcome Studies in Laboratory Medicine (TF-OSLM) is seeking research proposals for studies evaluating the **impact of laboratory testing on health outcomes**.

### Strategic Objectives

1. To promote directed research evaluating the role of laboratory medicine on clinical outcomes.
2. To build awareness and understanding with regards to the critical role of laboratory medicine plays in healthcare outcomes.

### Timeline

Release date: July 1, 2022

Application deadline: September 1, 2022 @ 11:59 PM EST

Award notification: October 15, 2022

[Click here to access application information.](#)

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**Sten Westgard**  
Westgard QC, Inc.



**Prof. Khosrow Adeli**  
President, IFCC



**Jim Nichols Ph.D.,**  
DABCC, FAACC

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## IFCC CELEBRATES 70 YEARS

### Interview with Prof. Dr. Tahir Pillay, Chair of the IFCC Communications and Publications Division (CPD)



Prof. Tahir Pillay

*Interviewer: Dr. BQF Maria del Carmen Pasquel  
Member, CPR and WG-IANT/RIA/CPD-IFCC*

**With the following interview, we present the third interview delineating the many outstanding achievements of the IFCC over the past decades, the enormous achievements, the many important milestones that have been accomplished contributing to the IFCC's mission of "Advancing excellence in laboratory medicine for better healthcare worldwide"**

*Interviewee: Prof. Tahir Pillay, MBChB, PhD, FRCPath(Lon), FCPATH(SA)*

Prof. Tahir Pillay, MBChB, PhD, FRCPath(Lon), FCPATH(SA) is Chief Specialist, Professor and Head of Pathology and the Department of Chemical Pathology, University of Pretoria and the National Health Laboratory Service, South Africa and Director of the Division of Clinical Pathology and Clinical Pathology training programme and Honorary Professor of Chemical Pathology, University of Cape Town. He was also previously head of Chemical Pathology at the University of Cape Town and Deputy Vice Chancellor at the University of KwaZulu-Natal; Deputy Director, Institute of Cell Signalling, University of Nottingham, UK. He is President of the South African Association for Clinical Biochemistry and Laboratory Medicine and elected member of the Academy of Science, South Africa.

He is also Editor-in-Chief of the London-based BMJ group journal, *Journal of Clinical Pathology*. He heads the Communications and Publication Division(CPD) of the International Federation of Clinical Chemistry and Laboratory medicine (IFCC), the first person from the African continent to lead a division of the IFCC since inception in 1952; he is a member the International Committee of the Royal College of



Dr. Maria del Carmen  
Pasquel

*Article continued on next page*

Pathologists, London and country advisor to the Royal College of Pathologists; He has served on the Publications Core Committee of the American Association of Clinical Chemistry, the only member of an AACC committee from outside North America. Nationally, he has recently served as Ministerial appointee to the Health Professions Council of South Africa Medical and Dental Board (MDB); Council member of the College of Pathologists, SA and Senate member of the Colleges of Medicine, SA; member of the Postgraduate Education and Training committee, HPCSA MDB; chair of the Curriculum Committee and Standard Generating Body of the HPCSA-MDB; member of the Clinical Chemistry Expert committee, National Health Laboratory Service. He also serves on the editorial board of *Clinica Chimica Acta*, the official journal of the IFCC.

In South Africa, he has spearheaded the application of state-of-art digital technology in textbook publishing with the release of two acclaimed “4-dimensional” digital textbooks in laboratory medicine that have been published in 51 countries; *“Practical Clinical Chemistry: core concepts”* and *“Interactive Mathematics for Laboratory Medicine”*.

Prof. Pillay graduated MBChB cum laude from the University of Natal in the 1980s. He obtained a PhD in biochemistry from the University of Cambridge and completed his postgraduate specialist training at Hammersmith Hospital, Imperial College, London and postdoctoral training at the University of California San Diego. He is a Fellow of the Royal College of Pathologists and the College of Pathologists, South Africa. He has been the recipient of numerous awards, including the Juvenile Diabetes International Fellowship, the American Foundation of Clinical Research outstanding postdoctoral award, the Wellcome Trust Senior Clinical Fellowship, Professors Prize from the Association for Clinical Biochemistry, UK and the Senior Researcher award from the South African Association for Clinical Biochemistry. Prof. Pillay’s research and extensive publications span the area of the molecular cell biology of insulin signalling, the cell biology of insulin resistance, molecular modelling of ligand-receptor complexes and he is pioneering the use of single domain antibodies (“nanobodies”) in point-of-care testing.

*Dear Dr. Tahir Pillay, IFCC is celebrating 70 years of its foundation, you are the Chair of one of its Divisions, the Publications and Communications Division, we want to know about your experience in this great Federation, so we ask you to answer these three questions.*

**1. How have you seen the communication between IFCC and its associate members improve in recent years?**

The increasing availability of technology and new platforms for communication, particularly spurred on by the Covid pandemic has meant that there is now more communication taking place, than ever before. Also, more and more people are using social media platforms. In the IFCC, the CPD has strived to use two main channels for communication, i.e. the newsletter and the electronic journal of the IFCC, supplemented by regular short newflashes and twitter feeds. I was previously editor of the eNews and I implemented a number of changes in the format and delivery of the eNews. The eNews and eNewsflash have been the major forms of communication to inform IFCC members of current events

and developments. Under my tenure, the eNews expanded considerably in format and content. The CPD has also overhauled the format and delivery of the eJournal and also enhanced its prestige with obtaining a PubMed listing and applying for an “impact factor”.

**2. CPD is an important link between IFCC and the scientific community of laboratory medicine. How could all the great work that IFCC is currently doing be made known more widely?**

As indicated above, we need to use the social media platforms more efficiently. There is definitely scope to improve communications by making more use of Twitter and Facebook, for example as well as TikTok. We need to encourage national representatives to disseminate news to national members more effectively. We have also suggested to national representatives that they use available social media platforms to redistribute news items within member countries.



Dr. Tahir Pillay presenting the CPD report at the EuroMedLab, Munich - April 10, 2022

In the forthcoming months, the CPD will also launch a brand new initiative using podcasts for news and article delivery. We are aware that nowadays many of us do not have the time to read newsletters or journals and podcasts are a very useful mode of delivery in this frenetic era that we live in. We believe that audio distribution will be an efficient way to make the work of the IFCC more accessible and known more widely. I would therefore like to encourage members to support this when it is launched.

### 3. What message do you send to the laboratory professionals who belong to the great IFCC family?

Your work is vital to health care and we need to inform and educate the general public and governments about it. Join us in your respective member countries in celebrating the global role of medical laboratory professions in healthcare by celebrating IFCC Global Lab Med week (celebrated this year on April 18-24, 2022). This will be an annual event, so there is another opportunity to celebrate and to contribute to this. This worldwide campaign was coordinated by the Committee for Public relations (CPR), which is part of the CPD.

I would like to encourage laboratory professionals from diverse stakeholders (laboratory scientists, pathologists, regulators, health authorities, commercial companies and commercial sector laboratories and government agencies etc) to strongly support their national member societies and corporate members and to be advocates for the profession across the social spectrum. I would also like to encourage laboratory professionals to support the work of the Communications and Publications Division (CPD) by contributing and subscribing to the eNews and eJournal. The CPD has made great strides with the eJournal in recent years with the achievement of PubMed listing and we are now awaiting the impact factor assignment by Clarivate. The CPD also plans to increase the number of issues to bi-monthly. Laboratory professionals should also keep an eye for the forthcoming podcast initiative.

*Thank you very much for your important answers, Prof. Tahir Pillay, we appreciate all the work that CPD does to showcase the activities of the IFCC!*

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## News from the IFCC Website

### Candidates for IFCC President-elect position



The IFCC Nominations Committee has approved three valid nominations for the position of IFCC President-Elect.

The nominees may now be regarded as candidates for the role.

The candidates (in alphabetical surname order) are:

**Professor Michael Neumaier** - German Society for Clinical Chemistry and Laboratory Medicine (DGKL);

**Professor Tomris Ozben** - Turkish Biochemical Society (TBS);

**Professor Tahir Pillay** - South African Association for Clinical Biochemistry and Laboratory Medicine (SAACB).

[Read more](#)

## IFCC: THE YOUNG SCIENTISTS

### News from the first IFCC–Young Scientists Forum



*by Tomris Ozben  
IFCC TF-YS, FORUM Consultant  
Santiago Fares Taie  
IFCC TF-YS, Chair*

**IFCC - YS FORUM**  
Complimentary event  
*"Post-pandemic situation and Current Trends in Lab Medicine-  
Meeting the Future"*  
South Korea, Seoul - June 25th to 26th, 2022

The IFCC Young Scientists FORUM was held successfully from June 25th to 26th, 2022 just ahead of and in conjunction with the WorldLab Congress in Seoul, South Korea. The IFCC Young Scientists FORUM was planned to be held in 2020, but due to the Covid 19 pandemics, it has been postponed to June 2022. Despite these difficulties, all the participants were happy to see the realization of the first IFCC YS-FORUM.

Young Scientists (YSs) are the future of Laboratory Medicine and comprise the major workforce of laboratory professionals. Constant evolution and dynamism are two adjectives that well describe our profession, Laboratory Medicine. Young Scientists are the Future Leaders, but they need to be trained and encouraged to succeed in their role, ideally with the support of experienced leaders. To make this feasible, YSs must have activities that encourage their participation, offer opportunities for training, and improve communication and networking. In order to achieve these aims, in 2019, IFCC Executive Board (EB) approved the TF-YS EB Liaison's proposal to initiate and hold "IFCC Young Scientists FORUM" together with the WorldLabs.

We would like to extend our gratitude and thanks to all those who have made it possible for this FORUM to become a reality. Special thanks to the IFCC President Prof. Khosrow Adeli, who followed the FORUM enthusiastically and made valuable comments. Thanks to IFCC for Financial support bringing together young scientists from all over the world providing them IFCC YS grants for travel and accommodation expenses. Thanks to the WorldLab Seoul Congress Organization for waiving the WorldLab registration fees for the FORUM participants and

Article continued on next page



From the TFYS perspective, we celebrate the great success of the First YS FORUM. The enthusiasm shown by YS, the active participation and the exchange of opinions and experiences during and after the FORUM clearly certifies that it has been a complete achievement.

The programme of the FORUM was planned in an interactive way triggering discussion and exchange of ideas. For this, we invited YS to present a specific topic in 10 slides. The YS presenting these topics were selected according to their experience or training. After each presentation, session moderators trigger the discussion.



Regarding to the program, Ashlin Rapmul (South Africa) and Udara Senarathne (Sri Lanka) coordinated the first session under the theme “The future transformation of Lab Medicine in a Time of Disruptive Innovations”. During this session we had the interesting lectures of Tara Rolić (Croatia), Mohammed Al Haddad (Palestina), Yunika Puspa Dewi (Indonesia), Ashlin Rampul and Udara Senarathne.

Claudia Imperiali (Spain) and Giulia Sancesario (Italy) coordinated session 2 under the theme “Training in our profession worldwide and networking”. The speakers selected for this session were Claudia Imperiali, Josep Miquel Bauça (Spain), Udara Senarathne (Sri Lanka) and Elodie Lebredonchel (France). The differences in training programmes of each region created a great atmosphere for discussion, permitting us to learn from other colleague’s experience and pursue for improvements.





Session 3 consisted of a visit to a local laboratory. Thanks to the congress organization, the YS attending the FORUM had the opportunity to visit GC Labs and the laboratory of the SNUH (Seoul National University Hospital). This experience always enriches our knowledge on laboratory organization, sample manipulation, technology, innovation, and laboratory profession. Moreover, this experience always gives us new ideas to implement in our own laboratories.

Tamar Ramishvili (Georgia), Othaniel Philip Balisan (Philippines), Sedef Yenice (Turkey), Prasenjit Mitra (India) and Intan W. Masfufa (Indonesia) were the selected speaker for session 4 coordinated by Santiago Fares Taie (Argentina) and Sean Campbell (USA) under the theme “Laboratory Management, Leadership & Teamwork”.

