№ 6
June 2025

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International Federation of Clinical Chemistry
and Laboratory Medicine

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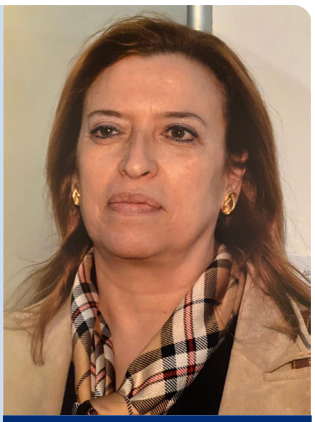

Marilena Stamouli,
eNews Editor

Dear colleagues,

World Environment Day, marked on 5 June, is a call to protect our environment and take urgent actions for a sustainable future. In this issue, you can read about One Health perspective, a collaborative, multidisciplinary approach that integrates human, animal, and environmental health. One Health aims to sustainably balance and optimize the health of people, animals and ecosystems, all of which are closely linked and interdependent.

In her message published in the present issue, our President, Prof. Tomris Ozben, expresses her sincere appreciation to the speakers, session chairs, IVD industry representatives, and all participants from around the world, that contributed to the success of IFCC General Conference in Bruges and XXVI IFCC-EFLM EuroMedLab Congress in Brussels.

We invite you to read about the Global Med Lab Week 2025, coordinated by the IFCC and its six federations, which set a new global benchmark for public recognition and professional celebration of clinical laboratory workers.

News from member societies from Nepal, Ethiopia, Pakistan, Japan, and Jordan are also included in this issue. They share with us exciting information about their congresses, conferences and other activities, which promote knowledge exchange and professional networking.
The high quality of this scientific content shows once again the commitment of Medical Laboratory professionals to innovation, advanced patient care and continuous progress.
Moreover, colleagues from Peru share with us the impact of applying a screening strategy that has allowed the timely diagnosis of patients with chronic kidney disease.

Interesting news from the IFCC Professional Exchange Program and from Task Force on Outcome Studies in Laboratory Medicine (TF-OSLM), are also included in this issue.

On August 1st, 2025, the UNIVANTS of Healthcare Excellence award program opens the 2026 application process, allowing to online submissions. In this issue you can find useful tips for when applying to the UNIVANTS of Healthcare Excellence award program.

Finally, I take the opportunity to remind you that IFCC Executive Board call for nominations for Executive Board Members will be open until the end of June, and to encourage appropriate candidates to apply for the various positions of the EB.

Marilena Stamouli

The voice of IFCC

IFCC President's Message

June 2025
By Tomris Ozben

Prof. Tomris Ozben
EuSpLM, Ph.D.

Dear Colleagues, Dear Friends,

The energy and success of last month's IFCC General Conference in Bruges continue to resonate with us all. It was an inspiring and impactful gathering, bringing together 221 participants from across our global network—including IFCC Officers, National Society Presidents/ Representatives, Corporate Members, and leaders from the IVD industry.

I extend my heartfelt thanks to each of you for contributing to this milestone event. Over two full days, we engaged in meaningful conversations, shared knowledge, and built bridges across sectors and regions — true to the spirit of our host city, Bruges: a city defined by its flowing waters and enduring connections.

Our theme, *"Science: The Future Flows Like Water,"* was a powerful call to action. In a world undergoing rapid transformation, our community is called to be equally dynamic, adaptive, and forward-thinking. Science must flow — continuously, collaboratively, and courageously.

We opened the conference with a strong emphasis on transparency and governance. Presentations from the IFCC Executive Board reaffirmed our shared values: inclusive collaboration, purposeful strategic planning, and financial integrity.

From there, we explored the global landscape of laboratory medicine. Regional Federation representatives — from Asia-Pacific to Africa, the Arab Federation to North America, Latin America to Europe — presented innovative initiatives and bold strategies tailored to their unique challenges and opportunities. Despite our geographic diversity, a shared commitment to equity, quality, and access in diagnostics united every voice.

Our Divisions demonstrated that IFCC is not only keeping pace with change but leading it. The work of the Scientific Division, Emerging Technologies Division, Education and Management Division, and Communications and Publications Division exemplifies our commitment to building a strong, sustainable future.

Our Task Forces continue to expand the scope and depth of IFCC's mission, tackling critical issues such as ethics, young scientist engagement, global reference intervals, newborn screening, environmental sustainability, outcome studies in laboratory medicine, and global eLearning. Their presentations served as a powerful reminder of our growing reach and influence.

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A highlight of the conference was the session on the future of the IVD industry, held in collaboration with MedTech Europe and our IVD industry partners. This dynamic and thought-provoking session focused on two key topics, each followed by interactive Q&A:

- **The Future of the IVD Industry:** Industry leaders shared their vision and outlined strategic priorities for the next decade of laboratory medicine.
- **Partnership Models for Integrating Emerging Technologies into Medical Laboratories:** This segment emphasized collaboration, innovation, and shared responsibility in addressing today's clinical demands efficiently and ethically.

The following morning, we began with impactful presentations and discussions on patient safety, standardization, and sustainability. It was a clear reminder that while innovation is essential, it must always be grounded on ethical responsibility and clinical value. We are not only advancing technology — we are safeguarding lives.

We concluded the conference with a Strategic Planning Session, turning our focus to the road ahead. The diversity of perspectives — from National Societies, Corporate Members, and IFCC Functional Units — enriched the dialogue and will directly influence IFCC's next steps. The open discussions reflected both the diversity of voices in the room and the unity of our purpose.

Together, we reaffirmed our mission and strengthened our partnerships. I am immensely proud of what we have accomplished and confident in our collective ability to shape the future of laboratory medicine.

I would like to express my sincere appreciation:

- To our **invited speakers** — your leadership and insights elevated every session.
- To our **moderators and chairs** — thank you for guiding our discussions with professionalism and clarity.
- To our **IFCC Officers, members, and regional leaders** — you are the pillars of this federation. Your commitment continues to inspire.
- To our **corporate members and industry partners** — thank you for your innovation and support. The path ahead requires cooperation, and we are proud to walk it with you.
- To the **organizing team,** who ensured every detail — from logistics to technical support — ran smoothly: your efforts are deeply appreciated.
- And to **all participants** — your engagement, insights, and energy made this event truly meaningful. The conference was shaped by your questions, experiences, and passion.

On behalf of the entire IFCC Executive Board and the global IFCC community, thank you once again for your contributions and dedication.

Because science matters. Because truth matters. Because people matter—now more than ever.

My heartfelt thanks also go to all participants of the **XXVI IFCC-EFLM EuroMedLab Congress,** organized by IFCC and EFLM, and proudly hosted by the Royal Belgian Society of Laboratory Medicine (RBSLM), in collaboration with MZ Events, our professional congress organizer.

Sincere appreciation goes to the eminent speakers, session chairs, IVD industry representatives, and participants from around the world who contributed to making this event a truly successful and impactful meeting. Your presence and engagement brought extraordinary value to the Congress.

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Through a rich program of plenary lectures, symposia, educational workshops, and an extensive IVD exhibition, attendees were offered an exceptional opportunity to explore the latest advances in laboratory medicine and emerging technologies. The high quality of scientific content and the spirit of collaboration shared throughout the Congress reaffirmed our collective commitment to innovation, excellence, and progress in our field.
Together, we continue to shape the future of laboratory medicine — step by step, with shared purpose and passion.
Thank you once again for your dedication and enthusiasm.

With sincere gratitude,

Prof. Dr. Tomris Ozben

IFCC President

Nominations Comittee

IFCC Executive Board call for nominations for Executive Board Members are open until June 30th, 2025

(time in office 2027-2029, with President-elect to begin in January 2026)

The IFCC Nominations Committee is announcing the schedule for the **election of the IFCC Executive Board (EB). All Executive Board Members' term of office is from January 1st, 2027, till December 31st, 2029, with the exception of the President who begins as President-elect on January 1st, 2026, to be confirmed as President for the term January 1st, 2027, till December 31st, 2029.** IFCC Full Member Societies can consider appropriate candidates for the various positions on the EB.

We take the opportunity to remind you that the election of the **Corporate Representative is conducted by Corporate Members' Representatives only.** A separate communication will be made to Corporate Members' Representatives.

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 members 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 to assure a sustainable IFCC future, in a changing healthcare environment.

The election schedule is as follows:

- **April 1st – June 30th, 2025:** Call for nominations for the positions of President, Secretary, Treasurer, Corporate Representative and 6 Regional Federation Representatives;
- **July 1st – 31st, 2025:** Nominations Committee determines the eligibility of each candidate and sets the slate of eligible candidates;
- **August 1st – September 30th, 2025:** Slate of candidates is distributed widely throughout IFCC;
- **October 1st – 31st, 2025:** Electronic ballot;
- **Beginning of November 2025:** Results announced;
- **January 1st, 2026:** President-elect term begins;
- **January 1st, 2027:** President-elect is confirmed as President, beginning his/her term along with all other EB Members.

