



**IFCC GENERAL CONFERENCE**  
BUDAPEST NOVEMBER 9-11, 2018

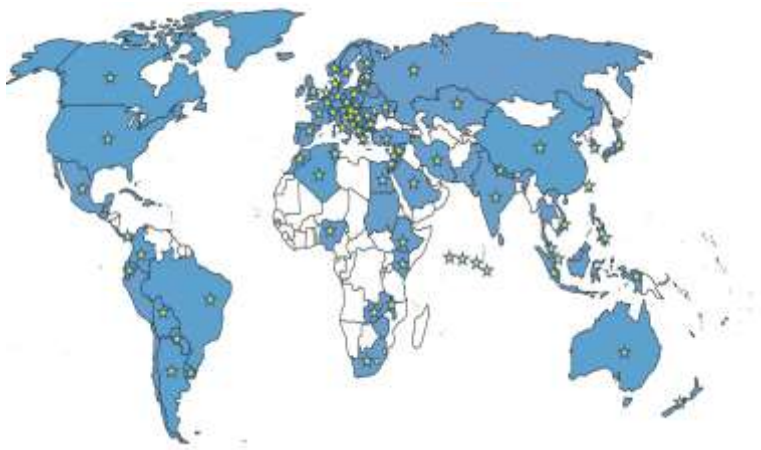
**IFCC General Conference 2018**  
**Laboratory medicine:  
Preparing for the 2020's**

10th – 11th November 2018  
Hotel Novotel Budapest City, Hungary

**IFCC**  
International Federation  
of Clinical Chemistry  
and Laboratory Medicine

Advancing excellence in laboratory medicine for better healthcare worldwide

**GC attendance: 71 countries represented**  
**Total participants: 266 (excluding accompanying - 60)**



in blue: countries that are IFCC members  
Star: indicates a representation



## Pre GC Survey Questions

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Survey questions sent out to all IFCC National Representatives (92 Full Members and 15 Affiliates Societies) as well as to 42 Corporate Members (Total 149)

- Q1: What are the 3 most urgent challenges facing your Society or Organization?
- Q2: What are the 3 most important challenges facing Laboratory Medicine?
- Q3: With respect to the challenges facing your Society (Organization) and Laboratory Medicine, what are the 3 most important contributions that the IFCC could make to address these challenges?

61 replies – Most of whom we believe were Full or Affiliate Societies



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## Q1: What are the 3 most urgent challenges facing your Society or Organization?

1

### Training/Education (including CME)

- Harmonization of the curriculum/status for lab professionals
- Lack of management training
- Lack of educators/training programmes

**Declining number of members of National Societies/ lack of interest and commitment of NS members/ shortage of lab professionals**

**Poor profession visibility and recognition by the clinicians/ authorities/society. Poor communication with other specialties/medical societies**

### Funding/financial resources

- Unaffordable equipment/reagents/EQA
- Poor reimbursement of lab tests
- Unaffordable participation at professional/scientific meetings

### Quality management



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## Q2: What are the 3 most important challenges facing Laboratory Medicine?

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### Training/ future of the profession

- Training (knowledge, skills) becoming more demanding because of the emerging technologies, big data, ethic issues
- Increasing workload
- Expected shortage of laboratory technologists in the next 5 years
- Risk for unqualified technicians and technologists handling the medical laboratories

### Profession visibility and recognition

- Need for recognition of the profession as an important/equal part of the health system

### Funding

### Harmonization, standardization

- Harmonisation and standardization of laboratory methods, reference values and units.



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## Q2: What are the 3 most important challenges facing Laboratory Medicine?

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### Quality management

- Implementation of Total Quality Management in Clinical Analysis Laboratories

### POCT

- Need for quality management implementation for POCT
- Lack of regulation in the private practice

### Emerging technologies, big data

- Increasing complexity of laboratory tests menus, implementation of emerging technologies
- Development of personalized medicine
- Bioengineering = Nanotechnology, Biotechnology (omics...), Information technology and Cognitive science; (Artificial intelligence and Big data, Robotics/ 3D), telemedicine

### Ethics

- Genetics, stem cells



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Q3: With respect to the challenges facing your Society (Organization) and Laboratory Medicine, what are the 3 most important contributions that the IFCC could make to address these challenges?

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### Education, training

- Online training
- Unification of tasks, responsibilities and protocols for lab specialists
- International profession recognition

### Young professionals involvement/training

#### Conferences, speakers/VLP

- Maintaining and developing VLP
- Lectures given in the native languages

### Guidance and support for National Societies (general/specific)

- Strategy
- Specific guidelines/translation of laboratory guides
- Sharing successful experiences



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Q3: With respect to the challenges facing your Society (Organization) and Laboratory Medicine, what are the 3 most important contributions that the IFCC could make to address these challenges?

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### Quality management

#### Harmonization/standardization/POCT

#### Profession visibility/recognition

- Support/lobby to highlight the importance of laboratory medicine

#### Support for developing countries

- Financial support (registration fees, scholarships)
- Professional and scientific support

#### Collaboration between countries

- Regional meetings
- Specialists exchanges



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