Last session was coordinated by Intan W. Masfufa and Udara Senarathne with the theme “Empowering Evidence Base Medicine thought Clinical laboratory Research - Best Practices for Today’s Laboratory Scientists”. Selected speakers for this session were Sean Campbell, Prof Tomris Ozben (Turkey), Miklós Fagyas (Hungary), Antigoni Pouloupoulou (Greece) and Mundllamudi Prasad (India).

The spirited participation of YS during all sessions and the level of the selected speakers exceeded our expectations. This perfect response and feedback motivate us to quickly start planning our second YS FORUM for the next IFCC WorldLab congress.



## First WorldLab YS Forum: sessions and topics

*by Santiago Fares Taie, Giulia Sancesario, Ashlin Rampul, Intan Masfufa, Claudia Imperiali, Udara Senarathne, Sean Campbell  
IFCC TF for Young Scientists coordinators and members*

**In the following lines, the readers will find a detailed description of the different sessions and topics that were discussed during the first WorldLab YS FORUM. Each session description was written by the session coordinators/moderators.**

### SESSION 1

The “Young Scientists’ Forum” commenced with a timely session on “the future transformation of Lab Medicine in a Time of «Disruptive Innovations”, moderated by Dr Ashlin Rampul and Dr Udara Senarathne. The opening speech was given by Dr. Tara Rolić (Croatia) on the topic of Healthcare & Medical Laboratory - Gateway of Major Transformations. She discussed recent changes in the laboratory sector such as unhealthy dependence on lab testing and stressed the need for rationalizing the laboratory testing with a more patient management-oriented approach. She further stated that the technological advances need to be realistic, and they should address the current needs of the healthcare sector.

Next, Dr. Mohammed Al Haddad (Palestine) discussed the Young Scientist’s Perspective on Changing Lab Environment, based on his experience in working with the COVID pandemic. Next, Yunika Puspa Devi (Indonesia) gave a speech on the “Role of Lab Professionals in Clinical settings – bench to bedside”. She discussed the importance of promoting the proactive involvement of the laboratorians in putting the laboratory results into action by their application in patient management.

Dr Ashlin Rampul (South Africa) discussed “the cost-effective implementation of innovative technologies - Point of care vs total laboratory testing” and stressed the importance of maintaining the quality of testing, addressing the pitfalls in pre-analytical, analytical, and post-analytical phases of POCT, and why POCT should

be managed under the supervision of the central laboratory. The last speech of the session was given by Dr Udara Senarathne (Sri Lanka) on “Integrating information technology (IT) into the laboratory”. She discussed challenges faced during the implementation of IT solutions in the laboratory and stated that the way forward would be to understand the key requirements of the lab to avoid ‘analysis paralysis’ and more involvement of laboratorians in the system analysis of the software development.

### SESSION 2

The session one was followed by interesting talks about “Training in our profession worldwide and networking” coordinated by Dr Claudia Imperiali (Spain) and Dr Giulia Sancesario (Italy).

Claudia Imperiali, presented the results of the global survey regarding the training in laboratory medicine around the globe. The presented results demonstrated that there are great disparities among countries: from the requisites to access the training programs to the length and content of such programs and, even, the perspectives after graduation. In conclusion, highlighting these disparities can engage us to work together to achieve the same education and possibilities around the world.

Josep Miquel Bauçà (Spain), stepped in to discuss about the “education and training transformation in the digital era 4.0”. He highlighted that data analysis, computing skills and eHealth should be included in the curriculum of any clinical laboratory scientist, in a similar way as management, analytical techniques and clinical skills (pathophysiology) are now.

The last speech of this session was carried out by Udara Senarathne (Sri Lanka), who briefly exposed the current situation with respect to the “Harmonization in education (idea) curriculum”.

During her talk, she carried out a survey among attendees that demonstrated that more than 50% of the audience have some issues to work abroad due to the lack of harmonization between curriculums.

This session showed residency training is a crucial step for new laboratory professionals, mainly, since clinical laboratories are becoming more complex. For that reason, the needed knowledge may be well structured and enhanced with different disciplines.

### SESSION 3

Consisted in the local laboratory visit already described in the previous article.

### SESSION 4

The third session was chaired by Santiago Fares Taie and Sean Campbell, under the theme of Laboratory Management, Leadership & Teamwork. Dr. Tamar Ramishvili of Georgia was the first speaker and delivered a fantastic presentation on her lab's response to the COVID-19 pandemic, specifically how they were able to come together not only to overcome the challenges of the pandemic but they were able to grow stronger together and expand both their staff and capabilities for the good of the whole population.

The next talk was by Dr. Othaniel Philip Balisan of the Philippines, who gave us an excellent talk on career prospects in the sciences, in general, and also specifically in the life and clinical sciences. There are many such pathways for young scientists and, as someone who changes courses to end up in my current positions rather late in life, I appreciated the details with which Dr. Balisan laid out the many interesting opportunities for young scientists at any point in their career.

Then, Dr. Sedef Yenice (Turkey) gave an exceptional talk on practical knowledge and skills management. Training of new staff is incredibly important for the functioning of any lab, and providing opportunities for additional training is especially important in a clinical lab, where continuing education of staff is an absolute necessity. Dr. Yenice's talk gave us many practical ways to organize staff training and ways to preserve institutional knowledge as older staff members retire.

Prasenjit Mitra then gave us a wonderful talk on lab leadership from his perspective as a new chief. Leadership in the lab is a valuable skill regardless of where exactly we as young scientists end up in our career, and Dr. Mitra's talk was a great primer on all the ways we need to think about and work towards honing those leadership skills in our careers.

And in our final slot for this block, Dr. Intan Masfufa delivered an outstanding talk on time management tips especially geared towards young scientists. Young scientists, both in clinical and academic labs, easily find their lives consumed by work and research. However, it is always important to both structure one's time well and take time for oneself, to help be more efficient, help prevent burnout, and simply to improve one's mental health. Dr. Masfufa's talk was full of helpful tips such as the pomodoro technique to help us all become better at our time management.

### SESSION 5

For the last session, the theme was "Empowering Evidence-based Medicine through Clinical Laboratory Research - Best Practices for Today's Laboratory Scientists". It was chaired by Dr Udara Senarathne and Intan W Masfufa, M.Sc. The session commenced with a great presentation by Prof Tomris Ozben on Green Labs opening our eyes to the importance of the initiative to implement sustainable practices in a medical lab. The EFLM has created a new Task Force on promoting Green Labs to cut down the key areas of energy consumption, electricity, water, waste production, and use of hazardous chemicals. Prof Ozben informed that the Green Lab Task Force will compile manuals and guidelines, while surveys and checklists will be used to issue the EFLM Green Lab Certificates.

The next speaker was presented by Dr. Sean Campbell from the US, about the Do's and Don'ts of Clinical Laboratory Research. For "don'ts" aspect, It is obvious that we should avoid fraud and misconduct. We should also be aware about p-hacking and conflicts of interest. Although It is hard to see, but confounders and our own biases should be considered as the don'ts in clinical laboratory research. So, what are the Do's then? He explained that we should be creative, have a broad network of peers and friends, duplicate

our results in different ways if possible, and be aware of biases.

Dr. Thumeka Jalavu (Turkey) has shared a beautiful presentation about challenges from a clinical lab research. Prof Khosrow Adeli, President of IFCC, highlighted our challenge in facing predatory journals. We should avoid journals that can publish our paper in short time, no reviewer's comment, and ask for expensive Article Processing Charge (APC). Until now, there is not any available list of predatory journals since it developed really fast.

Antigoni Pouloupoulou (Greece) has shared how to select a topic for one's research so as to make an actual impact in one's institution. There are five strategies to select a translational research topic: (1) researcher's interest in the subject matter, (2) availability of information, (3) timeliness and relevance of subject, (4) research limitations related with feasibility, and

(5) ethics in research based on GDPR 2016/679 and the Helsinki declaration 2013. It should be highlighted that ethical consent must be approved before the research starts.

Dr. Mundlamudi Prasad, a young researcher from India, gave us a very enthusiastic lecture about Protocol writing: A Secret to be Productive in Research. For researchers, the most difficult stage of conducting a research project is the preparation of a protocol that results in a short yet comprehensive document that summarizes the project clearly.

Simple rules for a productive research protocol are to check protocol standards and guidelines, read example protocols, find appropriate protocol templates according to the type of project, avoid spelling and formatting errors, incorporate one's background experience in the field, and it is important also to find experienced peers to check on one's work.

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## News from the IFCC Website

### Call for Nominations for the election of the IFCC Secretary and Treasurer

The IFCC Nominations Committee is announcing the schedule for the election of the next IFCC Secretary and Treasurer, who will serve on the Executive Board (EB) from January 1st, 2024 to December 31st, 2026.

IFCC Full Member Societies are invited to nominate appropriate candidates for these two positions on the EB.

The election to the IFCC EB is a major step for the operational and strategic management of the Federation based on global partnership to strengthen the IFCC community. The EB team should develop a common vision based on a federal approach, which respects the diversity of cultures.

We invite you to propose candidates with a strong work ethic and vision who will commit to the Federation, in order to assure a sustainable future for the IFCC, in a changing health care environment.



[Read more](#)

## Young Scientists Forum: opinions from the delegates

### 1. Amita Yadav (India)

I would like to extend my regards to IFCC for the travel grant. The Young scientist forum sessions were very enriching for me. The selection of the topics was very relevant pertaining to the attendees.

The plan to visit GC Labs and the Lab of the Seoul National Hospital was very thoughtful as it provided the opportunity for the young scientist to know about work in both an independent lab and a hospital associated lab. The Young scientist forum members and IFCC have provided a good platform for the young scientists interaction. I hope in the future that mentor mentee programme will be taken by IFCC to help the scientists globally. My best wishes for the future endeavors.



Amita Yadav

### 2. Rok Kogovsek (Slovenia)

I am very happy to have been able to attend the YS forum. The program of the forum was very well prepared, which was also evident from the discussion developed after the lectures. It was nice to meet and socialize with so many young scientists from all over the world.



Rok Kogovsek

### 3. Julie Sherfan (Australia)

The 1st TF-YS forum gave me an opportunity to meet and connect with other young scientists from around the world. The enthusiasm for the science and the future of the profession was contagious and the collective wisdom inspiring. I look forward to many more TF-YS forums in the future.



Julie Sherfan

### 4. Milimo Delhan Hamomba (Zambia)

Many thanks go to AFCC for awarding me a travel grant to attend the YSF and the IFCC 2022 Seoul World Lab Conference. Gratitude also goes to the Biomedical Society of Zambia (BMSZ) through Sonergy Diagnostic of Zambia for sponsoring my lodging. I enjoyed the YS where I got to learn issues of laboratory medicine such as POCT, research, LIS, and its contribution to diagnostic testing. Main conference highlighted issues on metrological traceability, calibration, leadership, and lab practice. The flip side of the conference was mainly the pre-recorded sessions by presenters who did not manage to attend due to COVID-19, VISA etc. Great to have networked and meeting of new friends.



Milimo Delhan Hamomba

### 5. **Élodie Lebredonchel** (France)

I was honored to be able to present the biological part of the Public Health mission I made in Congo, in front of the IFCC YS Forum audience in Seoul for WorldLab 2022. I had also the opportunity to attend a high quality conferences on hot topics in the field and learned a lot about how the other countries managed the COVID-19 crisis.

### 6. **Kiptim Kibet** (Kenya)

Seoul 2022 has been an inspiring experience to me, it has motivated me to do more in clinical chemistry. The shared experience with my fellow young scientists tells me the opportunity is ours to innovate and improve on what our seniors have achieved this far. The bottom line is that, with focus and dedication, there is infinite possibilities for young scientist across the globe.