Please contact the respective IFCC Full Member societies for further details

DESIGN AWARD 2025

Snibe Diagnostic

Beyond Automation Towards Excellence

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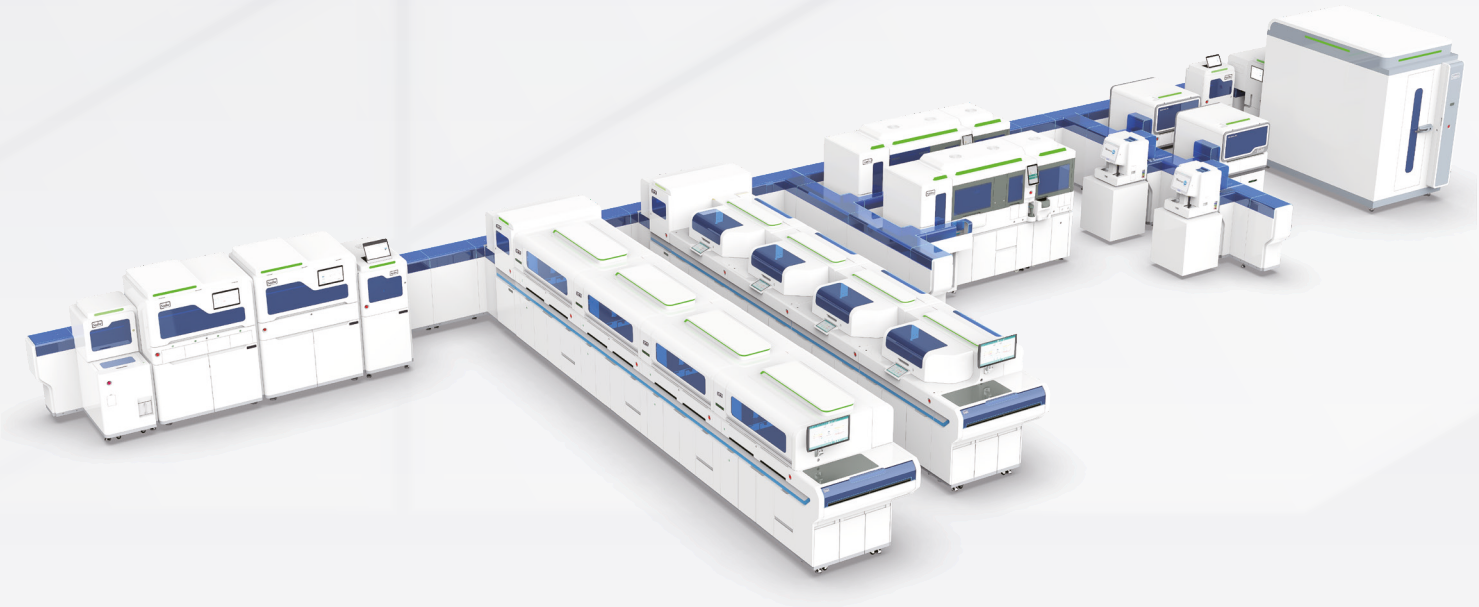
Total Laboratory Automation Solutions



Efficiency

Flexibility

Intelligence

Compatibility

ADLM

Welcome to Visit Snibe Booth: 2843

Global MedLab Week 2025 – A New Standard of Excellence

By **Dr. Maria Pasquel-Moxley,** C-PR Chair/CPD-IFCC

Global MedLab Week 2025 (GMLW) set a new global benchmark for public recognition and professional celebration of clinical laboratory workers under the powerful theme: “Labs Save Lives”. Coordinated by the IFCC and its six federations, this year’s campaign was the most ambitious to date — not only in terms of global reach but also in innovation, equity, and professional engagement.

COLABIOCLI emerged as the most engaged federation. With Ecuador submitting the highest number of videos globally and Mexico leading in podcast production, Latin America demonstrated unmatched enthusiasm and creativity. The Spanish-speaking world’s contribution to this year’s campaign reinforced the universal relevance of the message — laboratories are essential pillars of patient care.

This year’s process was more structured and transparent than ever before. The Committee for Public Relations (C-PR) oversaw every phase: creating multilingual guidelines, promoting the campaign across all regions, setting up a multilingual panel of 30 expert and public judges from all six IFCC federations, and designing a confidential online platform to score all entries. Judges evaluated each entry independently, unaware of others’ scores. The platform automatically averaged scores to the hundredth, ensuring objective and consistent evaluations. Submissions were approved only if they met all technical and language requirements.
The results were inspiring. The Global Video Winner came from Sri Lanka: Dr. Galmangodage Nilanka Emarshana’s powerful piece illustrated real lab scenes, touching interviews, and national pride. The storytelling was rich and visually impactful, showcasing how the laboratory saves lives daily in the National Hospital of Sri Lanka.

In the podcast category, first place went to Türkiye’s “Behind Every Test” by Kamil Taha Uçar — a thoughtful exploration of the emotional weight of each diagnosis. The second place winner from Sri Lanka, “The Silent Mission of Biochemistry,” reflected on the invisible heroes working quietly behind the scenes. Third place was awarded to COLABIOCLI’s entry from Mexico: “Flow Cytometry,” a bilingual podcast by Enrique de Jesús González Cruz and Diego Gómez, that skillfully combined science, storytelling, and accessibility.

The social media impact of GMLW 2025 exceeded all previous years. Facebook alone reached over 3 million views with 2.6 million in reach and 16,000+ interactions — a 9500% increase. Instagram, LinkedIn, and YouTube also saw exponential growth. Spotify streaming time hit 372 hours (+3700%), proving the public’s interest in learning from lab professionals. Across all platforms, tens of thousands of new followers were gained.

This success was not incidental. It was the result of months of planning, collaboration, and strategic digital communication. The C-PR managed video invitations from IFCC authorities, worked with designers to create accessible campaign visuals, and engaged with global audiences daily throughout the week.

A crucial part of the project was the judging and awards process. The C-PR verified that all winning entries adhered to content guidelines. If submissions lacked English versions or did not comply with rules, they were disqualified. Winners were then contacted by IFCC to arrange formal recognition. Many regional federations celebrated their winners locally, while the global ceremony took place on May 19 in Brussels at the IFCC booth — a memorable gathering to honor talent and dedication.

What made GMLW 2025 unique was the diversity of messages. Submissions included patient testimonials, daily lab workflows, pandemic stories, rural outreach efforts, and the emotional connection between lab professionals and diagnosis. It wasn’t just about celebrating the profession

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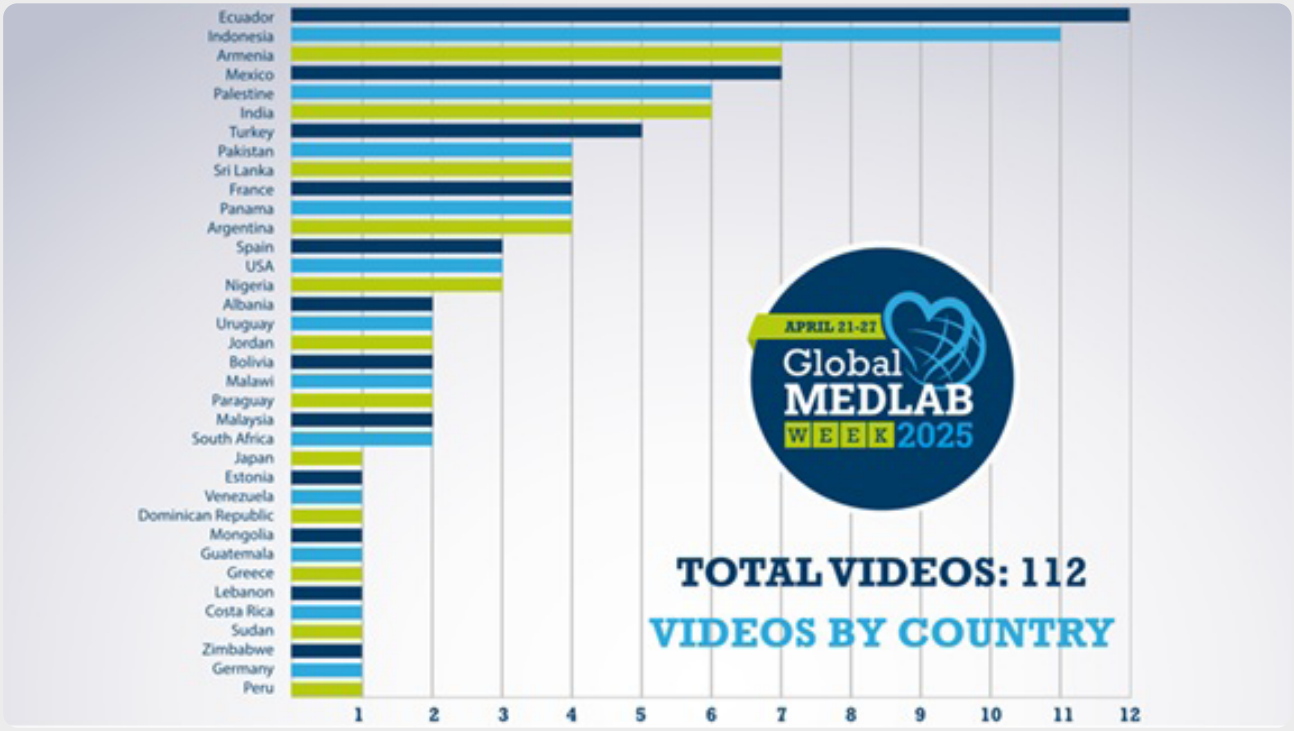
— it was about educating the world on the silent contributions of laboratory medicine.
As part of C-PR's strategic planning for the future, several steps are being taken: improving the review workflow for video and podcast approval, increasing focus on podcast production due to its efficiency, analyzing platform performance by region, and encouraging year-round engagement with GMLW content.

Global MedLab Week 2025 was more than an event. It was a movement. It amplified the identity, pride, and global voice of the lab community. Our heartfelt thanks go to all participants, the IFCC Executive Board, our six federations, the judging panel, and every supporter who helped make this initiative a worldwide success. Let us carry this momentum into 2026 and continue to show the world that laboratories, as well as those who work within them, save lives.
A special word of thanks goes to Prof. Tomris Ozben, IFCC President, whose leadership and vision have been instrumental in elevating the impact of Global MedLab Week 2025. Her support and encouragement empowered teams around the world to innovate, collaborate, and shine.



