



Communications and Publications Division (CPD) of the IFCC

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International Federation of Clinical Chemistry and Laboratory Medicine



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In this issue

EDITORIAL

- ▶ Message from the eNews Editor 4

THE VOICE OF IFCC

- ▶ Successful celebration of the 23rd EuroMedLab Congress 5
- ▶ IFCC President-Elect: the candidates 8
- ▶ VPL report - Beirut (SCBL) 9
- ▶ VLP report - Belgrade (SMBS) 10
- ▶ IFCC-BSZ External Quality Assurance Project in Zambia 13

IFCC: THE PEOPLE

- ▶ Prof. René Dybkaer: a man of vision and great intellect 16

IFCC: THE YOUNG SCIENTISTS

- ▶ Young Scientists session – Alexandria, Egypt 17

Contribute to the IFCC eNews

- ▶ Joint Committee for Traceability in Laboratory Medicine (JCTLM) website: News Update 20

In this issue (*cont'd*)

☐ NEWS FROM REGIONAL FEDERATIONS AND MEMBER SOCIETIES

- ▶ News from the German Society of Clinical Chemistry and Laboratory Medicine (DGKL) 20
- ▶ News from the Saudi Society for Clinical Chemistry (SSCC) 21

☐ New IFCC members

- ▶ IFCC welcomes a new Corporate Member: SCL Healthcare 23

☐ News from the IFCC Website

25

☐ IFCC'S CALENDAR OF CONGRESSES, CONFERENCES & EVENTS

- ▶ Calendar of IFCC Congresses/Conferences and Regional Federations' Congresses 26
- ▶ Calendar of events with IFCC auspices 27

EDITORIAL

Message from the eNews Editor

by *Katherina Psarra*
eNews Editor

It was with a tightness in the heart that we all approached Barcelona for EuroMedLab 2019. We were all thinking of the recent passing of our president, Professor Howard Morris, who would have surely brightened the opening ceremony and the entire duration of the Barcelona congress with his pleasing, charming smile and his imposing personality. These thoughts were certainly flowing in the air throughout the Congress. His beloved wife, Dr. Helen Martin, welcomed all of us in the opening ceremony. It was a time of strong emotions.

Our hosts, the Spanish Society of Laboratory Medicine (SEQC^{ML}) succeeded in overcoming these thoughts and feelings by generously offering their great hospitality, the interesting up-to-date successful events that they had organized for us, surrounded by the atmosphere of the wonderful city of Barcelona.

You will learn a lot more about the Congress from their article in this eNews issue.

In this issue you will also find out who the candidates for the position of President-Elect will be. You all know them very well, but more about their biographies can be obtained from the national societies. Their role is very difficult. They have to compete with the achievements of a legend.

A past president, a very well-known person in IFCC, Prof. René Dybkaer passed away these last few days, as well. Read his biography, his obituary, so you can be inspired about the future of the profession.

The vibrant life of many more events with the IFCC auspices can be reached through this issue.

I promise to inform you about the enews working group meeting in Barcelona, a meeting of wonderful ladies and I only ask as always to come in contact with us either through your articles or through your comments.

Warm regards

Au revoir

Katherina Psarra



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May 19-23

BARCELONA

EUROMEDLAB 2019



IFCC
International Federation
of Clinical Chemistry
and Laboratory Medicine

EFLM

EUROPEAN FEDERATION OF CLINICAL CHEMISTRY
AND LABORATORY MEDICINE

SEQC^{ML}

Sociedad Española de Medicina de Laboratorio

Barcelona hosted the 23rd EuroMedLab Congress, the most important scientific event for Laboratory Medicine in Europe, from May 19 to 23 at the CCIB (International Convention Center of Barcelona).

Dedicated to the late IFCC president, Prof. Howard Morris, organized by the International Federation of Clinical Chemistry and Laboratory Medicine (IFCC), the European Federation of Clinical Chemistry and Laboratory Medicine (EFLM) and the Spanish Society of Laboratory Medicine (SEQC^{ML}), this biennial meeting was an opportunity to show the latest advances in research and clinical science in the various areas of Laboratory Medicine.

With 1,563 communications received, from 83 different countries, the communications record from previous editions has been broken, with notable contributions from Spanish professionals, given that one in three communications were sent by professionals from our country.