### 7. **Agustín J. Bolontrade** (Argentina)

A very enriching event. The exchange of opinions and points of view allowed us to learn about other countries realities and think about the improvements that each of us can make in our regions to be better health professionals and to position laboratory medicine higher and higher.

### 8. **Rihab Makhoulf** (Tunisia)

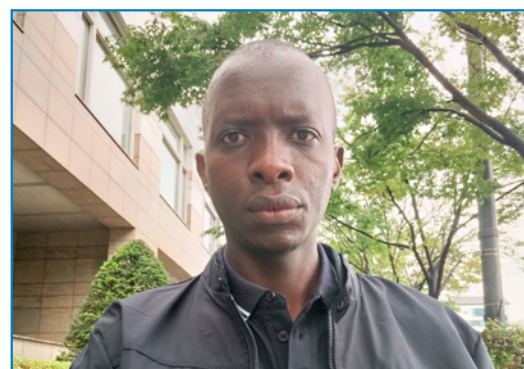
It was an honor to receive an IFCC Travel Award to attend the Young Scientists FORUM held just ahead of and in conjunction with the WorldLab 2022 Congress in Seoul, Korea. Being part of a diverse group of participants from all over the world was an enriching experience. Although we have different experiences and careers, we share similar visions of the future of laboratory medicine.

During the Forum, we discussed many practical subjects from young scientists' perspective: education, training, career opportunities, research, exchange program, mentoring program. We also proposed plans to reinforce visibility of laboratory medicine professionals. For me, the main activity to highlight was the lab visit at the Green Cross Laboratories (GCLabs) and Seoul National University Bundang Hospital.

Thank you IFCC and IFCC Task Force for Young Scientists for this amazing opportunity.



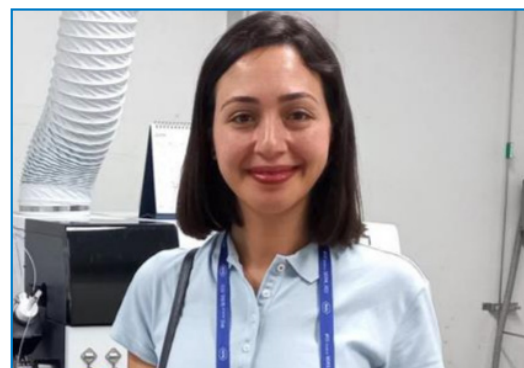
Élodie Lebredonchel



Kiptim Kibet



Agustín J. Bolontrade



Rihab Makhoulf

### 9. Josep Miquel Bauçà (Spain)

It was a huge pleasure to participate in this international meeting. I would like to point out the great organization and the careful selection of the topics. Moderators were very enthusiastic and knew how to open and lead the debates, so that most attendees could actively take part in them (which is the main goal of such gatherings). Thanks for it!

And my take-home present is a significant boost to my energy and motivation to learn more and do more to improve in this exciting field.



Josep Miquel Bauçà

### 10. Mohammed AlHaddad (Palestine)

I thank the IFCC team for inviting me and supporting me in the international participation. It was my first international event.

I will transfer this experience to my country. I gained a lot of valuable scientific information and acquainted with the medical capabilities of the developed countries. I hope that Gaza will follow the image of globalization and help us open a channel and contact us.



Mohammed AlHaddad

### 11. Antigoni Pouloupoulou (Greece)

The young scientists forum was an experience that I will never forget. As a Master's student I haven't had the opportunity to interact with many professionals from all over the world so this opportunity was something that gave me so much insight in the field of clinical biochemistry. All these people inspired me to become better in my profession and always strive to broaden my knowledge. I was really honoured to be in the presence of all of you!



Antigoni Pouloupoulou

### 12. Kamil Taha Uçar (Turkey)

First, meeting face to face is very pleasing after Covid-19. We also had an impressive Forum on our concerns, Research tips, Career prospects, Laboratory management and more. We also met with friends from all over the world and shared our knowledge, experiences and ideas. I think it's been a great experience for us.



Kamil Taha Uçar

### 13. Tara Rolić (Croatia)

For me, a girl from a small country and even smaller city (Croatia, Osijek) it was an enormous privilege to talk first at the first Young Scientist Forum! The privilege becomes greater with all wonderful young colleagues with whom I could share my views and expectations for the future in laboratory medicine and in healthcare.

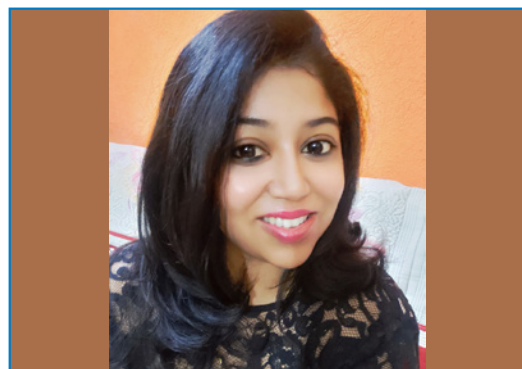
Thank you for the support and a lot of questions and comments you shared with me. I will bring this journey in my heart as a wonderful memory and feel rich for the people I have met.



Tara Rolić

### 14. Saswati Das (India)

Attending the IFCC WorldLab Seoul in person was a welcome experience after a gap of more than two years. Despite the fact that my learning experience continued during the pandemic era, I missed the in-person networking that I was able to once again enjoy at this conference. In particular, I looked forward to the plenary lectures on the most cutting-edge lab medicine technologies.



Saswati Das

### 15. Mark Raymund Nava (Philippines)

The Young Scientist Forum during the IFCC conference was a great avenue for collaboration and benchmarking. It was a privilege to have shared a room with some of the best scientists from around the world. I hope to meet them soon and hopefully do collaborative work once again.



Mark Raymund Nava

### 16. Fauqa Arinil Aulia (Indonesia)

A very memorable, unforgettable and fantastic event. All sessions went very well. Speakers delivered lectures very clearly. The industrial booths were very neatly arranged.

The venue was easy to reach and in the center of Seoul. Participants from other countries were friendly and very cheerful. Very good!



Fauqa Arinil Aulia



### 17. Abiodun Alaje Ajeigbe (Nigeria)

I am happy to be a part of this group and, to me, the YS forum was a good initiative of IFCC to mentor young professionals working in the field of Clinical Chemistry and Laboratory Medicine. This forum gives me a platform to interact and network with colleagues around the world freely. With the programs and activities of YS forum, I am better equipped to practice laboratory medicine anywhere in the world.



Abiodun Alaje Ajeigbe

### 18. Rakesh Pokhrel (Nepal)

It was indeed a great experience of attending the IFCC TFYS Young scientist forum symposium. The symposia were informative and it was a great experience of getting updates on the research work of various friends from around the world .

Apart from the symposia and session it was a joyful experience of knowing new friends and reuniting with old friends.



Rakesh Pokhrel

### 19. Sanjaya Kumar Shah (Nepal)

IFCC TFYS provided us the best platform to explore our scientific research work and getting knowledge & experiences, which will help me to boost up my career and to share and implement research in laboratory medicine in my home country, Nepal. It was indeed an unforgettable experience of attending the IFCC TFYS Young scientist forum symposium with all young researchers from around the world. Sessions, workshops, and symposium helped me, a Nepalese laboratory scientist, a lot to gear up the research in laboratory medicine in Nepal.

Thanks and regards.

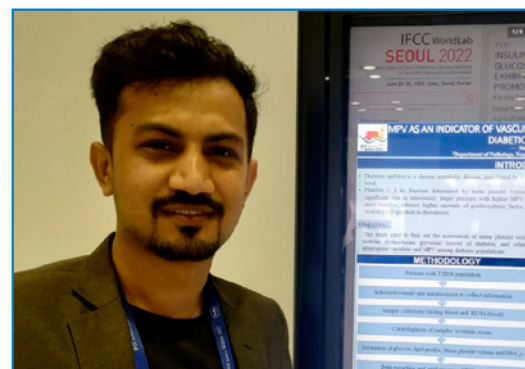


Sanjaya Kumar Shah

### 20. Sushant Pokhrel (Nepal)

It was an excitement to attend the Task force young scientist forum and world lab 2022 to share my research on such a great platform. I hope it will be instrumental for my research career and exploration in this field. Meeting Young intellects helped me share the views in the field of research and may help promote clinical and laboratory practices.

Attending the forum has built up a social network with the laboratory scientists of different nations and societies and shared ideas and techniques. Furthermore, the experiences and knowledge gained from this forum will help me share them in my society – NAMLS and assist in promoting Nepal's clinical and laboratory practices.

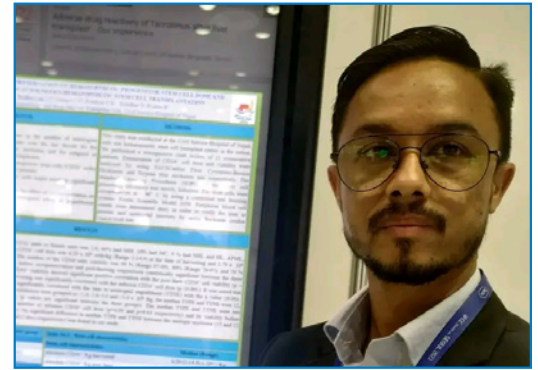


Sushant Pokhrel

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## 21. Uttam Budhathoki (Nepal)

Although it is not easy for us to reach Seoul due to Covid pandemic, all of us were able to gather there to share our experiences in this great platform of scientific research. This conference led us without doubts to explore new areas of research field in laboratory medicine in Nepal. Thank you IFCC, APFCB and KSCC for this opportunity and congratulation for a successful organization during this hard time. Also thanks to IFCC-TFYS for encouraging and boosting young scientists like us.



Uttam Budhathoki

## 22. Dipuo Dephney Motshwari (South Africa)

The 24th International Congress of Clinical Chemistry and Laboratory Medicine has literally been the best congress I have ever attended to date. The IFCC young scientists forum was the highlight of the whole congress for me, it included a lot of interactive, informative and encouraging discussions among young researchers and gave us an opportunity to form a network amongst ourselves. The main congress also gave us access to leading laboratory medicine experts from all over the world, who shared their invaluable knowledge. Not forgetting to mention the beauty of the city of Seoul, it just made the whole experience exceptional. I can't wait to see what the next IFCC congress, particularly the young scientist forum has to offer!!!



Dipuo Dephney Motshwari

## 23. Udara Senarathne (Sri Lanka)

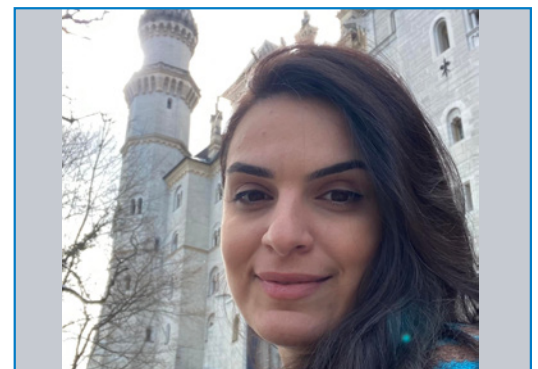
I had an unforgettable experience with all the members of IFCC TF-YS in organizing and participating in the "Young Scientists' Forum" at the WorldLab - Seoul. It was fulfilling both academically and professionally, and we were able to create and strengthen many everlasting friendships. The inaugural "Young Scientists' Forum" created an interactive medium for all young laboratorians to voice their thoughts and experiences. I am confident that the friendships we formed through this forum will pave the path to many collaborations and better scientific outputs during our future works.



Udara Senarathne

## 24. Tamar Ramishvili (Georgia)

It was a great honor for me to participate in the first Young Scientist Forum in Seoul. I'd like to thank all TF-YS board members for giving me the opportunity to attend this wonderful event, to share my small experiences with the attendees and to meet many professionals from all over the world. I would like to congratulate all members of the board and all participants for a successful forum, a forum that gave me a great incentive to improve my knowledge in laboratory medicine and contribute to its development in my small country, Georgia.



