

IFCC General Conference 2018


**Laboratory medicine:
Preparing for the 2020's**

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

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EB Committee on Congresses and Conferences



IFCC Guidelines for Compliance with Applicable Codes of Ethical Business Practice



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IFCC Guidelines for Compliance with Applicable Codes of Ethical Business Practice

National and international agencies have established codes of ethical business practice that are applicable to the *in vitro* diagnostics (IVD) industry and third-party educational event organizers such as the IFCC and national societies.

The IFCC endorses these codes of ethical business practice and supports compliance for all educational events developed and/or supported by the IFCC.

IFCC Guidelines for auspices and congresses and conferences have been updated to indicate the requirement for compliance with all applicable codes of ethical business practice.

<http://www.medtecheurope.org/node/715>



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MedTech Europe Code of Ethical Business Practice

MedTech Europe is the European Trade association representing the medical technology industries – Diagnostic and Medical Devices.

The code regulates all aspects of the industry's relationship with Healthcare Professionals and Healthcare Organizations to ensure all interactions are ethical and professional so as to maintain the trust of regulators and - more importantly - patients.

MedTech Europe Code of Ethical Business Practice

- binding and applicable globally to all MedTech Europe corporate members as of January 1, 2017.



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MedTech Europe Code of Ethical Business Practice – January 1, 2018

A new directive effective January 1, 2018 particularly affects the sponsorship of congresses, conferences and events organized by third parties.

Direct sponsorship of healthcare professionals by MedTech Europe corporate members was discontinued.

MedTech Europe Code of Ethical Business Practice

- educational grants to healthcare professionals must flow through healthcare organizations or professional conference organizers without any preselection of specific recipient healthcare professionals by the corporate member.



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MedTech Europe Code of Ethical Business Practice

From the IFCC perspective this code is applicable to all third-party educational events held in Europe or anywhere in the world if delegates are invited from two or more "European" countries.

This code is applicable to all IFCC International Congresses of Clinical Chemistry and Laboratory Medicine (ICCLM, WorldLab) regardless of the location.

Similarly this code or other comparable national or international codes may be applicable to educational events for which IFCC auspices are requested.

MedTech Europe Code of Ethical Business Practice

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Other Notable Codes of Ethical Business Practice

Advanced Medical Technology Association (AdvaMed)

www.advamed.org

AdvaMed is an American medical device trade association. AdvaMed advocates on a global basis for the highest ethical standards, timely patient access to safe and effective products, and economic policies that reward value creation.

Mecomed

www.mecomed.com

Mecomed is the medical devices, imaging and diagnostics trade association; serving as the voice of international medical technology manufacturers (MedTech) for 21 countries across the Middle East and North Africa. The current Mecomed guidelines are comparable to those adopted by other trade associations in North America and Europe.



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EthicalMedTech – Conference Vetting System (CVS)

An independent centralized decision-making system that encourages transparency and consistency in medical education events that alleviates the complex administrative burden previously faced by MedTech Europe and MecoMed corporate members who were constrained to make their own determinations as to whether or not a third-party educational event they wish to support is compliant with their association's code.

The CVS reviews the compliance of third-party educational events with the applicable code (MedTech Europe or MecoMed) to determine the appropriateness for corporate members to provide financial support to such events in the form of educational grants and/or commercial activities, e.g., booths, advertising and satellite symposia.

<http://www.ethicalmedtech.eu/conference-vetting-system/objective>



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EthicalMedTech – Conference Vetting System

Corporate members of MedTech Europe and Mecomed cannot support a third-party educational event that has not been positively assessed by the CVS.

The IFCC requires use of the EthicalMedTech – Conference Vetting System to ensure compliance with the MedTech Europe code for all applicable third-party educational events.

The IFCC recommends a method of self assessment to ensure compliance with any other applicable code(s) of ethical business practice.