More than one hundred speakers from numerous countries around the world participated, including 33 Spaniards, with a very high scientific level of addressing current issues in the different disciplines of Laboratory Medicine, from clinical biochemistry, hematology and microbiology, to immunology and molecular biology.



Members of Congress Organising and Scientific Programme Committees

The total number of attendees exceeded 6,000 professionals, including congress registrants and visitors to the commercial exhibition, which is a new record compared to previous editions.

Likewise, the Congress included more than 70 scientific activities distributed over four plenary sessions, in addition to 20 symposiums, seven monographic sessions, 40 educational workshops, and an inaugural conference during which Dr. Manuel Serrano, leader of the Laboratory of Cellular Plasticity and Disease of the IRB Barcelona, addressed advances in understanding of the mechanisms of aging and senescent cells and their possible clinical applications, with the lecture entitled Recent Progress on the Mechanisms of Aging and its Medical Applications.

In addition, among the topics covered during the five days of the Congress were epigenetics applied to cancer, the microbiome, big data and information security, CRISPR, diabetes, kidney, liver and thyroid diseases, sepsis, in vitro fertilization, cerebrovascular and cardiac disease, personalized immunosuppression, congenital metabolic errors, non-invasive prenatal tests through the analysis of circulating fetal DNA, and dyslipidemia. Likewise, there was time to discuss issues related to

professional and organizational development, quality in the clinical laboratory based on the 20-year experience of the Spanish Society of Laboratory Medicine, point-of-care-testing, professional development for young scientists, and aspects of regulation from new legislation at the European level.

For its part, and as part of the Congress activity, the Spanish Society of Laboratory Medicine also carried out two satellite symposiums in advance. The first one was on Quality and Laboratory Medicine, and more specifically on the updating of the Biological Variation data table and its use to ensure the clinical usefulness of laboratory results.

The second one focused on standardization in the hematology laboratory and shared the challenges facing the clinical laboratory in detecting these diseases in an increasingly globalized world. This was meant to highlight the importance of consensus on the values analyzed and the need to use optical means to detect some pathologies.

During the Congress there was also a large commercial exhibition where 42 in vitro diagnostic companies presented their latest developments related to Laboratory Medicine. Congress attendees had the opportunity to



SEQC^{ML} booth during the Congress



Members of SEQC^{ML} Board



4 EuroMedLab Presidents: Dr. Gouget, Paris 2015; Dr. Haliassos, Athens 2017; Dr. Caballé, Barcelona 2019; and Dr. Lackner, Munich 2021

interact with their colleagues and professionals from other countries.

In addition, coinciding with the Congress, numerous meetings of the various working groups of the societies organizing the Congress were held, with a high participation of professionals.

Both the scientific program and the activities presented, and the high level of participation, offer good proof of the success of the celebration of the 23rd EuroMedLab Congress in Barcelona.

This success has been possible thanks to the effort, work, and enthusiasm of many professionals of the

SEQC^{ML}, who for more than two years have participated in both the organizational and scientific parts of the Congress.

“We must be proud that at the international level they have trusted us to carry out this Congress, 16 years after the only time it had been held in Spain. Precisely because of this, it has been a great challenge and responsibility to carry it out impeccably, taking care of each and every detail at a scientific and organizational level,” concluded Dr. Imma Caballé, president of the Congress and the SEQC^{ML}.

About the Spanish Society of Laboratory Medicine (SEQC^{ML})

The Spanish Society of Laboratory Medicine (SEQC^{ML}) -founded in 1976- currently includes more than 2,500 professionals, and its main objective is to bring together all scientists interested in the field of Laboratory Medicine, to promote the dissemination of scientific and technical publications, to organize meetings, courses and congresses of a national and international nature, to cooperate with other Scientific Societies, and to defend and promote the specialties within Laboratory Medicine as well as its associates. Likewise, the Society wishes to contribute to the study and recommendation of standardized methods and the establishment of guidelines and recommendations for training in the field of Laboratory Medicine. More information at www.seqc.es.