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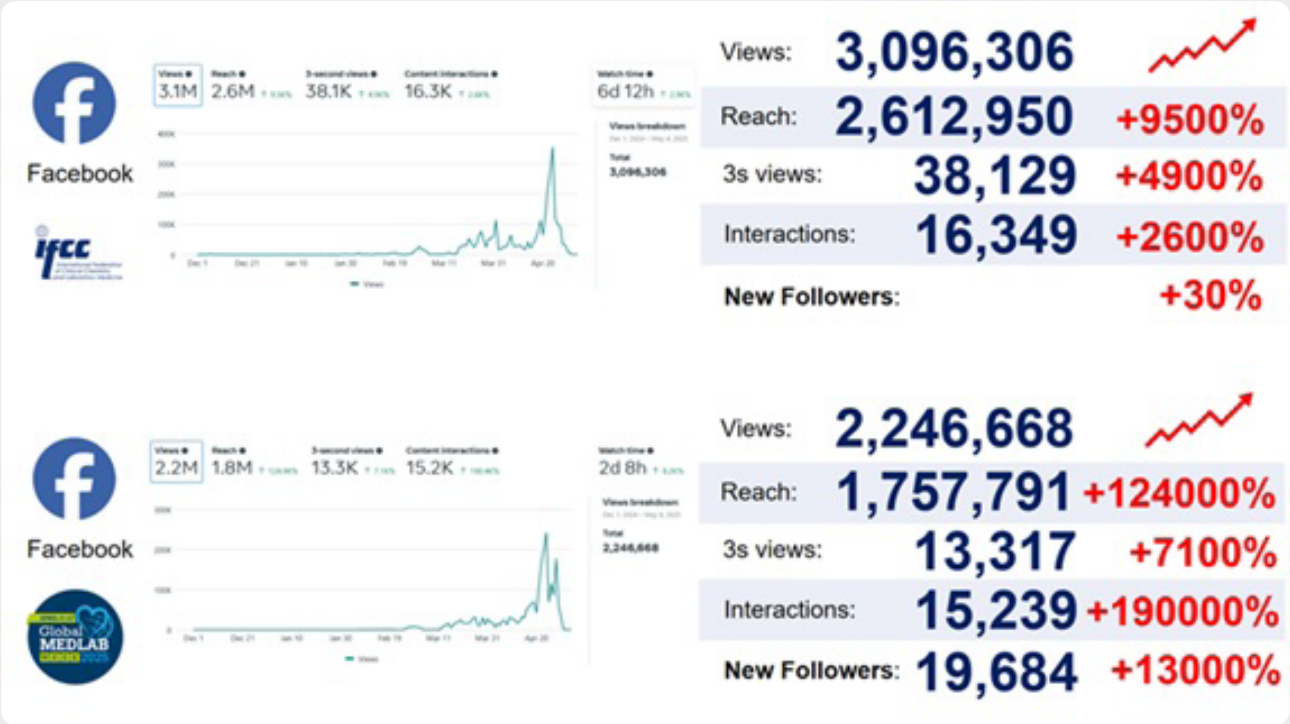

Facebook Report IFCC and GMLW 2025

Network Report IFCC and GMLW

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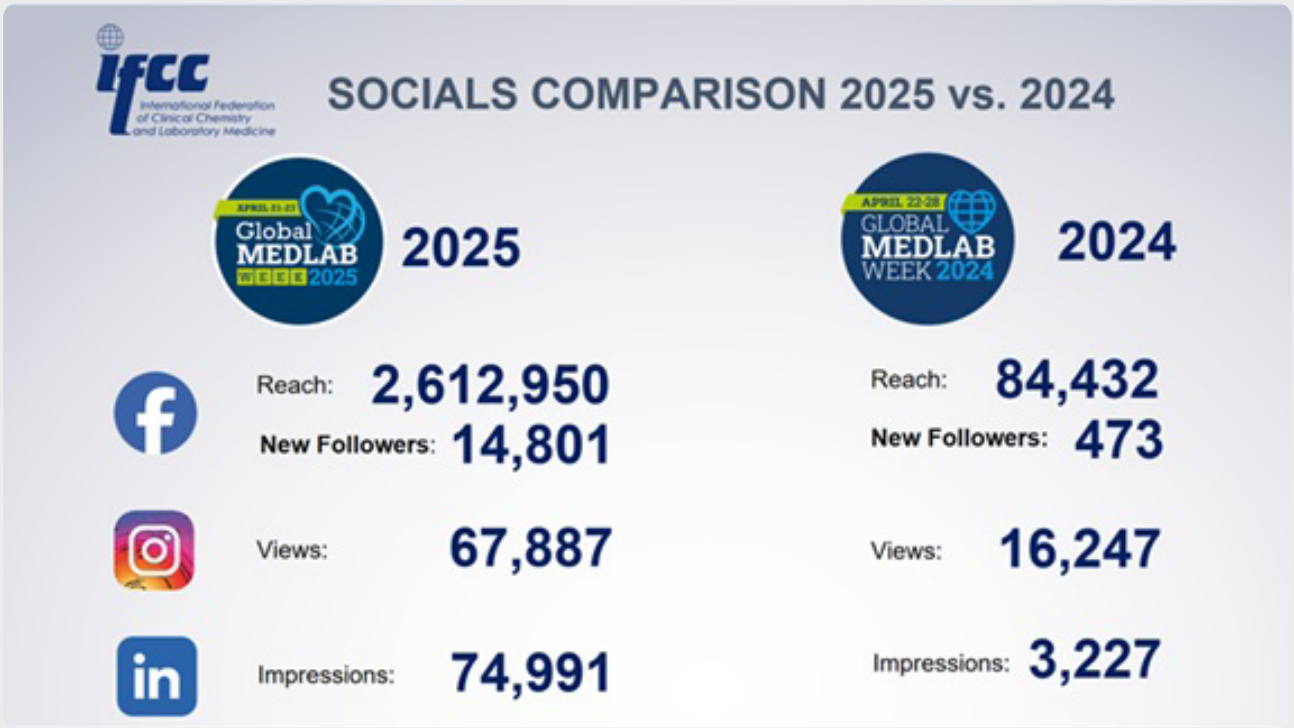

Exponential growth of GMNLW from 2024 to 2025. Thank you all for supporting and being part of this success

On demand content is available at this link.

Global Research Teams Awarded Funding to Advance Outcome Studies in Laboratory Medicine

Research Funding Available

IFCC International Federation of Clinical Chemistry and Laboratory Medicine

The International Federation of Clinical Chemistry and Laboratory Medicine (IFCC) has announced the selection of four research proposals for funding through its Task Force on Outcome Studies in Laboratory Medicine (TF-OSLM). This initiative is part of a global push to generate robust evidence on how laboratory testing directly impacts health outcomes and informs clinical decision-making.

Selected from a competitive international pool, the awarded projects span a range of health conditions and geographic regions—highlighting laboratory medicine's central role in areas from oncology and cardiovascular care to genetics and infectious disease control.

The TF-OSLM is committed to supporting studies that go beyond test performance to assess their tangible effect on patient care. These funded proposals exemplify the transformative potential of laboratory diagnostics to guide practice improvement, inform policy, and ultimately contribute to better health outcomes across diverse populations.

Funded Projects

The four proposals selected for funding are:

- **Nutritional Intervention Using Controlling Nutritional Status (CONUT) Score and Sarcopenia Assessment and its Impact on Acute Radiation Toxicities and Radiotherapy Response in Locally Advanced Head and Neck Cancer**
  Principal Investigator: Dr. Bela Goyal, Department of Biochemistry, AIIMS Rishikesh, India
- **Optimizing patient, laboratory and societal outcomes for Reproductive Genetic Carrier Screening**
  Principal Investigator: Dr. Leslie Burnett, Garvan Institute of Medical Research, Australia
- **Lipid lowering therapy and lipid goal attainment following apolipoprotein B testing**
  Principal Investigator: Dr. Jing Cao, University of Texas Southwestern Medical Center, USA
- **Assessing the Impact of Antimicrobial Susceptibility Testing (AST) on Patient Outcomes and Public Health in Nigeria**
  Principal Investigator: Dr. Sepiso K. Masenga, APIN Public Health Initiatives, Nigeria

Each study will examine how laboratory data influences clinical outcomes, such as treatment response, public health strategy, or risk reduction, within its specific context. The diversity of clinical areas and global settings reflects the Task Force's goal to support research that is not only methodologically strong but also broadly relevant.

Driving Evidence-Based Laboratory Practice

The TF-OSLM emphasizes that this initiative is part of its broader strategy to promote directed research, foster international collaboration, and enhance understanding of laboratory medicine's impact beyond diagnostic accuracy. Eligible proposals included both retrospective and prospective studies designed to evaluate, quantify, and demonstrate the effectiveness of commonly used or emerging laboratory tests on patient outcomes in real-world practice.

The selection process focused on scientific quality, potential impact, and alignment with the IFCC's mission to advance excellence in laboratory medicine globally. Details of the selection criteria are publicly available at: https://ifccfiles.com/2024/10/2024-Website-info-2.pdf

Exploring the frontiers of newborn screening: my Professional Exchange Program experience in Liège

By **Dr Emeline Gernez,** Medical Biology Resident, Lille University Hospital, France

Thanks to the IFCC Professional Exchange Program, I had the unique opportunity to spend a few months at the University of Liège, immersing myself in one of Europe's most advanced newborn screening (NBS) laboratories who recently published their work in Nature Medicine *(Boemer, F., Hovhannesyan, K., Piazzon, F. et al. Population-based, first-tier genomic newborn screening in the maternity ward. Nat Med 31, 1339–1350 (2025))*. Guided by Professor François Boemer, I received hands-on training in the cutting-edge technologies that are shaping the future of neonatal diagnostics.

The BabyDetect project

At the heart of this experience lies the Baby Detect project, a pioneering initiative that integrates next-generation sequencing (NGS) into newborn screening, to detect a broader range of serious but treatable diseases. Under the supervision of Professor Boemer, and supported by a dedicated team of scientists and technologists, I was able to follow the entire NBS pipeline using NGS—from sample processing and sequencing to bioinformatics and clinical interpretation.

During this internship, I delved deeper into the interpretation of gene panels, learning how to identify and interpret variants, especially the variants of uncertain signification. This experience enriched my understanding of how to bridge genomic data and phenotypic expression, especially in the context of One-Carbon Metabolism, the focus of my current research. By correlating genetic findings with biochemical phenotypes, I'm exploring how this integrated approach can optimize early detection and therapeutic strategies in newborns—laying the groundwork for more personalized and preventive neonatal care.

Beyond the Bench: outreach and global collaboration

During my stay, I was also proud to contribute to international outreach efforts. Together with the laboratory team, we created a short video for Global MedLab Week (GMLW), showcasing the crucial role of medical biology in newborn screening and raising awareness among healthcare professionals and the public.

This exchange has not only strengthened the collaboration between the University Hospitals of Liège and Lille, but also broadened my perspective on what NBS can achieve when innovation, research, and patient-centered care come together.

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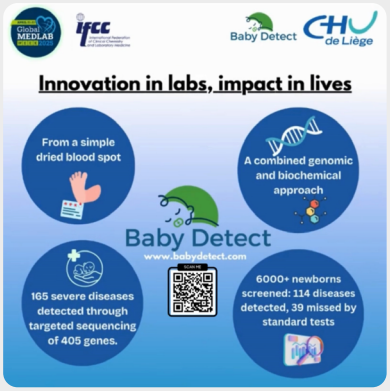

Looking ahead

As I return to Lille University Hospital, I bring with me new expertise and practical tools to help promote the implementation of more advanced screening strategies in France. I hope to contribute to the development of a future, where early diagnosis means healthier start in life for all newborns. I am deeply grateful to the IFCC for this opportunity, and to the entire Liège team for their warm welcome, exceptional mentorship, and commitment to making a difference in the lives of the youngest patients.