Tamar Ramishvili

## Seoul WorldLab 2022 and YS Forum: participation of Young Scientist from the African Federation of Clinical Chemistry and Laboratory Medicine (AFCC)



Delegates representing the African Federation of Clinical Chemistry and Laboratory Medicine (AFCC) at the WorldLab Congress in Seoul, South Korea 2022

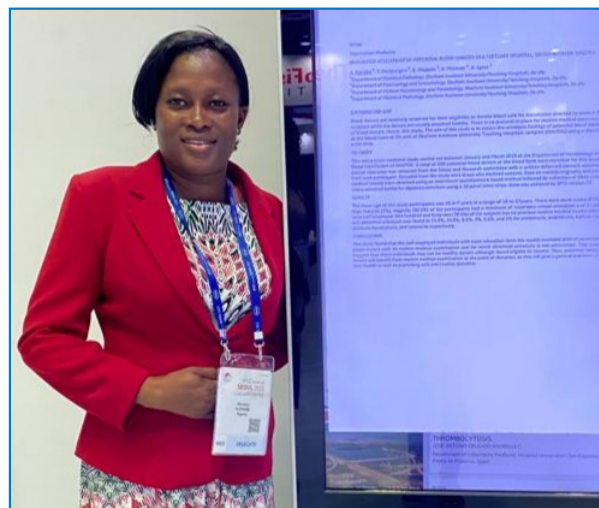
The AFCC granted travel awards to five young scientists from Nigeria, Zambia, South Africa and Ethiopia to attend the Congress in Seoul.

**Dipuo Dephney Motshwari, South Africa.** Firstly, I would like to say it was such an honor to be able to attend the biggest International Congress of Clinical Chemistry globally in Seoul, South Korea. I would like to extend my utmost gratitude to the AFCC for making it possible for us to take part. During my attendance of the conference, I think what stood out the most for me was the youth forum, the sessions were very interactive and enabled us to form a network among young scientists. Moreover, I am grateful to have been able to take part in the main congress as well which composed of very informative programs and gave us access to a network of leading laboratory medicine experts from all over the world, who shared their invaluable knowledge. Last but not least, I am grateful to have visited Seoul South Korea. It is a very beautiful country with high profile architecture and advanced technology. My take home message as a young uprising scientist is that we have so many opportunities and support from the AFCC, we just need to go out there and grab it with both hands, the world is our oyster!!!



Dipuo Dephney Motshwari

**Dr. Abiodun Ajeigbe, Nigeria.** I am glad I was able to get a travel grant from African Federation of Clinical Chemistry and Laboratory Medicine (AFCC) to attend the just concluded International Federation of Clinical Medicine and Laboratory Medicine (IFCC) WorldLab Congress in Seoul, South Korea. Travelling out of Africa for the first time was not just exciting for me, it was also a privilege to meet Laboratory professionals from around the world. Meeting fellow young scientists from different countries at the Young Scientist Forum gave me a sense of belonging and the interactive sessions were quite enlightening. I had the opportunity to learn, unlearn and re-learn from colleagues and senior colleagues which would have been practically impossible via virtual means.



Abiodun Alaje Ajeigbe

The plenary and scientific sessions were very educative and informative on some grey areas of analytical chemistry. The exhibitions by the manufacturing companies were top notch and the technologies displayed were just overwhelming for me. Moving around the city of Seoul wasn't difficult although there were language restrictions. I was able to overcome that, all thanks to google map and language translator. Seoul is indeed a beautiful place and the people are so kind, always willing to help. The city is very clean, the people courteous and the meals are rich. Seoul is indeed a digital city and warm to visitors. I wouldn't mind to visit again. As I am still in euphoria from my experience in Seoul, courtesy of AFCC, I would like to say "Life is an art and I will practice Laboratory Medicine in color".

**Milimo Delhan Hamomba, Zambia.** My gratitude goes to AFCC for awarding me the travel grant to attend the IFCC Seoul 2022 WorldLab Congress. Many thanks also go to the Biomedical Society of Zambia and Sonergy Diagnostics for their support towards lodging and other logistics. I must mention that this is my second IFCC conference I have attended after IFCC Durban 2017 WordLab Congress. I had the privilege to attend both the pre-conference for the young scientists and the main conference. From the young scientist forum, I got to learn emerging issues in laboratory medicine such as metrological traceability, calibration, leadership, POCT, research, LIS, Next Generation Sequencing (NGS) for infectious diseases and its contribution to diagnostic testing.



Milimo Delhan Hamomba

I also interacted with vendors that exhibited their works and contributions to the optimization of evidence-based laboratory diagnostic testing as well as the new technology and impact of automation in laboratory medicine in future. The networking and interaction with the YS were amazing and cannot go without mention. However, the flip side of the conference had to do with many pre-recorded sessions by presenters who were unable to attend the conference in Seoul due to COVID-19, Visa restrictions, etc.

**Temitope David Ogunleye, Nigeria.** I deeply appreciate the AFCC for the travel grant award.

The IFCC Seoul 2022, was a unique and highly organized one. The electronic poster presentation was awesome. The array of lectures/presentations were very enlightening and impactful. I was specifically challenged by the lecture titled “Adding clinical utility to the laboratory reports” Presented by Wytze P Oosterhuis (the Netherlands). I seriously will do my best to implement the recommendations for better patient care in my Hospital. Another lecture that really impacted me and is very much pertinent to my current research was titled “The role of laboratory testing in detection and classification of chronic kidney disease”, presented by T.D. Jeong. I have contacted him for possible mentorship and his response was very encouraging. I really do hope to have more of such experiences like this. Finally South Koreans were very courteous, humble and nice people. I wish to come back again to this city for a vacation.

**Yosef Tsegaye Dabi, Ethiopia.** It gives me great pleasure to be the recipient of an AFCC grant to attend the 24th IFCC World Lab Congress in Seoul, June 26-30, 2022.

This conference provided me with the opportunity to meet laboratory medicine experts and industry partners from all over the world, and visiting Korean laboratories as part of the young scientist forum was an added bonus. The symposiums that I have attended have been informative and have provided me with a future direction as a young researcher. In general, my experience at Congress was pleasant and enjoyable. Last but not least, visiting Korea and its people was a memorable experience.

**Lupete Lwenje, Zambia.** The IFCC Seoul WorldLab conference 2022 has been an amazing experience for me and a positive step towards my continuing professional development in my Biomedical Career as it has provided an opportunity for collaboration with scientists around the world... it has also provided me an insight on the modern technologies in Medical Laboratory sciences. I look forward to more collaboration as we share knowledge in the Biomedical field.



Temitope David Ogunleye



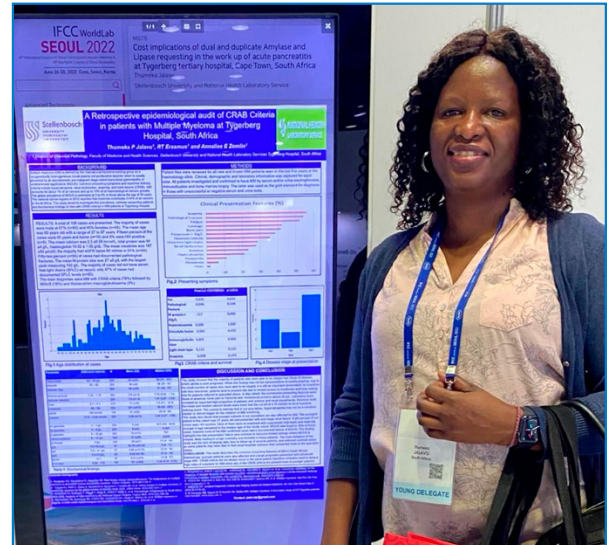
Yosef Tsegaye Dabi



Lupete Lwenje

**Thumeka Jalavu, South Africa.** The young scientist forum was very well organized and beneficial for our professional and personal development. The talks were interesting, engaging and informative. The laboratory visits were amazing and very eye opening for me coming from a developing country. The congress also offered a variety of relevant and well-presented talks. I'm very glad for the opportunity to have attended the Seoul WorldLab 2022.

**Kiptim Kibet Peter, Kenya.** I got the privilege to be awarded the IFCC travel grant to attend the first forum for young scientist in conjunction with the 24 international congress of clinical chemistry and laboratory medicine in Seoul. It was a great honor to meet the IFCC president Prof. Khosrow Adeli among other participants and young scientists who were part of the discussions in the young scientist forum. Among the many interactive sessions, I was able to appreciate how technology is taking shape in laboratory medicine by the physical visits to two GC labs and Seoul national university hospital laboratory, technical challenges, new areas of research focus and big data and artificial intelligence and their impact on practice were very informative. The visit to the exhibition was exciting to see how the IVD industry is using technology to innovate and provide solutions to the challenges in the dynamic laboratory environment. I am privileged to be part of the young scientists in Africa who are ready to provide solutions to part of the challenges that we face in clinical chemistry practice in our continent. I sincerely wish to thank the IFCC, taskforce for young scientist and Clinical Chemist association of Kenya for making this wonderful learning experience possible.



Thumeka Jalavu



Kiptim Kibet Peter



## CONTRIBUTE TO IFCC eNews

### Closer to achieving Zero AIDS: a Croydon University Hospital best practice



Team from Croydon University Hospital

HIV (human immunodeficiency virus) originated in humans in the 1930s through a transfer of blood while hunting chimpanzees. However, HIV and its late-stage disease, now known as AIDS (acquired immune deficiency syndrome), did not get recognized until nearly five decades later, in the 1980s. A notable uptick in the incidence rates of rare pneumonia and cancers, now often referred to as “AIDS-defining illnesses” (ADIs), precipitated the discovery of HIV and AIDS. The HIV epidemic is a worldwide plague; an estimated 39 million people have died from HIV-related infections and diseases since its discovery in 1981. Currently, the World Health Organization estimates that 37.7 million people are living with HIV (as of 2020), with approximately 1.5 million acquiring HIV infection that same year. Despite its continued presence and lethality, HIV infection is now a preventable and treatable disease, with highly effective treatments to prevent the infection with HIV from progressing to AIDS.

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In 2013 UNAIDS was formed to end AIDS as a public health threat by 2030. One of the critical steps in its path towards its desired state of zero AIDS by 2030 was the goal UNAIDS 2020 90-90-90 Treatment for All target 2020. This goal targeted that 90% of all people living with HIV will know their HIV status, 90% of all people with diagnosed HIV infection will receive sustained antiretroviral therapy, and 90% of all people receiving antiretroviral therapy will have viral suppression. The United Kingdom achieved these goals by the 2020 deadline through much hard work and dedication. However, with 1 in 14 people living with HIV still unaware of their HIV status, much work remains to be done. Within the United Kingdom, Croydon has a high HIV prevalence rate of >5/1000 people, with 46% of new HIV infection diagnoses occurring late in the disease with the presentation of a CD4 count of <350 cells/mm<sup>3</sup> and often after the onset of ADIs. Individuals presenting with these findings are estimated to be infected with HIV for at least three to five years prior to diagnosis. Lack of early intervention post-infection is known to increase the likelihood of ill-health, premature death, and onward transmission of HIV.

To further combat the spread of HIV and the incidence of AIDS, the British HIV Association (BHIVA) recommends opt-out testing in the Emergency Department (ED); however, testing rates of <67% have limited the recommendation's effectiveness. Knowing the opportunity to improve their HIV care, with a solid understanding of BHIVA's recommendations, a multi-disciplinary team at Croydon University Hospital implemented an innovative opt-out HIV testing protocol in their ED in May of 2020. During the first 18 months post-implementation, their protocol has sustained an impressive 97% testing rate, establishing a new international gold standard.