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EthicalMedTech – Conference Vetting System (CVS) – Pre-Clearance

Objectives

- to ensure that the basic details of a proposed third-party educational event are compliant prior to signing any contracts or making any other financial commitments

Timing

- can submit anytime (may be years in advance) but not later than 6 months prior to the start of the event

Minimum Information Required

- Geographic location and details of the venue

Posting of Decision by the CVS

- Pre-Clearance decisions are only posted if agreed to by the third party
- Posting of positive pre-clearance decisions is recommended to assist potential corporate members in their long-range planning for support



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EthicalMedTech – Conference Vetting System (CVS) – Regular Submission

Objectives

- to determine overall compliance with the applicable code

Minimum Information Required, Timing and Posting of the Decision by the CVS

- Geographic location, details of the venue, hotel accommodation and communication support (website link, brochure)
- Submit whenever but not later than 75 days prior to the start of the event
- Will receive only a partial assessment decision that will be posted

Additional Information Required, Timing and Posting of the Decision by the CVS

- Scientific program, Social program and if applicable, entertainment details
- Submit whenever but not later than 35 days prior to the start of the event
- If not reviewed positively, the CVS will provide the third party 10 days to correct the deficiencies
- If the deficiencies are not corrected or if corrections are not submitted then a decision of “non-assessment” will be posted



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IFCC Guidelines for Compliance with Applicable Codes of Ethical Business Practice

Additional Information

<http://www.ifcc.org/media/467898/guidelines-for-compliance-with-applicable-codes-of-ethical-business-practice-rev1-june-2017.pdf>



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IFCC Guidelines for Compliance with Applicable Codes of Ethical Business Practice

Helpful Hints

1. Be aware of the applicable code(s) of ethical business practice.
2. When the MedTech Europe and/or MecoMed code(s) is/are applicable, send Pre-Clearance and Regular Submissions to the EthicalMedTech – CVS as soon as possible and address promptly any identified deficiencies.
3. When hiring a Professional Congress/Conference Organizer (PCO) to assist with various aspects of the organization of the event, ensure that the PCO is knowledgeable of the applicable code(s) of ethical business practice, e.g., MZ Congressi was certified as an EthicalMedTech Trusted Partner on February 10, 2018.



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Predatory Congresses and Conferences



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On behalf of [Congress Organizer](#), I would like to extend an invitation to you to join our [Congress Name](#) as a Keynote Speaker/Organizing Committee Member (OCM) which is going to be held in [Location](#) from [Dates](#). The theme of the conference is "[Theme Title](#)".

What you would get:

- To Chair/Co-chair a session of your interest
- To launch a book/chapter/research work at the event
- Can act as a moderator of the conference
- You would be named as an Organizing Committee Member on our website
- Discount on the registration fee to the group suggested by you

What we would ask for:

- What we need from our OCM varies from meeting to meeting, but usually we would ask advice on structuring the event and possibly obtaining speakers and delegates and conduct workshop/symposia. It's just a few emails.

I do hope that you can be on Organizing Committee Member and help us to build this annual event into a major international congress.



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We are writing this letter to overspread your gracious presence as an Organizing Committee Member (OCM) for the upcoming [Congress Name](#) held during [Dates](#) at [Location](#) by [Corporate Name](#).

Benefits for OCM at Clinical Chemistry 2018:

- Can become an Editorial Board Member to any [Corporate Name](#) International journals
- Discount on publication fee for the article published in [Corporate Name](#) International journals
- Discount on registration fee to the group suggested by you
- Can attend other [Corporate Name](#) conferences with discounted price
- Opportunity to meet experts in your field of expertise
- Opportunity to get sponsorship for your projects
- Opportunity to Chair/Co-chair a session of your interest
- Opportunity to moderate the conference
- Opportunity to decide the best poster award
- Organizing Committee member will be felicitated with Certificate
- Can give free advertisement in the conference book
- We will include inserts (provided by you) in the conference delegate bags
- We will include your University/Institution logo on the conference banners, books and also in the conference website
- Can play the role of Honorable guest at the conference
- OCM name and photograph will be displayed in conference website



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Predatory Congresses and Conferences

Similar names and sometimes even the same location!

Example:

IFCC / EFLM EuroMedLab 2019 Barcelona

MedLab Europe 2017 Barcelona



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Predatory Congresses and Conferences

IFCC C-CC Policy regarding IFCC Auspices

IFCC Auspices are not granted to corporations in the business of organizing congresses, conferences, workshops, etc.



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Predatory Congresses and Conferences

Represent competition, sometimes unfair and/or unethical, for the following:

Corporate Support

Congress Delegates



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