On demand content will be soon available

From the Shadows to the Spotlight: Empowered Technologists Lead Lab Week 2025
A Report from Pakistan

By **Dr. Fatima Kanani,** Section Head Chemical Pathology, Indus University Hospital, GMLW National Representative for Pakistan Society of Chemical Pathology

This year Global MedLab week was celebrated with great enthusiasm across Pakistan. Many laboratory professionals submitted videos and podcasts to IFCC on the theme “Lab Saves Lives”. Apart from these, various institutes held ceremonies, CMEs and festivals to commemorate the occasion.

The Chemical Pathology section of Dow Diagnostics Research and Reference Laboratory (DDRRL) at DUHS OJHA Campus, Karachi, proudly hosted Lab Day during Global Medical Lab Week 2025, bringing together lab professionals, technicians, and consultants to celebrate their invaluable contributions to healthcare. The event featured several highlights, beginning with a Recognition Ceremony where laboratory staff were honoured for their exceptional dedication and valuable contributions to diagnostic services. The program continued with inspiring addresses from Prof. Dr. Asif Qureshi (Director, DDRRL), Prof. Dr. Sahar Iqbal (Additional Director and Joint Section Head, Chemical Pathology), commending the entire team for their unwavering commitment to maintaining the highest standards of quality patient care. They highlighted the crucial role of lab professionals as the unsung heroes of healthcare, whose behind-the-scenes work forms the backbone of patient diagnostics, driving informed decisions and life-changing outcomes. Furthermore, lab techs were encouraged to boost their skills and career momentum through certification courses, promoting continuous growth and professional development. The event wrapped up on a sweet note with a celebration – cameras clicked, cake was sliced, and cheers echoed for the lab professionals, a well-deserved tribute to their dedication and expertise. The section head of Chemical Pathology, Dr. Talha Naeem, consultants, residents, technologists, and supportive staff participated to the event.

In Chughtai Health Care Head Office, Lahore, the Global Medical Lab Professional Week 2025 ceremony began with the recitation from the Holy Quran and the national anthem, followed by an opening address by Dr. Omar Chughtai. Heads from various departments delivered appreciation speeches, which were succeeded by team members sharing their success stories and journeys. The program continued with a quiz on practical lab work conducted by MLT 3rd-year students, on lab instrumentation and blood grouping performed by MLT 1st and 3rd semester students, and an audience quiz hosted by Miss Zainab Hameed. Interactive gaming activities focusing on pipetting and PPE wearing were also part of the event. Dr. M. Dilawar Khan delivered remarks as the chief guest, followed by acknowledgments for shining stars Ms. Sana Aamir and Dr. Muhammad Sohail. Awards were then distributed to team members celebrating their golden, silver, and bronze jubilees by Prof. A.S. Chughtai and Dr. Omer Chughtai. The event concluded with closing remarks by Prof. A.S. Chughtai.

Pakistan Institute of Medical Sciences (PIMS), Islamabad, also organized a picturesque event. Dr. Rizwan Kayani warmly welcomed all participants and guests. The chief guest, Prof. Khalid Hassan along with other distinguished speakers including Prof. Ambreen Khalid, Head of the Pathology Department at PIMS, Dr. Saman Waqar, Dr. Fayaz, Dr. Rashid Iqbal, Dr. Arif Nadeem and Dr. Usman Waheed highlighted the critical role of laboratory professionals in the healthcare system and discussed future constructive changes in the field.

Lab Week 2025 at Indus Hospital & Health Network (IHHN) marked a significant cultural shift, placing technologists at the forefront of planning and decision-making in a healthcare settings Spearheaded by the Blood Center team with support from Clinical Labs, the four-day celebration reflected the exceptional leadership, dedication, and creativity of the technical staff.

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The event began with accredited CME sessions held by various sections of the Clinical Laboratory. Karachi Campus hosted sessions on: Professionalism in Laboratory Practice: Ethics and Etiquette, Prescribing Smart to Win the Fight against AMR: The Art and Science of Optimal Antibiotic Use, Ethical and Logistic Challenges in Biobanking: Practical Dilemmas, HPLC: Connecting Theory and Practice, KSA Model to Develop Competent Lab Professionals, Fact or Artifact? Navigating Interferences in Clinical Chemistry, and a hands-on workshop on FISH Technique. Badin Campus organized a CME on CBC and Urine DR Interpretation, and Multan on Critical Result Reporting.

A technologist-led Fun Gala followed CME sessions and highlighted their coordination and event management skills. The grand finale featured a themed closing ceremony graced by senior leadership and celebrating each department's unique contributions through various activities.

This milestone event brought to light the remarkable potential of mid-tier technologists, showcasing their hidden talents and bringing them one step closer to leadership roles.

Lab Week 2025 is a testament to what happens when frontline professionals are empowered, valued, and trusted. It serves as a model for cultivating future leaders within our healthcare system.

MTLS-Jordan Celebrated the Global MedLab Week (GMLW)- 2025

By **Dr. Lina M. Assaf,** MTLS consultant

Through the efforts of Medical Technology & Laboratory Society (MTLS), Jordan had celebrated the Global MedLab Week. The GMLW in Jordan began by holding MTLS first Scientific Day that attracted specialists, academics, medical laboratory professionals, and medical laboratory students. The scientific day featured lectures that included topics on personalized cancer immunotherapy, method validation & accreditation, molecular techniques in diagnosis & patient management, point of care, diagnostic applications of microbiome, AI-design in shifting from sick care to health care, and effective leadership.

Moreover, the President of Jordan CDC signed a proclamation of the importance and critical role of medical laboratory professionals. His Excellency thanked laboratory professionals and emphasized the importance of their role not only in medical decision-making, but also in their contributions to scientific research in the fields of vaccines, blood safety verification, early detection of epidemics, drug safety, and much more.

In its endeavor to provide continuous professional development opportunities for medical laboratory professionals in the Kingdom's less fortunate governorates, MTLS held a series of CPD certified workshops & training courses for medical laboratory professionals in several governorates across the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan.

Finally, in response to the Medical Technology & Laboratory Society (MTLS) announcement, some medical laboratories participated in the IFCC competition "Laboratory Saves Lives". To our delight, one of them won the first IFCC prize in the Arab Federation of Clinical Biology (AFCB) category, while another Jordanian participant advanced to the final stages of the competition.
Considering this as a distinguished achievement for Jordan, which is participating in this competition for the first time, MTLS, by means of the participants, was able to convey an image of the country's progress and its advanced abilities in the field of medical laboratory sciences to the entire world.

Errata Corrige
IFCC eNews, May 2025 – "*ACBICON Golden Jubilee: Bridging Chandigarh's Modernist Spirit with the Future of Lab Medicine*"

- **Page 23:** Dr. Prasenjit Mitra was the Joint Organising Secretary.
- **Page 25:** Prof. Indu Verma was the Organising Secretary.
- **Page 27:** In the photograph, Prof. Indu Verma was mistakenly labeled as Dr. Jyotdeep Kaur.

We apologize to those concerned for the oversight.

One Health and the Exposome: The Strategic Pulse of Next-Gen Lab Medicine

By **Bernard GOUGET,** IFCC ETD-EC, TH History, IFCC/EFLM Labac representative, **Swarup SHAH,** IFCC-ETD-EC, Damien GRUSON IFCC-ETD chair

Current research on environmental impact tends to focus separately on humans, animals, or ecosystems, which limits our ability to address the complex, interconnected causes of environmental and health challenges in an integrated One Health perspective. Numerous disruptive agents, whether chemical, biological, or physical, pose threats to global health, and different organisms display varying levels of sensitivity to these pressures. Moreover, the interactions among these diverse agents remain largely unknown. A cross-disciplinary approach is therefore essential to fully understand their ecological and health-related consequences. The rapid advancement of technologies, along with integrated concepts such as the multifactorial exposome and multi-receptor models within the One Health framework, are opening new avenues to better grasp these complex issues. These approaches also provide valuable tools to guide risk assessment and develop more effective environmental management strategies.

One Health is a collaborative, transdisciplinary approach that integrates human, animal, and environmental health. It responds to the increasing complexity of global health threats, pandemics, antimicrobial resistance, environmental degradation, by uniting efforts across sectors. The exposome refers to the totality of environmental exposures (chemical, biological, physical, social) that a person encounters from conception through life. It complements the genome, helping explain how non-genetic factors, estimated to contribute to 70% of chronic disease burden, drive disease onset and progression. Together, these concepts form the scientific foundation for a preventive, personalized, and environmentally aware model of healthcare, with laboratory medicine playing a central role.

Integrating exposomics into One Health and clinical workflows holds great potential but also presents several challenges. One major issue is the complexity of the data involved, as assessing lifetime environmental exposures requires advanced tools like artificial intelligence and big data analytics to interpret large, high-dimensional datasets. There are also methodological limitations, since many exposures still do not have validated biomarkers or standardized testing methods suitable for routine laboratory analysis. Furthermore, data systems across environmental, veterinary, and medical fields often operate in isolation, making it difficult to conduct comprehensive, cross-sector health assessments. Finally, limited resources remain a significant barrier, as large-scale cohort studies and ongoing monitoring efforts are costly and often lack sufficient funding, especially in resource-constrained settings. These challenges also represent opportunities. Clinical laboratories already possess the technologies: mass spectrometry, omics, AI, informatics, that exposomics demands. IFCC clinical labs are well-positioned to become leaders in environmental diagnostics and early disease risk detection.

The IFCC Emerging Technologies Division (ETD) is strategically positioned to champion exposomics in laboratory medicine. With its six regional federations, IFCC has the global reach to disseminate innovation equitably, as well as the scientific authority to set international standards for new diagnostics. In addition, IFCC community laboratories have the technical capacity to measure exposure biomarkers and interpret the results effectively. Most importantly, IFCC has a unique opportunity to lead a shift from reactive diagnosis to proactive prevention on a global scale. Promoting exposomics supports IFCC's mission to advance precision medicine, public health, and global equity making it an innovation with direct strategic impact.