Their efforts drew upon the background and knowledge of diverse healthcare professionals, enabling a unique protocol that closed many potential gaps in HIV care. The team included Information Technology (IT), led by Andrew Widdowson (Deputy Head of Clinical Applications, IT Department), The NHS Trust (Governing Body) led by Mike Bell (Chair of Croydon Health Services NHS Trust), Laboratory Medicine, led by Leslie Parry (Consultant Biochemist), HIV Medicine, led by Dr. Ian Cormack (Clinical Lead HIV Medicine), and Emergency Medicine, led by Dr. Sarah Horne (Emergency Medicine Consultant).

The innovative program has normalized opt-out HIV testing for all ED patients, removing social barriers on both the provider and patient sides. Another unique aspect of their protocol is that the HIV Medicine team automatically manages all non-negative HIV results. Throughout the process of additional testing to the diagnosis, non-negative patients receive thorough counseling on the benefits of knowing their HIV status and receive mental health support from an HIV mental health specialist. The HIV Medicine team receives a daily report of all non-negative HIV tests on patients seen in the ED the previous 24 hours. These reports include people who ultimately are not admitted to the hospital, enabling the opportunity to re-engage these patients in HIV care if they have lapsed and connect them to appropriate care if they are not previously known to be HIV positive.

The care initiative achieved some stellar metrics in the first 18 months post-implementation. These metrics include a reduction in the mortality rate of new HIV-positive diagnosed inpatients from 23% per year (2017-2019) to 0% from 2020-2021. Patients' safety improved by avoiding at least 78 cases of potential drug-drug interactions with antiretroviral medications, with safe alternative treatments identified and used. In addition, 60% of patients identified and previously diagnosed as HIV positive but not compliant with treatment re-engaged in HIV care. Patients also realized improved wellness, with a precipitous drop in ADI at diagnosis from a baseline of 78% (2005-2010) to 4% (2020-2021). The experience also improved for patients screened for HIV, with Dr. Sarah Horne (Consultant in Emergency Medicine) noting, "Normalizing opt-out HIV testing avoids people feeling 'targeted' to have an HIV test. It avoids awkward discussion about specific sexual risks in a busy clinical environment and helps reduce stigma as everyone receives the same treatment. The HIV team manages all non-negative HIV results. One test on its own is not diagnostic, and the patient is invited for a combination of other tests to establish whether they are genuinely HIV positive." Reducing ADIs to 4% of new cases leads to improved satisfaction



for HIV clinicians. ADIs are dangerous for the patient and complex to manage, and most ADIs can have a good outcome if recognized and treated immediately. In addition, the program achieved 0% transmission of HIV infection to all identified partners using post and pre-exposure prophylaxis, which is another strong satisfier for clinician stakeholders.

The health system and administration also received benefits from the care initiative. Croydon University Hospital achieved the highest ever recorded opt-out HIV testing rate (97%) in the Emergency Department (ED) over 18 months. Twenty-five new HIV diagnoses occurred in the ED during the first year of testing, representing a three-fold increase compared to the previous two years (2017-2019). The ED is now responsible for diagnosing more new HIV cases than all other HIV testing centers combined. These achievements enhance the health system's reputation as a healthcare leader. The system also experienced a reduction in length of stay for newly diagnosed HIV-positive patients from a baseline average of 35 days to an average of only 2.4 days. The readmission rate also improved from a baseline of 31% to 0%. Payors realized decreased healthcare costs at an estimated annual £326,000 in mitigated costs. The payors also avoided unnecessary care costs by avoiding at least three cases of unnecessary procedures, such as endoscopy. The avoidance of transmission to 7 known partners also resulted in the avoidance of aggregate costs estimated at greater than £2.24 million annually. Payors also realized lower costs with intensive care admissions for newly diagnosed HIV-positive patients reduced from 17% to 0%.

In recognition of the extraordinary achievement of significantly better healthcare achieved by their avant-garde and unified approach to addressing HIV care gaps, the team at Croydon University Hospital received the prestigious status as a top 3 winner in association with the 2021 UNIVANTS of Healthcare Excellence Awards program. For more details on this program and/or this best practice, visit [www.UnivantsHCE.com](http://www.UnivantsHCE.com).

### THREE KEY TAKEAWAYS:

- The incidence of patients presenting with AIDS defining illness at diagnosis can nearly be eliminated with effective, comprehensive opt-out screening protocols in the Emergency Department.
- Early diagnosis, prior to advanced HIV disease status, can reduce AIDS associated mortality to 0%.
- Interdisciplinary knowledge sharing can enable the closing of potential care gaps in HIV medicine, dramatically improving healthcare provision in measurable ways.



## Improving heart failure care using electronic medical record analytics to personalize care: a leading best practice from Prisma Health



Prisma Health team

Heart failure is a life-threatening syndrome that is complex, with many causes and sequelae. The disease is associated with a lower quality of life due to the poor functional capacity of patients. It is also associated with high care costs and, sadly, high mortality. Although the incidence of the disease seems to have stabilized worldwide, its prevalence is increasing due to an aging global population and improvements in pharmaco-therapies for various heart diseases. South Carolina in the United States is not immune from the quality of life and economic burdens of heart failure. Heart disease is the second leading cause of death, with large numbers of hospitalizations and associated high health care costs experienced by the people and payors of the state.

Despite the challenges and costs associated with the care of heart failure patients, effective treatments exist. Literature supports that early entry into intensive, specialized care for heart failure can improve patients' quality of life and lower the disease's resource and economic burden on health systems and payors. Aware of the global and local burden associated with heart failure, a multidisciplinary team of health care providers unified for something greater: Improved heart failure care. This team included Beth Wehliz (Administrative Director of Laboratory), Jason Guichard (Medical Director, Advanced Heart Failure, Pulmonary Hypertension and Mechanical Circulatory Support Program), Stephanie Flippin (Information Technology Epic Analyst), Beverly Jameson

(Manager of Nursing Cardiac Telemetry) and Sandi Stoudenmire (Director of Cardiovascular Services). The team focused on the primary question: “How to identify heart failure patients earlier in their care, improve their access to and utilization of limited specialty resources, and reduce the cost of care?”

Their solution to this problem was the development of a heart failure patient identification and associated workflow program. This program utilizes the inherent data collection, archiving, and reporting capabilities of their electronic medical record (EMR) system. The data archived in the EMR is analyzed using novel algorithms to generate a risk score for patients that indicates either rising risk for or advanced risk heart failure patients. The program organizes the heart failure patient population, enables robust risk stratification for the patients in the population, and deploys real-time, point of care decision support for providers. This decision support enables improved care coordination and helps ensure heart failure patients can see the right care provider at the right time.

The care initiative produced remarkable improvements for stakeholders in heart failure patient care in the Prisma Health system. These stakeholders include patients, clinicians, health systems, and payors. The patient stakeholders’ benefits include an improvement in patient wellness indicated by a 12% improvement in overall mortality of heart failure patients in the first year of the initiative. The results are even more impressive for high-risk patients, with the post-initiative participants’ mortality rate for this specific patient group at approximately one-half that of patients not triaged in the program. The objective risk scoring system also improved healthcare equity by enabling better connection to specialized care for at-risk, underserved patients. The improvement is clear with a 14% increase in clinical visits by Black/African American patients post-implementation. The number of high-risk patients receiving specialized care from Advanced Heart Failure specialists increased by 48%, year over year. The initiative also enabled improved connection to non-heart failure-specific care, such as palliative or hospice care, when appropriate, as indicated by a 40% increase in referrals to those care pathways. For clinicians, the program increased clinical satisfaction, as the time to follow-up was reduced by almost one full day, with an even more impressive increase (a relative 116% increase) in the frequency of follow-up care for the highest risk patients. The timely connection to appropriate care and improved follow-through with post-discharge care is very satisfying for clinicians, as they can better provide the services that improve and save their patients’ lives. The health systems stakeholders realized an impressive 67% increase in their overall patient volume in the heart failure clinic, increasing their revenue by 14.8% yearly. Payors also received a benefit from the care initiative. Heart failure patients in the care program experienced a 59% reduction in emergency and urgent care visits, resulting in significantly lower care costs for payors.

In recognition of the success enjoyed by their unified multidisciplinary team’s innovative approach to addressing the challenges of heart failure care management, the team at Prisma Health received the prestigious honor as a top 3 winner in association with the 2021 UNIVANTS of Healthcare Excellence Awards program. For more details on this program and/or this best practice, visit [www.UnivantsHCE.com](http://www.UnivantsHCE.com).

### THREE KEY TAKEAWAYS:

- EMR analytic algorithms can produce an easy-to-understand risk score for individual patients, enabling timely and appropriate connection to specialty care.
- Appropriate and timely specialized heart failure care can reduce acute emergency medical care needs for heart failure patients, improving the patient’s quality of life and scarce medical resource availability.
- Early entry into intensive and specialized heart failure care can reduce the early mortality of heart failure patients.

## Innovative process improvement strategies enable timely care provision during a global pandemic with staffing shortages for Banner Health



Banner Health team

It likely comes as no surprise that the COVID-19 pandemic disrupted the social, economic, and mental health aspects of the global population. Although the pandemic has highlighted the inspiring stories of many healthcare professionals, seldom is fully appreciated the increase in patient volume caused by the pandemic relative to the minimal resource of experienced, skilled healthcare professionals in all disciplines. While healthcare professional training programs can scale to fill every available seat, it still takes time to train and educate the new professionals. Regrettably, the pandemic created an immediate need for more trained healthcare professionals in all disciplines but did not allow the lag time necessary to develop them. To provide care to all the patients with need, healthcare systems needed to do even more with the same number of staff.

Unfortunately, further confounding the provision of care challenge was a concurrent social movement colloquially known as “The Great Resignation.” This social movement is associated with many employees’ strong dissatisfaction with their working conditions and demanding more advantageous working conditions from their employers. The movement is demonstrated by a high number of employees leaving their jobs in many different countries, including (but not limited to): Australia, France, Italy, Spain, The Netherlands, Japan, The United Kingdom, The United States, and Singapore. Not only did employees leave their jobs, but they often also changed their employment industry. Healthcare professionals were not immune to the effects of this social movement, with large numbers leaving the field in the last couple of years.

*Article continued on next page*

In the fall of 2020, the Medical-Surgical (MS) department at Banner Health experienced delays in test result availability for morning medical rounds. These delays resulted in additional testing ordered as either timed studies or with the designation “STAT” collection. These additional orders further clogged the system causing more delays in testing. Investigation of the root cause for these test delays indicated that the volume of patients, coupled with the staffing challenges in multiple areas of the hospital, including both lab and nursing staff, overwhelmed the current process for sample collection. Noting twin challenges posed by the pandemic coupled with the social movement and understanding the need to do more with less, a multidisciplinary team was formed at Banner Health in Arizona (United States) to improve the sample collection and testing processes quickly.

The team consisted of Kimberly Wuestenberg (Quality Improvement Specialist), Connie Moreno MSN-L, BSN, RN (Senior Manager, Clinical Care Operations), Tim Hersom MBA, MT (ASCP) (Administrative Director, Clinical Laboratory), Kevin Cruz MBA, MSN-L, RN, CCRN (Director Medical Surgical Service Line) and Teri Dahn MBA, BSN, RN, CCRN-K, CPHQ (Quality Improvement Director) and their respective departments. The team determined to employ an integrated process improvement methodology to target each key stakeholder and drive change “in the now” while long-term solutions got vetted. The integrated process improvement methodologies combined concepts from Lean Six Sigma, Scrum Framework, Kanban Framework, and Design Thinking. These concepts used the customer’s voice to identify the improvement processes. They applied fast and flexible sprint sessions in a small team of department leaders to improve productivity by reducing bottlenecks in the process.

