

In this issue: LAB-ON-A-CHIP TECHNOLOGY

The Journal of the International Federation of Clinical Chemistry
and Laboratory Medicine

**FOREWORD OF THE EDITOR**

This is the first occasion that the Electronic Journal of IFCC publishes a thematic issue, has been edited by guest editors. The title of this special edition is “Lab-on-Chip Technology for Clinical Diagnostics”. I asked internationally renowned scientists to recruit contributors to submit four or five articles on this topic. I am looking forward to the laboratory scientists’ comments from all IFCC member countries on this initiative of the editorial board. Guest editors of this special issue are Dr. Loes Segerink, Prof. Istvan Vermes and Prof. Albert van den Berg from the MESA+ Institute for Nanotechnology, University of Twente, The Netherlands.

Dr. Loes Segerink:

Dr. Segerink obtained her MSc degree in Biomedical Engineering cum laude at the University of Twente in 2007 (Enschede, the Netherlands). In October 2007 she started as a PhD student at BIOS, Lab on a Chip group at the same university. Her research subject was the development of a fertility chip for semen analysis for which she received the STW Valorisation Grant phase 1 in June 2011 and the Simon Stevin Student jury and audience awards in October 2011. In November 2011 she obtained her PhD degree and she started as postdoctoral researcher at the BIOS, Lab on a Chip group. Besides that, she is co-founder of spinoff company Cellanyzer BV for which she received the STW Valorisation Grant phase 2 (June 2012). Her focus is on the valorisation of the fertility chip and the research to (bio)medical diagnostic microfluidic devices, such as further development of the fertility chip and participating in the Nanopil project (pill for detection of intestinal cancer).

Prof. Dr. Istvan Vermes:

Prof. Vermes received his M.D. and Ph.D. degrees at the University Pecs, Hungary in 1970 and 1976 respectively. Since 1979 he is working as a clinical chemist-laboratory physician in the Netherlands. He is professor for “Clinical applications of miniaturized diagnostic devices” of the MESA+ Institute for Nanotechnology, University Twente, Enschede, The Netherlands and part-time professor at the Institute of Laboratory Medicine, University of Pecs, Hungary. His main research interest: cell biology especially apoptosis research, lab-on-chip technology and neuroendocrinology. He has published 412 original publications (H=35). He is the awardee of several prestigious international scientific awards, including the external membership of the Hungarian Academy of Sciences.

Prof. Dr. Albert van den Berg:

Prof. van den Berg received his MSc in applied physics in 1983, and his PhD in 1988 both at the University of Twente, the Netherlands. From 1988-1993 he worked in Neuchatel, Switzerland, at the CSEM and the University (IMT) on miniaturized chemical sensors. From 1993 until 1999 he was research director Micro Total Analysis Systems (μ TAS) at MESA, University of Twente. In 1998 he was appointed as part-time professor “Biochemical Analysis Systems”, and later in 2000 as full professor on Miniaturized Systems for (Bio)Chemical Analysis in the faculty of Electrical Engineering. He received several honors and awards such as Simon Stevin (2002), ERC Advanced (2008) and ERC Proof of Concept (2011) grant, Spinoza prize (2009) and Honorary University Professorship (2010). He has co-authored over 225 papers (H=42) and over 10 patents, and has been involved in 6 spin-off companies. In 2011 he became a board member of the Royal Dutch Academy of Sciences (KNAW). His current research interests focus on microanalysis systems and nanosensors, nanofluidics and single cells and tissues on chips, especially with applications in personalized health care and development of sustainable (nano)technologies.

Pécs (Hungary), October 10th, 2012.

Gabor L. Kovacs MD, PhD, DSc.

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