Through exposomics, clinical laboratories can expand their scope to provide preventive diagnostics and early risk alerts, personalize care using environmental risk scores, contribute to public health surveillance and early warning systems, and enhance clinical decision-making with exposure-informed interpretation. It also enables laboratories to foster cross-disciplinary innovation, such as linking human and animal health data. Taking leadership in One Health and exposomics will enhance

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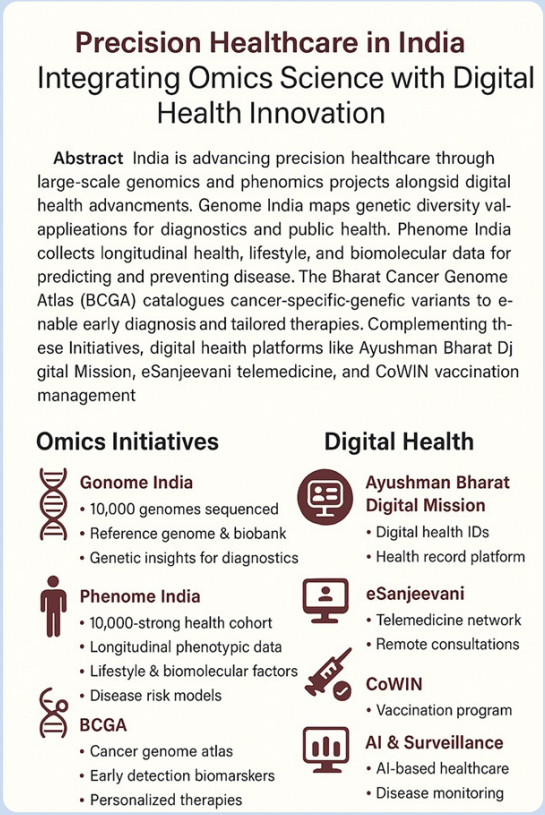
IFCC's global relevance in health innovation, empower regional federations to lead in preventive care, position clinical laboratories at the forefront of public health, improve population health through science-based prevention strategies, and strengthen partnerships with governments, researchers, and policymakers worldwide.

In the short term, the priority is to establish an integrative regional initiative focused on advancing the One Health and exposome agenda. This initiative will lead the development of a comprehensive white paper and educational toolkit to raise awareness and build capacity across member regions. In parallel, it will coordinate pilot projects in representative clinical and geographic settings and initiate the drafting of technical guidelines and Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs) for exposure biomarker analysis. At the same time, targeted efforts will be directed toward reinforcing strategic partnerships with key international stakeholders, including the World Health Organization (WHO), the United Nations Environment Program (UNEP), and One Health expert panels. These foundational actions will support the scaling of successful pilots into regional reference models, embedding prevention-focused strategies within laboratory medicine worldwide.

By initiating this paradigm shift, the IFCC, alongside its regional federations and the Emerging Technologies Division, is not just shaping the future of diagnostics; it is inspiring a global movement, redefining the clinical laboratory as both a catalyst and a driving force for a healthier, more equitable, and more resilient world for all.



Contribute to IFCC eNews

Tips for when Applying to the UNIVANTS of Healthcare Excellence award program

The UNIVANTS of Healthcare Excellence award program is a global, prestigious award program that, through 8 prestigious program partners, including Abbott, International Federation of Clinical Chemistry (IFCC), Association for Diagnostics and Laboratory Medicine (ADLM), Modern Healthcare, National Association for Healthcare Quality (NAHQ), European Health Management Association (EHMA), Institute of Health Economics (IHE), Healthcare Information and Management Systems Society (HIMSS), recognizes, amplifies, and celebrates best practices in healthcare that are facilitated by laboratory medicine and cross-functional collaboration.

The essential value that laboratory medicine enables across healthcare for maximizing outcomes and improving healthcare delivery cannot be understated. The opportunity to showcase and celebrate measurably better outcomes associated with laboratory enabled best practices is important, unique, and rewarding for the profession and healthcare as a whole.

On August 1st, 2025, the UNIVANTS of Healthcare Excellence award program opens the 2026 application process, enabling online submissions through until November 15th, 2025 via the UNIVANTS website. For those looking for recommendations on how to maximize your potential application, see below for relevant tips and best practices associated with applications for the UNIVANTS of Healthcare Excellence award program.

Tip 1: Review revised eligibility criteria and program requirements.
Ensuring program eligibility is a crucial first step when applying to UNIVANTS. Eligibility criteria and requirements are available at www.UnivantsHCE.com. The website offers links to a reference guide and multiple tools that help support the application process, with additional insights, tips and how-to's for highlighting the value of your work through UNIVANTS.

Tip 2. Start early and submit early
Beginning early to collect and collate all necessary data, insights and outcomes associated with your UNIVANTS application can streamline the application process. This also enables time for team collaboration for the application, and review of the data and outcomes needed to apply. Further, as all applications do undergo an administrative team review for minimum award requirements, all applications submitted at least 2 weeks in advance of the program deadline (i.e., by November 1st) are often given the opportunity to resolve gap(s) and/or provide additional clarity, if needed. Thus, by submitting applications early, applicants have additional opportunities to ensure a favorable outcome upon judge assessment.

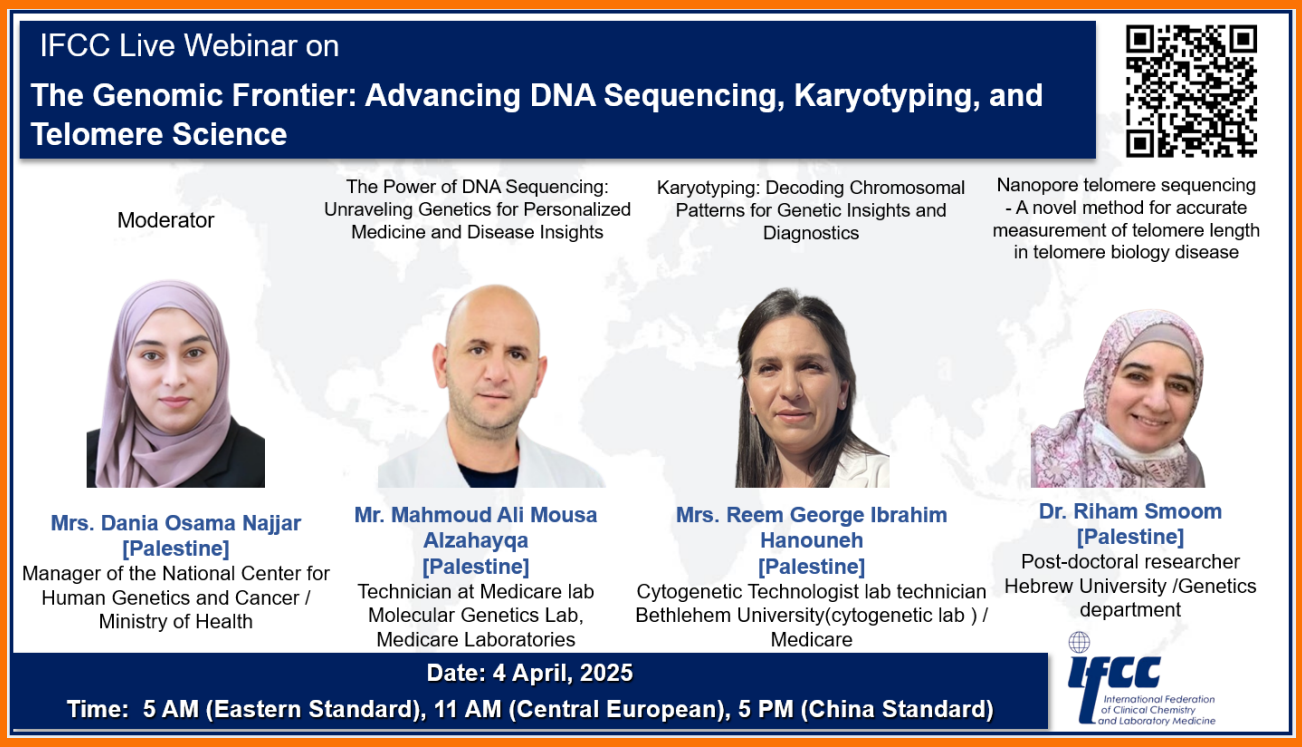
Tip 3. Ask for help when needed.
The UNIVANTS of Healthcare Excellence awards is a team award. Involving and utilizing the expertise of each team member when creating the application is important for optimizing ideas and highlighting the impact of the best practice being submitted for recognition. The UNIVANTS of Healthcare Excellence Program also has a dedicated email to support questions about the award process UNIVANTSofHealthcareExcellence@abbott.com.

Article continued on the next page

Tip 4. Learn from other best practices.
The UNIVANTS website proudly highlights example best practices from years prior who have been recognized by the UNIVANTS of Healthcare Excellence awards. Learning from previous examples, where teams have successfully achieved measurably better healthcare with global recognition through the UNIVANTS of Healthcare Excellence award program, can serve as a template for future applicants. Also note that the existing best practices can serve as models for not only excellent metrics, but as inspiration for best practices themselves. The UNIVANTS of Healthcare Excellence program welcomes repeat themes and/or best practices across sites and geographies, rewarding measurable change versus novelty.

If you and/or your integrated clinical care team want to learn more and/or apply for this prestigious awards, now is the time to start! Start thinking through your abstract and begin summarizing and collecting metrics/KPIs. And visit the UNIVANTS website for best practice examples, guidance documents and checklists to maximize your application and chances of top recognition.

IFCC webinar



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Are your kidneys healthy?

By **Dr. Luis Figueroa Montes,** Expresident of AMPPC, Perú
ORCID https://orcid.org/0000-0002-3708-8603

Did you know that more than 850 million people worldwide live with kidney disease (KD). The kidneys are complex and incredible organs that perform many essential tasks to keep us healthy. They are so important that one person cannot live well if the kidneys are not functioning properly. Between 8 and 10% of the adult population has some form of kidney damage, and each year millions of people die prematurely (under the age of 70) from complications related to kidney disease. However, a person can lose up to 90% of kidney function before experiencing any symptoms of kidney disease (1).