Their care initiative achieved impressive metrics on key performance indicators for the critical healthcare stakeholders of patients, clinicians, health systems, and payors. These metrics included a 35.8% increase in discharge timeliness before 1 PM. Earlier discharge reduces the risk of hospital-acquired infections (patient safety) and improves patient satisfaction as timely communication and release directly impact the patient experience. Clinicians experienced improved satisfaction with improved reliability of laboratory test results available to inform their decision-making during morning rounds at 7 AM. This information is available when desired, improving the clinician experience, relieving frustration, and increasing the clinician’s time for other care activities. The number of duplicative tests ordered in the “STAT” collection priority was reduced by 72%, indicating an improvement in the physician experience. Staff satisfaction improved as realized by improved facility-wide collaboration daily. The health system also realized improved resource utilization with 100% compliance to interdepartmental communication of collection barriers by 3 AM, enabling better resource allocation strategies for morning draws. Payors gained reduced patient risks as the overall length of stay for in-patients reduced by 1.6%, lowering the risk of contracting nosocomial infections and lowering the cost of the stay for payors.

The measurable improvement to healthcare enabled by this care initiative at Banner Health led to being recognized as a top 3 global winner of the prestigious 2021 UNIVANTS of Healthcare Excellence Awards program. For more details on this program and/or this best practice, visit [www.UnivantsHCE.com](http://www.UnivantsHCE.com).

### THREE KEY TAKEAWAYS:

- Innovative application of process improvement strategies can remove barriers to timely phlebotomy services, removing the cause of many duplicate “STAT” orders, further reducing bottlenecks to laboratory service provision.
- Multidisciplinary care communication and careful care coordination can enable timely discharge of patients, improving patient experiences and the availability of scarce healthcare resources.
- Timely clinical and laboratory information can positively influence physician decision making, patient continuum of care, health operations resource utilization, and payor reimbursement.

## Banner Health and Laboratory Sciences of Arizona

Utilizing an Innovative Approach to  
Process Improvement in the Era of a Global  
Pandemic and the Great Resignation:  
Rapidly Improving Timeliness of Laboratory  
Test Results for Multidisciplinary Rounds  
in an Acute Care Setting

## Croydon University Hospital

Sustained 97% Opt-Out HIV testing  
in the Emergency Department:  
Getting to Zero AIDS

## Prisma Health Greenville Memorial Hospital

Enhancing Personalized Care for  
Heart Failure Patients: A Risk-Scoring  
EMR Model



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## NEWS FROM REGIONAL FEDERATIONS AND MEMBER SOCIETIES

**EFLM**

EUROPEAN FEDERATION OF CLINICAL CHEMISTRY  
AND LABORATORY MEDICINE

**Great success for the 3rd EFLM Strategic Conference!**

**3rd EFLM STRATEGIC CONFERENCE**

**Smart and green laboratories:**

How to implement IVDR,  
emerging technologies and  
sustainable practices  
in medical laboratories?

**25-27 MAY, 2022**

VIRTUAL CONFERENCE

Dear Colleagues, Dear Friends,

On behalf of the European Federation of Clinical Chemistry and Laboratory Medicine (EFLM) and as the Chair of the 3rd EFLM Strategic Conference, it is a big pleasure and honor for me to witness that the 3rd EFLM Strategic Conference **“SMART and GREEN LABORATORIES. How to implement IVDR, emerging technologies and sustainable practices in medical laboratories”** was held and completed on May 25-27, 2022 successfully.

The 3rd EFLM Strategic Conference was originally planned to be held in presence, but due to the unprecedented challenges of the COVID 19 crisis, it was held fully online, using the state-of-the-art technical solutions including virtual exhibition stands allowing chat and video conferencing between the attendees and stand representatives. Every day, three scientific sessions were held from 10:30 am till 6 pm (CET) including the two virtual cutting-edge high technology exhibition visits.



Prof. Tomris Ozben

More than 1000 scientists have registered to the Conference and listened to 60 Speakers and Session Chairs. All the presentations, discussions, networking, and exhibition have been found by the participants rewarding and worthwhile.

The 3rd EFLM Strategic Conference was a unique opportunity for all the stakeholders to know, to understand, to question and to participate to the orientation of Laboratory Medicine in Europe and globally.

The Conference program was designed to be interactive under virtual conditions reserving sufficient time for discussions. More in the spirit of strategic thinking: what are the problems now, what should we be aiming at in the future, where our focus should be, how we could achieve that, and how to implement revolutionary ideas to move us forward.

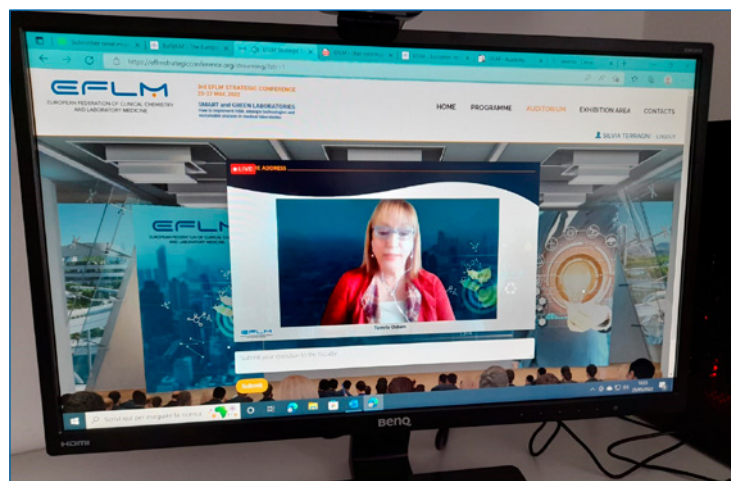
*Article continued on next page*



Preparation of the inspirational and fantastic scientific program, selection of the hot and innovative topics, selection, and invitation of the new expert Speakers all around the World took almost one year of continuous effort and time of me starting as the EFLM President-Elect in cooperation with the Scientific Program Committee Members and Scientific Session Chairs. The Scientific program covered a broad range of important topics such as basic concepts, advanced diagnostics and techniques used in laboratory medicine.

Distinguished eminent expert speakers, and global key opinion leaders from the field of laboratory medicine, In Vitro Diagnostics (IVD) Industry, Digital Health, Medical Devices and Representatives from MedTech Europe joined the conference to deliver the latest innovations in laboratory medicine, in healthcare, latest diagnostic technologies and scientific advances in all disciplines pertinent to laboratory medicine.

In all sessions, speakers from the IVD industry were included in the program as an important Strategy to emphasize the importance of the Partnership Model with IVD Industry for efficient integration and adoption of innovations and emerging technologies (Artificial Intelligence, Machine Learning, Advanced and Integrative Diagnostics, Digital Transformation, Big Data) in the IVD landscape into Medical Laboratories, to implement revolutionary ideas to move us forward, to develop a Strategic Vision for Cost-effective and Clinically-effective Laboratory Services that add value, to develop an efficient collaboration with MedTech Europe for the EC IVD Regulations, switching Medical Laboratories to Sustainable Green Labs, Digital Twins, Novel Technologies and Clinical Research in enabling Precise Predictive, Preventive and Personalised Medicine, Direct to Consumer Testing, trends, opportunities, and challenges.



A panel of experts discussed what is needed to succeed in this changing environment and the role of collaborations between industry, public, private, and academic drivers of innovation. Their feedback, participation, and engagement during the open discussion platform at the Strategic Conference were important and will be taken into consideration to steer laboratory medicine forward and to shape the future of our profession.

The aim of the 3rd EFLM Strategic Conference was to address and discuss recent developments and challenges in our field of profession focusing on important aspects in Laboratory Medicine in which some strategic actions/ measures should be taken.

An outcome of the Strategic Conference is the creation of EFLM Task Forces (TFs) and Working Groups (WGs) dealing with the main topics of the Conference. We are confident we will reach all the aims of the Strategic Conference and express our deepest thanks for your contributions and enthusiastic participation.

All the sessions of the Conference were recorded and are available for one year at the Conference website **“On Demand”** for the colleagues unable to attend it. So that the benefits of the Conference can be extended to scientists who did not have the opportunity to participate in the Conference. <https://eflmstrategicconference.org/index.php>.

Lectures and contributions presented at the Conference will be published in a special issue of the official EFLM Scientific Journal (CCLM).

On behalf of EFLM, I would like to express our gratitude and thanks to all those who have made it possible for this conference to become a reality.

I would like to thank all the distinguished eminent expert speakers accepting to take part in the scientific program despite their heavy schedules and for their outstanding presentations, IVD industry and MedTech Europe representatives, Scientific program Committee members, all the distinguished Session Chairs moderating the sessions and all the participants attending the Conference.

My heartfelt thanks to the In Vitro Diagnostic Sector for their high technology exhibitions, their continuous support and contribution who have made possible the accomplishment of this Conference.

I would like to thank the Professional Congress Organizer (MZ) and ALTRIMEDIA for their competence, and professionalism.

Special thanks to Silvia Cattaneo and Silvia Terragni.

Thank you for your participation and looking forward to seeing you in future EFLM activities, and conferences.

Best regards,

*Prof. Dr. Tomris Ozben*

*EFLM President and Chair of the 3rd EFLM Strategic Conference*

**Session 9** CLOSING REMARKS

NETWORKING ON THE PLATFORM  
WHAT DO YOU EXPECT FROM EFLM IN THE NEXT YEAR?  
OPEN DISCUSSION FOR THE PARTICIPANTS TO JOIN THE DISCUSSION AND SPEAK OPENLY ABOUT THE LATEST TRENDS, CHALLENGES AND OPPORTUNITIES THEY ARE FACING?

**3rd EFLM STRATEGIC CONFERENCE**  
**Smart and green laboratories:**  
How to implement IVDR, emerging technologies and sustainable practices in medical laboratories?  
25-27 MAY, 2022

**Tomris Ozben**  
EFLM, President, EFLM Task Force-Green Labs, Chair

- On behalf of EFLM, I would like to express our gratitude and thanks to all those who have made it possible for this conference to become a reality.
- I would like to thank all the **distinguished eminent expert speakers** accepting to take part in the scientific program in spite of their heavy schedules and for their outstanding presentations, **IVD industry and MedTech Europe representatives**, all the **distinguished Chairs** for their excellent moderation of the sessions and **all the participants** attending the Conference.
- My heartfelt thanks for **In Vitro Diagnostic Sector**, their continuous support and contribution have made possible the accomplishment of this Conference.
- I would like to thank the Professional Congress Organizer (MZ) and ALTRIMEDIA for their competence, and professionalism. Special thanks to **Silvia Cattaneo and Terry**.
- Thank you for your participation and looking forward to seeing you in future EFLM activities, and conferences.

EFLM



## COMMENTS OF THE PARTICIPANTS ABOUT THE CONFERENCE:

- Congratulations on the content and delivery of the congress. It is clear that you put in a huge amount of work to provide an excellent, forward-looking conference, which involved several speakers from outside the traditional laboratory medicine community. EFLM will have many options for developing these themes further.
- Well done and thanks for the opportunity. Assume you and the board now develop an operational plan with priorities for the next few years as a result of this meeting.

- A meeting in which every topic was well covered and presented. There was a good balance between the academic, industry and the clinical applications of lab medicine in improving patient care.
- In my opinion and I am sure that others will agree that this conference was one of the most impressive and focused in recent times. All the presentations I listened to were of a high standard and it was easy to understand what was being spoken about.
- The conference itself had very few glitches and many of the issues associated with virtual presentations seem to have been sorted out so many congratulations to MZ and the technical team.
- Many thanks to your leadership and the good communication between the various committees of EFLM. There is no doubt that good and effective communication is critical to the success of any organization and you have been able to build upon this. Congratulations
- Congratulations Tomris Ozben & team for the impressive organization.
- I found the conference very well organized, and the virtual environment run very smoothly.
- Just wanted to thank you for the complimentary registration and access to the conference. It was very informative!
- I would like to thank you for your great effort to successfully complete our society's third strategic conference!
- Great presentations! Thank you to all speakers!
- Thank you for the excellent presentations
- Thank you. excellent ideas
- Thank you and congratulations for the excellent conference!!
- I would like to thank all the speakers for the wonderful and very interesting lectures and especially the EFLM President Tomris Ozben for the possibility of free participation for EFLM Academy members at this conference.