By visiting this website from the International Society of Nephrology, you can check if you're at risk for KD by completing a simple online questionnaire. Based on your results, next steps will be suggested (it's anonymous): https://kidneyquiz.theisn.org/en/index.html#content

Things you probably didn't know about kidney disease:

- Diabetes and high blood pressure are the two main causes of kidney disease.
- Kidney disease often doesn't cause symptoms until it's advanced. Laboratory tests are recommended.
- Early treatment can slow the progression of kidney disease.

Patients or populations at high risk for developing KD should undergo specific laboratory tests and evaluations. The most important risk factors for developing kidney disease are diabetes, hypertension, cardiovascular disease, obesity, and a history of kidney disease (2).

Patients or populations at high risk should undergo simple and cost-effective tests to prevent the development of KD early. These tests include:

- Blood pressure measurement to detect and, if necessary, control blood pressure.
- Calculation of your body mass index (BMI), which is an estimate of body fat based on height and weight, to determine whether you are overweight or obese.
- Renal profile in a clinical laboratory. This profile should include three laboratory tests. The urinary albumin-creatinine ratio (UACR) is used to assess kidney damage, and the blood creatinine (cystatin C can also be used) is used to assess your kidney's filtering capacity, i.e., kidney function.
- Blood laboratory tests: glycated hemoglobin, fasting glucose, or fasting oral glucose tolerance test, to detect diabetes.

To combat KD head-on, early detection policies for at-risk patients must be implemented globally to reduce healthcare costs associated with kidney failure and improve the quality of life of at-risk or already affected patients. Primary care physicians and healthcare professionals (at the primary healthcare level, such as health posts or medical centers) must receive appropriate training to integrate the correct renal profile for the timely diagnosis of KD, routinely in high-risk patients or populations, despite health limitations (2).

Renal profiling and other diagnostic tests can be performed outside of the medical setting, such as in plazas, markets, churches, or other locations, depending on local regulations and resource availability, to increase timely diagnosis. Efforts should also focus on raising awareness among the general population, promoting health, and implementing educational programs that empower patients (2).

At my hospital, we began screening all patients over 55 years of age with diabetes, hypertension, and obesity to rule out chronic KD in 2013. This screening was expanded to the entire health network where I work, which is the Rebagliati healthcare network in social security in Peru (2 million insured on

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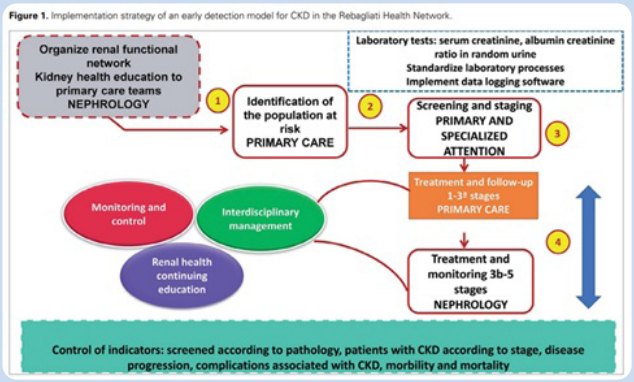
average). To date, the impact of applying a screening strategy has allowed for the timely diagnosis of patients with chronic KD and has prolonged kidney damage, postponing renal replacement therapy (3).

A multidisciplinary team that has been providing early detection of kidney disease since 2013 in Peru's largest social security health network.

In this study entitled "Early detection of chronic KD: coordinated work between primary and specialized care in an outpatient renal network in Peru", you will learn the details of this screening program (3). Additionally, a few years ago, I conducted a study highlighting the importance of detecting albuminuria in diabetic and hypertensive patients (4).



J Bras Nefrol. 2019 Mar 7;41(2):176-184.
https://doi:10.1590/2175-8239-JBN-2018-0101

In conclusion, it is crucial to periodically monitor kidney function with an appropriate laboratory renal profile: serum creatinine to assess kidney function with the glomerular filtration rate (GFR), and the albumin-creatinuria ratio (ACR) to assess kidney damage. This correct renal profile should be mandatory for screening in patients with known risk factors for developing kidney disease.

Links of interest

1. https://kidneyquiz.theisn.org/es/index.html
2. https://www.kidney.org/professionals/gfr_calculator
3. Bravo-Zúñiga J, et al. Early detection of chronic renal disease: coordinated work between primary and specialized care in an ambulatory renal network of Peru. J Bras Nefrol. 2019 Mar 7;41(2):176-184. https://doi:10.1590/2175-8239-JBN-2018-0101
4. Figueroa-Montes LE, Ramos-García MY. Diagnóstico de albuminuria en pacientes mayores de 55 años en una red asistencial. Acta Med Per. 2014:31(1):7-14. http://www.scielo.org.pe/pdf/amp/v31n1/a03v31n1.pdf

News from Regional Federations and Member Societies

News from Japan Society of Clinical Chemistry (JSCC)

2024 Technology Award

By **Hideo Sakamoto,** Ph.D. International Exchange Committee of JSCC

The Japan Society of Clinical Chemistry (JSCC) Technology Award is awarded to individuals who have made outstanding technological developments in clinical chemistry. In 2024, Kengo Fujimura, M.S. won the JSCC Technology Award. At the 64th Annual Meeting of the JSCC in Tochigi, Japan, held on August 30 to September 1, 2024, award winner Mr. Fujimura, was congratulated by Dr. Takashi Miida, President of JSCC, for his outstanding work in clinical chemistry.
We JSCC proudly introduce the 2024 JSCC Technology Award winner in this issue and distribute his team outstanding work.

Kengo Fujimura, M,S., Manami Iwasaki, M.S., and Tomohiro Kohata, Ph.D. are team in Research and Development Division, SEKISUI MEDICAL CO., LTD. Mr. Fujimura received the award on behalf of the group at the 2024 JSCC Technology Award, entitled “Development of the SP-D measurement reagent “Nanopia SP-D” applicable to automated analyzers”.

Surfactant protein D (SP-D) is a hydrophilic protein secreted from alveolar type II cells and is a useful marker for the diagnosis, differential diagnosis and predicting prognosis of interstitial pneumonia. Currently, serum SP-D values are measured using the diagnostic reagents of enzyme-linked immunosorbent assay (ELISA), or chemiluminescence enzyme immunoassay (CLEIA). Because the ELISA method requires several hours of measurement and the CLEIA method requires dedicated equipment, a large number of hospitals outsource the measurement to outside clinical laboratories, which takes a long time to report on test results. In response, the awarded team has developed “Nanopia SP-D”, a latex turbidimetric immunoassay (LTIA) reagent that can be applicable to various automated clinical chemistry analyzers. By combining high-affinity monoclonal antibodies against SP-D and new latex particles with controlled surface properties, this reagent has achieved the high sensitivity and high accuracy of the LTIA method and has a measurement range equivalent to that of the CLEIA method. In addition, by the design of reagent formulations suppressing non-specific reaction derived from blood samples, it demonstrates good correlation with the conventional method without B/F separation in approximately 10 minutes. This achievement enables us to report on test results rapidly by measurement in hospitals, and is expected to contribute to the treatment of interstitial pneumonia in many medical institutions.

Kengo Fujimura, winner of the 2024 Japan Society of Clinical Chemistry (JSCC) Technology Award

Keynote Address: 30th Annual Conference of the Ethiopian Medical Laboratory Association – EMLA

Reference: Theme of the Conference "Advancing the Capacity of Laboratory Medicine to Meet the Health Needs of Ethiopians"

- Your Excellency, Dear Dr Mekdes Daba, Minster, MoH
- Your Excellency, Dear Prof. Aster Tsegaye, President, EMLA
- Honored guests of this conference,
- Esteemed colleagues, and
- Dear members of EMLA

Good morning!
It is both a privilege and a profound joy to stand before you today as we celebrate the 30th annual conference of the Ethiopian Medical Laboratory Association, a milestone concerning decades of dedication and service to the health of our nation. Let me begin by acknowledging the tireless efforts of the conference organizers: the current EMLA EB members, General Assembly Chairs, and the unwavering dedication of every member. Together, we form the backbone of healthcare system dedicated to serve our nations, and today, we gather not only to reflect on our journey but also to ignite the path forward.

My Personal Connection to EMLA and Global Roles in the Scientific Community
As a proud lifetime member, a former vice president, a former executive director, a former executive board member, and former EMLA's national representative to the International Federation of Clinical Chemistry and Laboratory Medicine. I have witnessed firsthand power of collaboration. Today, in my role as President of the African Federation of Clinical Chemistry and Laboratory Medicine, I carry the lessons learned from Ethiopia to continental and global stages. Our work here in Ethiopia does not exist in isolation, it reverberates across Africa and the world.

EMLA: Progress and Purpose
Six decades ago, EMLA was founded on a bold vision: *to elevate laboratory medicine as a cornerstone of the health system in Ethiopia.* Today, we enjoyed milestones—expanding access to diagnostics, advancing quality standards, and nurturing a generation of skilled professionals. Yet, as we honor these achievements, we must also confront the urgent challenges ahead.

The Global Laboratory Landscape: Challenges and Opportunities
The world is at a crossroads. Climate change, globalization, and antimicrobial misuse are fueling the rise of epidemics, pandemics, and AMR. Meanwhile, NCDs like diabetes and hypertension claim human lives silently, demanding precision diagnostics. Laboratories are the first line of defense, but our systems must evolve to meet these dual challenges.

One Health and the quest for efficient Collaboration
The COVID-19 pandemic underscored the interconnectedness of human, animal, and environmental health. The "One Health" approach is no longer an optional choice, it is mandatory. Laboratory professionals must lead cross-sector collaborations to detect zoonotic threats early, mitigate AMR through stewardship, and integrate data across disciplines. The samples we process, the data we generate, and the outbreaks we detect here in Addis Ababam, Mekelle, Jimma or Gambela, have global impact.

Fighting AMR and Epidemics
AMR could claim 10 million lives annually by 2050, if unchecked. Our role in antimicrobial susceptibility testing, surveillance, and education is pivotal. Similarly, laboratories in Ethiopia and across Africa proved their resilience during Ebola, SARS-CoV-2, and cholera outbreaks. Let us build on this legacy by strengthening rapid response networks and investing in point-of-care technologies.