Lorenzo Prencipe acquired his professionalism at the Clinical Biochemistry Laboratory of the Maggiore Hospital of Milano-Niguarda, directed by Prof. Giulio Vanzetti. Here he had the opportunity to develop analytical methodologies related to blood components, then adopted worldwide. He has published over thirty works in international journals. The dominant themes of his publications have been: development and improvement of analytical methodologies, quality control, evaluation of analytical methods. The method for the determination of uric acid, today globally accepted, was conceived and developed in collaboration with Piero Fossati. The papers on uric acid, triglyceride, and creatinine methods are cited in clinical chemistry authoritative texts.

The uric acid method has obtained the "Classical Citation" in the prestigious American journal *Clinical Chemistry*, while another one had over 2400 bibliographical citations. One of his books, *Equilibrio Acido Base: Teoria e Pratica*, has been translated into English, Spanish and Japanese. He directed the Vimercate Hospital Laboratory and has taught at the University of Milan and the University of Milan-Bicocca.



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## News from the Japan Society of Clinical Chemistry (JSCC): the 2021 JSCC Article Award

by Hideo Sakamoto, PhD  
International Exchange Committee of JSCC



Shigeyoshi Harada, MD, Reagent Engineering  
Division, Sysmex Corporation

The Japan Society of Clinical Chemistry (JSCC) Technology Award is given to persons who have made outstanding technology development in clinical chemistry. In 2021, Shigeyoshi Harada, MD and Masayasu Imaizumi, MS are winners of the Technology Award. The award presentation was held at the 61st Annual Meeting of JSCC in Fukuoka, Japan, from November 5-7, 2021. At the award presentation, award winners were congratulated by Dr. Takashi Miida, president of JSCC for their outstanding technology development in clinical chemistry.

In this issue, we would like to introduce winners of Technology Award to distribute their outstanding work.

Shigeyoshi Harada, MD (Reagent Engineering Division, Sysmex Corporation), is a winner of the 2021 JSCC Technology Award, entitled with “Development of OncoBEAM™ RAS CRC kit”.

The OncoBEAM™ RAS CRC kit is an *in vitro* diagnostic product for colorectal cancer that detects RAS gene mutations (KRAS and NRAS) in trace amounts of ctDNA (circulating tumor DNA) in cfDNA (cell-free DNA) extracted from plasma. In order to achieve high sensitivity required for detection of ctDNA, the BEAMing (Beads, Emulsions, Amplification and Magnetics) technology, one of highly sensitive digital PCR technologies, is implemented.

The limit of detection is 6 to 45 copies for a DNA input equivalent to 5,000 to 11,6000 genomes, and 0.03 to 0.12% can be detected as a mutant allele frequency. The following results were shown in clinical performance tests (Br J Cancer. 2019; 120: 982-6) conducted at eight facilities in Japan using tissue-based test as a reference method. Of the 288 cases subject to efficacy analysis, 280 cases excluding 8 cases of “RAS unknown” had a concordance rate of 86.4% between this product and the reference method. In 31 cases with metastasis only in the lung, the concordance rate between this product and the reference method was 64.5%. By analyzing these results in detail and disclosing them in the package insert, promotion of appropriate use as a liquid biopsy test and contribution to medical treatment was achieved.

This product can perform RAS gene mutation test even in difficult cases to obtain tissue samples. In addition, as an advantage of liquid biopsy, it is possible to grasp the latest gene mutation state at the time of drug administration, avoiding tumor heterogeneity which could be a problem in histological examination using tissue samples. These advantages result in contribution to provide patients with the opportunity to receive more appropriate treatment.

His team would like to contribute to the further development of clinical chemistry by proving and creating the clinical value of liquid biopsy technology continuously.

Masayasu Imaizumi, MS (Research and Development Division, FUJIREBIO INC.) is the winner of the 2021 JSCC Technology Award, entitled with “Development of novel coronavirus antigen measurement reagents “ESPLINE<sup>®</sup> SARS-CoV-2”, “Lumipulse<sup>®</sup> G SARS-CoV-2 Ag” and “ Lumipulse Presto<sup>®</sup> SARS-CoV-2 Ag” that can be used in a variety of clinical settings.”

They have been making efforts to take prompt action against emerging infections, especially those with a high risk of becoming a national crisis.

For the novel coronavirus 2019 (SARS-CoV-2), the month after it was reported that this virus was the cause of the severe acute respiratory syndrome that spread in Wuhan, the decision was made to develop diagnostic reagents that could meet the needs of various possible clinical settings.

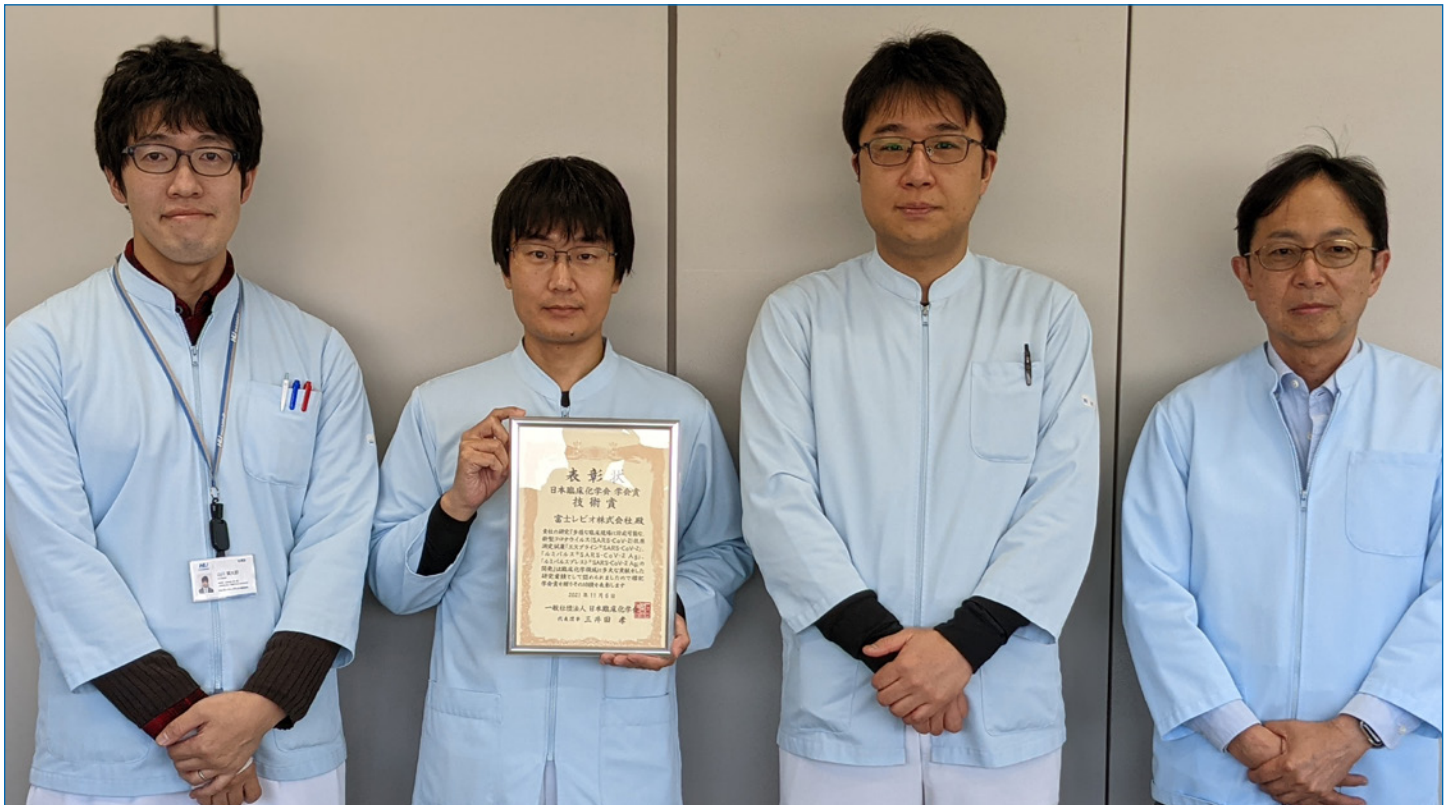
Then, they developed and launched “ESPLINE<sup>®</sup> SARS-CoV-2” as a simple rapid antigen test reagent, and “Lumipulse<sup>®</sup> SARS-CoV-2 Ag” and “Lumipulse Presto<sup>®</sup> SARS-CoV-2 Ag” as fully automated highly sensitive quantitative antigen tests within a very short period.

Highly sensitive and resistant to viral mutation tests are essential for diagnostics for infectious diseases. The high-sensitivity technology, they have developed as well as multiple antibodies against the functional domain of the antigen make their reagents robust to mutation and highly sensitive.

As of November 2021, no variants that affect these measurement reagents have been found, and it is confident that the reagent design assuming mutations was effective.

In addition, the application of nasal swabs and the use of saliva samples for quantitative reagents contributed to the expansion of the scope of testing to include samples that can be self-collected.

The early development and launch of these reagents contributed to the establishment of a system for testing the novel coronavirus disease (COVID-19) in Japan and overseas, and to public health through their use in quarantine.



Masayasu Imaizumi, MS, Research and Development Division, FUJIREBIO INC and his colleagues



## New board of directors of the Peruvian Medical Association of Clinical Pathology for 2022-2024

*by Dr. Luis Figueroa Montes  
President of AMPPC, Peru*

On Saturday, June 11, at the facilities of the medical college of Peru, the oath-taking ceremony of the Peruvian Medical Association of Clinical Pathology was held, a scientific medical institution that brings together all Clinical Pathologists who carry out their activities in Laboratory Medicine. Our society is a full member of the International Federation of Clinical Chemistry and Laboratory Medicine – IFCC since February 2021 (1,2).

In this ceremony, the new board of directors was sworn in for the period 2022-2024, which will be chaired by Dr. Luis Figueroa Montes (3).

The Peruvian Society of Clinical Pathology, today known as the Peruvian Medical Association of Clinical Pathology, is one of the oldest medical societies in Peru, with more than 76 years of institutional life. It was founded in the city of Lima, on October 25, 1945, its first president being Dr. Jorge Avendano Hubner, who directed it between 1946 and 1949 (4).

In the book entitled «50 years - Peruvian Society of Pathology», written by the distinguished Peruvian doctor Guillermo Contreras Palacios, remembered for the great contribution to Peruvian Clinical Pathology, in a speech given at an act of incorporation of new partners, in September of 1994, he mentioned that there are eight doctrinal principles that condition existence and lead the institutional threads of our society (5):



Dr. Luis Figueroa Montes,  
in his inauguration speech as President

1. Promote the integral progress of the Clinical Pathologist.
2. Awaken the vocation of doctors for this beautiful and important specialty.
3. Promote research, especially the one related to national or regional pathology.
4. Raise the prestige of the specialty and make it known that laboratory tests are medical acts.
5. Become a consultative entity, before institutions that train health professionals, as well as institutions that provide health services.
6. Establish and maintain permanent links with affiliates at the national level and international institutions of the specialty and related ones.

7. Make known and keep alive the worship and respect for national and international figures who have contributed to the prestige of the specialty.

8. Advocate the unity of the medical union, taking advantage of the condition of being a common factor within the scientific field of medical specialties.

In the inauguration speech, Dr. Luis Figueroa Montes mentioned that Clinical Pathology is present in all stages of life, from the conception of the human being to his death, being laboratory tests or biomarkers, substantial for decision making in the diagnosis, monitoring and treatment of patients. The advancement of technology generates disruptive innovations in our field, motivating us to eternal learning and constantly strengthening our work and professional skills.