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The Future of Diagnostics: Genomics, AI, and Big Data
The future of laboratory medicine lies at the intersection of innovation and equity. Genomics is revolutionizing infectious disease tracking and personalized care. *Artificial intelligence* can analyze vast datasets to predict outbreaks or optimize treatment regimens. *Big data* enables real-time surveillance and precision public health. In Ethiopia, embracing these tools requires infrastructure investment, training, and partnerships. Imagine a future where AI-powered platforms assist rural laboratories in diagnosing tuberculosis or where genomic sequencing guides tailored therapies for Ethiopian patients. This is not science fiction, it is within our hands.

Global Leadership and Youth Empowerment
Collaboration is our greatest asset. Through IFCC initiatives like the Young Scientist Program, Professional Scientific Exchange Program (PSEP), and Professional Management Exchange Program (PMEP), young African scientists are gaining global exposure, bridging skill gaps, and becoming ambassadors for change. I urge EMLA members to leverage these opportunities—for mentorship, cross-border research, and leadership development. As AFCCLM President, I am committed to advancing pan-African collaboration. Together, we can harmonize standards, share best practices, and amplify Africa's voice in global health governance.

A Call to Action: Our Shared Mission
Colleagues, the theme of this conference is a mandate. To "advance capacity" means:
- Advocate for laboratories as critical, not ancillary, to healthcare
- Mentoring the next generation of Ethiopian scientists
- Leveraging digital health tools to bridge urban-rural inequities
- Demanding equity in global health partnerships

To meet health needs, we must:
- Invest in Infrastructure: Modernize laboratories with sustainable funding and technology
- Empower Professionals: Continuous education and recognition of laboratory personnel as frontline health workers
- Strengthen Networks: Collaborate with AFCCLM, IFCC, and global bodies to share knowledge and resources
- Embrace One Health: Integrate labs into broader ecosystems—linking human, animal, and environmental health
- Advocate for evidence policy making to prioritize diagnostics in universal health coverage
- Embed equity in every innovation, ensuring equal benefit of rural and urban communities

Closing: A Vision for the Future
As we celebrate the 60th year old EMLA, let us envision the next 60. A future where every Ethiopian, from the highlands of Tigray to the Somali region, has access to accurate and timely diagnostics. A future where our laboratories are hubs of innovation, resilience and hope!

Let us leave this conference reenergized, ready to harness genomics, AI, and global solidarity to transform patient care. The next generation of EMLA will be defined by our courage to innovate, collaborate, and lead.

Let us also remember the Ethiopian proverb: "When spider webs unite, they can tie up a lion." Our collective strength as EMLA members, African leaders, and global citizens, will determine our success.

I wish you a memorable conference and fruitful deliberations!

Gizachew Taddesse Akalu, PhD
President, African Federation of Clinical Chemistry and Laboratory Medicine

Lab Studio Symposium – Karachi, Pakistan

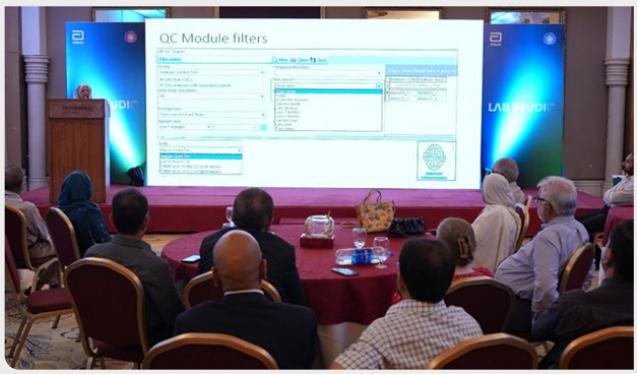
Event Report from Pakistan Society of Chemical Pathology (PSCP)

By **Dr Sahar Iqbal,** Dow University of Health Sciences, Karachi, Pakistan

In collaboration with Abbott Core Diagnostics Pakistan, the Pakistan Society of Chemical Pathology (PSCP) hosted a symposium in Karachi on 17TH May 2025. Branded as 'Lab Studio,' the event was a dynamic platform for presenting cutting-edge research, showcasing emerging technologies, and reimagining diagnostic workflows.

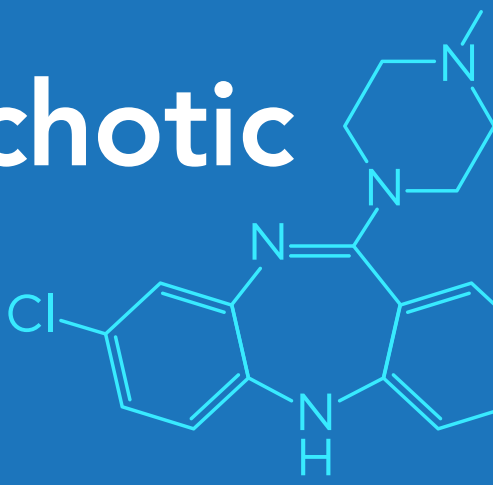
The Lab Studio Symposium showcased clinical laboratory practices for reliable results. Speakers from renowned institutes including Prof. Dr. Imran Siddiqui from Aga Khan University Hospital, Prof. Dr. Sahar Iqbal and Dr. Kashif Sheikh from Dow University of Health Sciences, Prof Dr. Adnan Zubairi and Dr. Fatima Kanani from Indus Hospital & Health Network presented lectures about patients 'reporting related scenarios and AI based reporting of results and quality control. Over 100 pathologists and technologists from all over Karachi attended the event.

Key topics included Electrophoresis, Thyroid Function Tests, middleware in lab operations, and CBC troubleshooting. The event offered a dynamic platform for learning and innovation in diagnostics.



Nice memories of the "Lab Studio" symposium, organized by the Pakistan Society of Chemical Pathology (PSCP) in Karachi on 17TH May 2025

Redefining Antipsychotic Therapeutic Drug Monitoring



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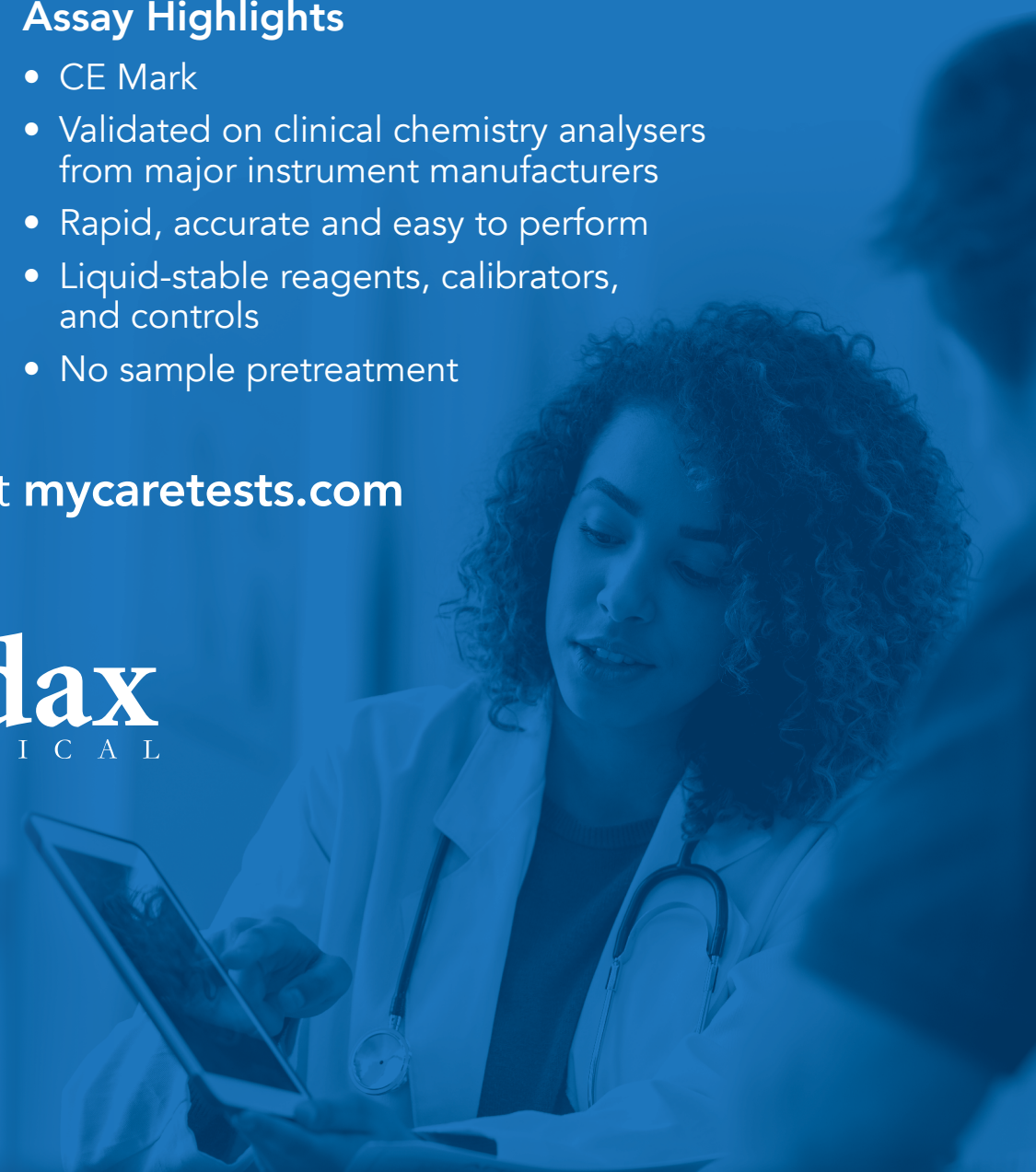

From Kathmandu to the World: Dialogues and Directions from the 5th NACC-ADLM Conference 2025

"An International Conference of Excellence under the Auspices of IFCC, ADLM and APFCB"

By **Dr. Vivek Pant,** Scientific Chair- NACC Conference 2025, **Dr. Santosh Pradhan,** Organizing Secretary- NACC Conference 2025**, Dr. Ram Vinod Mahato,** General Secretary, NACC

Date: May 3–4, 2025
Venue: Square Hotel, Simrik Hall, Lalitpur, Kathmandu, Nepal
CPD: 12 points by Nepal Medical Council

The 5th Annual Conference of the Nepalese Association for Clinical Chemistry (NACC), held in collaboration with the Association for Diagnostic and Laboratory Medicine (ADLM), successfully brought together laboratory professionals, clinicians, researchers, and industry experts from Nepal and beyond. The two-day event served as a dynamic platform for discussing cutting-edge advancements in clinical chemistry, laboratory medicine, and diagnostic innovations. Featuring keynote lectures, interactive workshops, scientific presentations, and corporate exhibitions, the conference facilitated knowledge exchange and professional networking.