He mentioned that this technology incorporates artificial intelligence, a fabulous tool, which will be consolidated in the teams and will allow the establishment of predictive models that will be part of the diagnostic process gear in the not too-distant-future. It is an obligation for new talents in the specialty to understand the mysteries of computational medicine and biomedicine, for the proper handling of the mega data that is obtained today when processing, for example, genomes, among other tests.

He stressed that the pillars of the new board of directors in the next two years will focus on academics, on the advocacy of the specialty, on harmonizing the university curriculum and on updating our national standards or regulations that embrace our work.

In the end, he stressed that the most important thing is *«To make clinical pathology and its contribution to health systems visible. For this, I invite each one of the society members to be active agents and catalysts of a change that adds to our history»*.



Pedro Weiss Auditorium of the Medical College of Peru:  
Oath-taking ceremony at the Peruvian Medical Association of Clinical Pathology





New Board of Directors of the Peruvian Medical Association of Clinical Pathology

## LINKS OF INTEREST

1. Asociación Médica Peruana de Patología Clínica. Disponible en [www.patologiaclinica.pe](http://www.patologiaclinica.pe).
2. <https://www.ifcc.org/executive-board-and-council/council/full-members/peru-national-society-pe/>.
3. [https://issuu.com/editorialcamel/docs/revista\\_20\\_p\\_ginas\\_-\\_donaci\\_n\\_de\\_rg\\_462a383f9df2b2](https://issuu.com/editorialcamel/docs/revista_20_p_ginas_-_donaci_n_de_rg_462a383f9df2b2).
4. Los primeros 100 años de la Patología Clínica en el Perú 1856-1956. Ricardo Alvarez Carrasco. Disponible en <https://www.patologiaclinica.pe/archivos/los-primeros-100-anos-de-la-patologia-clinica-en-el-peru-1856-1956-01062022110017.pdf>.
5. Sociedad Peruana de Patología Clínica 50 años. Guillermo Contreras Palacios. Disponible en <https://www.patologiaclinica.pe/archivos/sociedad-peruana-de-patologia-50-anos-01062022123608.pdf>.

## News from the IFCC Website

### DIAGNÓSTICO IN VITRO - June Issue now available



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

Dr. Girardi, Director de DiV dice: “Estimados colegas de la comunidad Iberoamericana. Me complace una vez más publicar la edición Nro. 21 de la Revista Científica Diagnóstico in Vitro. Con el objetivo de difundir y promover las actividades científicas, relacionada con nuestra profesión y modestamente, generar un lugar de reflexión es que se ha trabajado en el número que les presento, no sin antes agradecer la enorme colaboración del Comité de Redacción y especialmente el Consejo Editorial de inestimable eficacia y celeridad que hace de la edición una tarea muy placentera.

Por supuesto un profundo agradecimiento a los autores que confiaron en esta revista para compartir sus actividades.

En este número encontrarán la descripción de varios eventos científicos y una serie de trabajos de investigación que considero de interés para difundir como aporte al crecimiento profesional de los colegas. Concluye la revista una serie de Reportajes incluida la entrevista al Presidente de la IFCC, Dr. Prof. Adeli. Espero disfruten la edición tanto como a mí me provocó armarla.

IFCC WG-IANT confirms its commitment to advance excellence in laboratory medicine for better healthcare worldwide and in Ibero-America.

[Read more](#)

## News from the IFCC Website

### IFCC Annual Report 2021



The IFCC Annual Report 2021, compiled by Dr. David Kinniburgh, IFCC Secretary, is now available.

IFCC has been incredibly active over the past year, despite the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic, and continues to work productively towards “advancing excellence in laboratory medicine for better healthcare worldwide”. Thanks to the adaptability of the IFCC community, we were able to shift our activities from in-person to virtual using various online platforms. This has allowed the Executive Board, Divisions, Task Forces, Committees, and Working Groups to meet regularly throughout the year and achieve the aims of the 2020-2023 Strategic Plan and has also facilitated successful virtual events.

Download your copy and read how the IFCC mission ‘Advancing excellence in laboratory medicine for better healthcare worldwide’ has been the guiding principle for our work in 2021

[Read more](#)

# IFCC'S CALENDAR OF CONGRESSES, CONFERENCES & EVENTS

## Calendar of IFCC Congresses/Conferences and Regional Federations' Congresses

<p>July 22, 2022</p>	 <p>International Federation of Clinical Chemistry and Laboratory Medicine</p>	<p><i>IFCC Live webinar on: Experts' insights and experiences for clinical laboratory investigators: building translational research programs</i></p>	<p>Live webinar</p>
<p>Sept 4 - 10, 2022</p>	 <p>International Federation of Clinical Chemistry and Laboratory Medicine</p>	<p><i>IFCC-C-CMBC 11th Beginners' Course in Molecular Diagnostics</i></p>	<p>Niğde, TR</p>
<p>Sept 9 - 10, 2022</p>	 <p>ARAB FEDERATION OF CLINICAL BIOLOGY AFCB</p>	<p><i>AFCB Congress 2022</i></p>	<p>Beirut, LB</p>
<p>Oct 2, 2022</p>	 <p>International Federation of Clinical Chemistry and Laboratory Medicine</p>	<p><i>IFCC-GSCC Joint Symposium: "Medical Test Performance should keep pace with Evolution in Science and Clinical Guidelines: state of play and challenges for CardioVascular Disease tests in this era of Precision Medicine"</i></p>	<p>Hybrid event, Crete, GR</p>
<p>Dec 1, 2022</p>	 <p>International Federation of Clinical Chemistry and Laboratory Medicine</p>	<p><i>Developments in reference measurement systems for C-reactive protein and the importance of maintaining currently used clinical decision-making criteria - JCTLM in cooperation with CIRME</i></p>	<p>Sesto San Giovanni, Milano, Italy</p>

Calendar continued on next page

May 21 - 25, 2023		<i>XXV IFCC - EFLM WorldLab EuroMedLab - Rome 2023</i>	Rome, IT
May 26 -30, 2024		<i>XXVI IFCC WORLDLAB - Dubai 2024</i>	Dubai, UAE
April 2024		<i>XXVI COLABIOCLI 2024</i>	Cartagena, CO
October 19 - 22, 2024		<i>APFCB 2024 Sydney</i>	Sidney, AU
2025 Date TBA		<i>XXVI IFCC-EFLM EUROMEDLAB 2025</i>	<i>Venue to be selected</i>
2026 Date TBA		<i>XXVII IFCC WORLDLAB 2026</i>	<i>Venue to be selected</i>
2027 Date TBA		<i>XXVII IFCC-EFLM EUROMEDLAB 2027</i>	<i>Venue to be selected</i>

2028 Date TBA	 International Federation of Clinical Chemistry and Laboratory Medicine	XXVIII IFCC WORLDLAB 2028	Venue to be selected
2029 Date TBA	 International Federation of Clinical Chemistry and Laboratory Medicine	XXVIII IFCC-EFLM EUROMEDLAB 2029	Venue to be selected
2030 Date TBA	 International Federation of Clinical Chemistry and Laboratory Medicine	XXIX IFCC WORLDLAB 2030	Venue to be selected

### Other events with IFCC auspices

Jul 18 - 23, 2022	<i>29th AMBICON 2022</i>	Bangalore, IN
Jul 22, 2022	<i>International Conference on Immunoassay</i>	Snibe Dubai, UAE
Jul 22 - 24, 2022	<i>16th IACC National Congress</i>	Hybrid event, Jakarta, ID
Aug 1, 2022 - Apr 30, 2023	<i>5th International program in control of analytical quality in the Clinical laboratory</i>	Quality Academics, online event
Aug 18 - 19, 2022	<i>20th Congreso Chileno de Quimica Clinica</i>	Santiago, CL
Aug 23 - 26, 2022	<i>17th National and 8th International Congress of Biochemistry</i>	Iran, online event
Sept 12 - 14, 2022	<i>XXII Serbian Congress of Medical Biochemistry and Laboratory Medicine and 16th Symposium for Balkan Region</i>	Belgrade, SRB

Sept 12 - 17 2022	<i>XLIV National Congress of Clinical Chemists and ExpoQuím Guadalajara</i>	Hybrid event Guadalajara, MX
Sept 17, 2022	<i>Inter-QC Topics : Innovation in laboratory medicine, where are we going? QC in POCT</i>	Quality Academics, online event
Sept 18 - 21, 2022	<i>20th International Congress of Therapeutic Drug Monitoring and Clinical Toxicology - IATDMCT 2022</i>	Prague, CZ
Sept 19 - 20, 2022	<i>6th Slovenian Congress of Clinical Chemistry and Laboratory Medicine</i>	Portoroz, SI
Sept 21 - 23, 2022	<i>28th AACC International CPOCT Symposium – Meeting Evolving Patient Needs Using Point-of-Care Testing</i>	Montreal, CA
Sept 22 - 24, 2022	<i>XVI Baltic Congress in Laboratory Medicine</i>	Tallin, EE
Sept 22 - 24, 2022	<i>22èmes Journées Marocaines de Biologie Clinique</i>	Casablanca, MO
Sept 28, 2022	<i>International Conference on Laboratory Medicine “Moving laboratory medicine beyond the pandemic: from disruptive technologies to innovation”</i>	Padua, IT
Sept 28 - Oct 1, 2022	<i>10th Congress of the Croatian Society of Medical Biochemistry and Laboratory Medicine</i>	Zagreb, HR
Sept 29 - Oct 2, 2022	<i>XXXI World Congress of the World Association of Societies of Pathology and Laboratory Medicine (WASPaLM)</i>	Punta del Este, UY
Sept 30, 2022	<i>Cardiac Marker Dialogues</i>	Glasgow, UK
Oct 2 - 5, 2022	<i>2nd AFCB-EFLM Conference Laboratory Medicine for Mobile Societies in the Mediterranean Area</i>	Heraclion - Crete, GR
Oct 4 - 9, 2022	<i>FEBS Advanced Course: 360-degree Lysosome; from structure to genomics, from function to disease-update</i>	Izmir, TR

Oct 5 - 7, 2022	<i>5emes Journées Francophones de Biologie Médicale (5e JFBM)</i>	Hybrid event Saint Etienne, FR
Oct 14 - 17, 2022	<i>46th ISOBM Congress</i>	Bled, SI
Oct 18 - 20, 2022	<i>AACB 59th Annual Scientific Conference</i>	Hybrid event, Perth, AU
Oct 26 - Nov 15, 2022	<i>How to write and publish: a good scientific &amp; professional article</i>	Online event
Oct 26 - 30, 2022	<i>TBS International Biochemistry Congress 2022 &amp; 33rd National Biochemistry Congress organized by the Turkish Biochemical Society</i>	Izmir, TR
Nov 18, 2022	<i>Annual Meeting of the RBSLM</i>	Brussels, BE
Nov 19, 2022	<i>Inter-QC Topics: Measurement uncertainty and its usefulness in the laboratory</i>	Quality Academics, online event
Nov 30, 2022	<i>14th International Scientific Meeting: Implementation of metrological traceability in laboratory medicine: where we are and what is missing</i>	Sesto San Giovanni Milan, IT
Dec 1 - 2, 2022	<i>Journées de l'innovation en biologie (JIB 2022)</i>	Hybrid event, Paris, FR
Jan 1 - Jul 31, 2023	<i>Inter-QC Topics</i>	Quality Academics, online event





# IFCC Executive Board 2021-2023



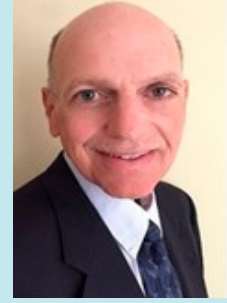
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## Publisher

**Communications and Publications  
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**N° 4 – April:** *by mid March*

**N° 5 – May:** *by mid April*

**N° 6 – June:** *by mid May*

**N° 7/8 – July/August:** *by mid June*

**N° 9 – September:** *by mid August*

**N° 10 – October:** *by mid September*

**N° 11 – November:** *by mid October*

**N° 12 – December:** *by mid November*

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