Conference Highlights

Day 1 (May 3, 2025) – GLQI Workshop & Scientific Sessions
The first day of the conference featured a series of high-impact sessions led by internationally renowned experts, focusing on quality, innovation, and strategic improvements in laboratory medicine. The highlights are described below

Quality Indicators in Laboratory Medicine & Personnel Training
Prof. Dr. Qing H. Meng delivered an insightful session on the role of quality indicators in enhancing laboratory performance and ensuring patient safety. He underscored the need for measurable benchmarks and emphasized continuous personnel training as a cornerstone for sustaining high-quality lab services.

Data Science in Clinical Diagnostics
Prof. Dr. Y. Victoria Zhang introduced participants to the transformative role of artificial intelligence (AI) and machine learning in modern diagnostics. She presented practical applications of data analytics in clinical settings and emphasized how these tools can drive more accurate and timely decision-making

Risk Management in Clinical Labs (ISO 15189:2022)
Dr. Anu S. Maharjan provided a comprehensive overview of the updated ISO 15189:2022 standard, focusing on its implications for risk-based thinking in laboratories. She shared strategies to proactively identify, assess, and mitigate risks, ensuring compliance and fostering a culture of safety and continuous improvement.

Effective Management and Implementation of Point-of-Care Testing (POCT)
In a subsequent session, Dr. Maharjan highlighted the importance of structured POCT programs. She discussed implementation frameworks, staff training, and quality assurance practices aimed at optimizing POCT utilization for faster and more effective patient care.

Case Studies & Interactive Discussions
The day concluded with a series of case-based discussions facilitated by a panel of national and international experts. These interactive sessions encouraged audience participation and offered real-world perspectives on navigating challenges in laboratory operations, quality assurance, and diagnostic innovation.

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Day 2: Innovation, Research, and Population-Specific Insights
Day 2 of the conference focused on translational research, technological progress, and public health challenges addressed through laboratory medicine. The highlights are described below

Lead Toxicity & Laboratory Medicine
Dr. Vivek Pant highlighted the critical role of laboratory diagnostics in identifying and managing lead exposure, particularly in vulnerable populations. He emphasized the need for routine screening, clinician awareness, and lab-led public health initiatives to combat lead toxicity in Nepal.

Automation in Urine Analysis
Prof. Dr. C. N. Srinivas presented state-of-the-art advancements in urine diagnostics, showcasing how automation improves analytical efficiency, standardization, and diagnostic accuracy in high-throughput laboratory settings.

Circulating MicroRNAs in Diabetes
Prof. Dr. Daya Ram Pokharel introduced emerging research on the role of circulating microRNAs as early biomarkers for diabetes. His session underscored their potential for early detection and personalized disease monitoring.

Reference Intervals for the Nepalese Population
Dr. Ram Vinod Mahato shared outcomes from a large-scale, multicenter study aimed at establishing reference intervals tailored to the Nepalese population. He advocated for the adoption of population-specific diagnostic benchmarks to enhance the accuracy of laboratory interpretation and clinical decision-making.

Oral & Poster Presentations: Spotlight on Emerging Research
The scientific committee curated 10 oral presentations, addressing diverse themes such as artificial intelligence in laboratories, genetic polymorphisms affecting vitamin D levels, newborn screening initiatives, and NIH-supported investigations on acute encephalitis syndrome. A milestone for the conference was Nepal's first-ever digital poster session in laboratory medicine, featuring 30 posters on innovative research. The interactive format received an enthusiastic response from delegates, setting a new standard for scientific engagement and visibility.

Awards and Travel Grants
- For the first time, NACC awarded travel grants to young lab scientists from outside Kathmandu, enabling them to present their research. These grants were generously sponsored by the Techno Biomed [https://thetechnobiomed.com/].
- Three best posters and one best oral presentation were recognized with cash prizes, motivating emerging professionals to contribute to the field.

Corporate & Industry Sessions
Leading diagnostic companies, including Guangzhou Wondfo Biotech, SNIBE, Technobiomed, and East West Concern, showcased the latest innovations in laboratory technology, fostering industry-academia collaboration.

Conclusion
The NACC-ADLM 2025 Conference successfully promoted scientific collaboration, technological advancements, and best practices in laboratory medicine. By addressing both global trends and local healthcare challenges, the event reinforced Nepal's growing role in the field of clinical chemistry.

Future Directions
- Expansion of AI and automation in Nepalese laboratories.
- Strengthening quality standards through competency-based training.
- Encouraging multicenter research on population-specific diagnostics.

For more details, visit: https://conference.nacc.org.np/

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Day 1- Speakers, Organizers and Volunteers

Presentation by Prof. Dr. Qing H. Meng

Speaker (Prof. Dr. Y.Victoria Zhang) felicitation by NACC president (Prof. Dr. Madhab Lamsal)

Participants

Poster Presentation and Evaluation

Travel grant distribution

Closing Ceremony on Day 2- Speakers, Organizers, Volunteers and Participants

IFCC's Calendar of Congresses, Conferences & Events

IFCC and Regional Federation Events			
Date		Title	Place
Oct 25 - 30, 2026	IFCC WorldLab OCTOBER 25-29, 2026 | NEW DELHI, INDIA	XXVII IFCC WORLDLAB 2026	New Delhi, IN
May 16-20, 2027	EUROMEDLAB LONDON2027	XXVII IFCC-EFLM EUROMEDLAB 2027	London, UK
Oct 7 - 11, 2026	COLABIOCLI	COLABIOCLI 2026 SANTA CRUZ	Santa Cruz, BO
Oct 10 - 13, 2027	IFCC International Federation of Clinical Chemistry and Laboratory Medicine	APFCB 2027 KUALA LUMPUR	Kuala Lumpur, MY

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Corporate Member Events with IFCC Auspices

Date	Title	Place
Apr 4 - Sep 3, 2025	Quality Control Awareness	Quality Consulting, online events
Jun 26, 2025	DiagHub 3rd Session: POCT	Zybio, online
Jul 12, 2025	Practical Recommendations for the Verification and Validation of Qualitative Methods in the Clinical Laboratory	Quality Consulting, online conference
Aug 24, 2025	International Symposium on Laboratory Medicine	SNIBE, Shenzen, P.R. China

Other events with IFCC auspices

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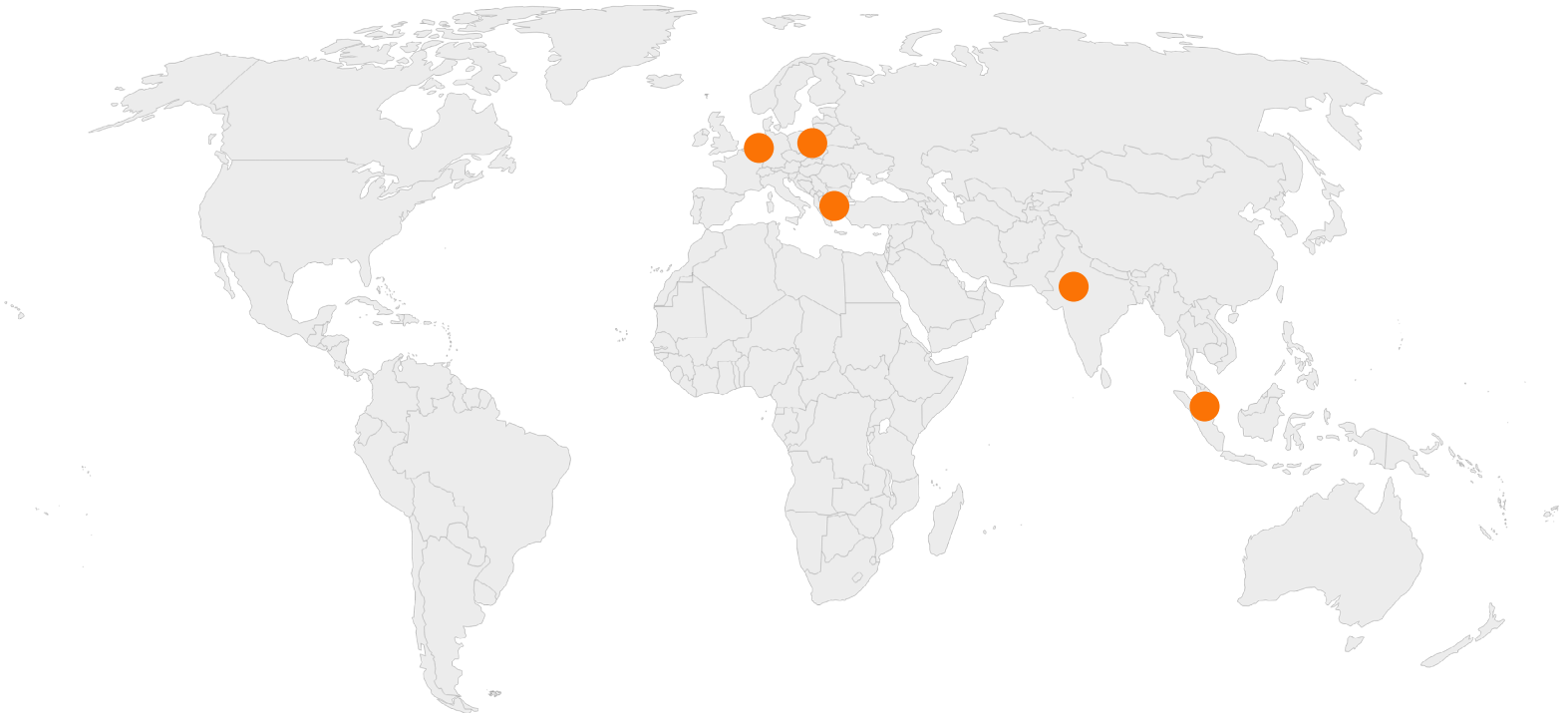

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Publisher
Communications and Publications Division (CPD) of the IFCC

The Communications and Publications Division publishes ten editions of the e-News per year, including two double issues.

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

Deadlines for submissions to the eNews
N° 1/2 – January/February: by mid January
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