IFCC President-Elect: The Candidates

by Graham Beastall
Chair, IFCC Nominations Committee

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 Khosrow Adeli**, from Toronto in Canada
- **Professor Päivi Laitinen**, from Helsinki in Finland
- **Professor Tomáš Zima**, from Prague in the Czech Republic



Professor Khosrow Adeli



Professor Päivi Laitinen



Professor Tomáš Zima

A ballot of IFCC Full Member societies will be held in September 2019 to determine which of the three candidates will become President-Elect.

To assist the decision-making process, Full Members have been provided with a biography and a personal statement from each candidate.

The period between now and September allows for consultation by Full Member societies with their membership and for a preferred candidate to be agreed.

The successful candidate will commence his/her role on 1st January 2020 and will transition to President at a mutually agreed time during 2020.

The booklet with the slate of candidates is available at:

<http://www.ifcc.org/media/477909/ifcc-eb-2020-2023-president-elect-slate-of-candidates.pdf>.

VPL report - Beirut (SCBL)

by Alexander Haliassos

Chair, IFCC Committee on Proficiency Testing (C-PT)



Beirut from the Congress Center

The Syndicate of Clinical Biologists of Lebanon organized their VIIIth National Congress along with the VIIIth days of the International Francophone Federation of Clinical Biology and Laboratory Medicine at the Congress Center of Habtoor Hotel, at Sin El Fil, a Beirut suburb in Lebanon, from March 14 to March 16, 2019.

The congress venue was the biggest congress facility in Lebanon and was well equipped. This International congress was attended by 550 colleagues from all neighboring countries and the Arab world, as well as from the francophone countries. The audience included clinical pathologists, medical technologists as well as clinicians and students.

IFCC participated in the congress with two VLP lecturers, Prof. Marc Delpech and Dr. Alexander Haliassos.

During the early afternoon session of Friday, March 15, 2019, Prof. Marc Delpech presented the Next Generation sequencing (NGS), the applications and the utility of this technique in Medicine, while at the previous session Dr. Alexander Haliassos discussed the topic of the New Protein Biomarkers for the diagnosis of stroke and the support of the Laboratory to the urgent therapeutic decisions in this pathology.

During the morning session of Saturday, March 16, 2019, Dr. Alexander Haliassos presented a novel External Quality Assessment program (Proficiency Testing scheme) developed in cooperation with the IFCC Committee on Proficiency Testing (C-PT) and the IFCC Committee on Clinical Molecular Biology Curriculum (C-CMBC), for the detection of EGFR mutations on the circulating tumor cells (Liquid Biopsy).



Dr. Alexander Haliassos (VLP) presenting the EGFR mutations detection External Quality Assessment program (Proficiency Testing scheme)

Article continued on next page

This diagnostic test is a prerequisite for the application of personalized medicine therapy.

These presentations gave the opportunity to the attendees to discover new technologies and new diagnostic approaches of diseases and showed IFCC involvement in this field.



Prof. Marc Delpuch (VLP) and Dr. Christian Haddad
(President of the Syndicate of Clinical Biologists of Lebanon)



Dr. Michel Vaubourdolle (SFBC)
and Dr. Alexander Haliassos (VLP)

VLP report - Belgrade (SMBS)

by Bernard Gouget

*Chair, Committee on Mobile Health and Bioengineering in Laboratory Medicine (C-MHBLM)
President, Healthcare Division Comité Français d'accréditation (Cofrac)
Chair of the EFLM Task Group «European Laboratory Day» (TG-ELD)*

Damien Gruson

Member, IFCC EC-Emerging Technologies Division

Sergio Bernardini

Chair, IFCC Emerging Technologies Division

PROMOTING BCLF IDENTITY IN BELGRADE WITH THE ENERGIZED SMBS

With 7,000 years of history, Belgrade is one of the oldest cities in Europe. From ancient Slavic tribes, over Roman and Ottoman Empire, to Austro-Hungarians, Belgrade has always been a meeting point among different civilizations. The fusion of cultures is best expressed in the Serbian good neighbourly relations, traditional cuisine and folklore, creating a unique ambiance and a very warm hearted atmosphere that we appreciated during the social dinner at the historical restaurant of the “Dom Aero Kluba” located at the corner of Uzun Mirkova and Kralja Petra streets. Today, Contemporary Belgrade is a modern European capital with over two

million citizens, an economic and scientific hub of the entire region, the most accessible Balkan country and the city where the 15th Belgrade symposium for Balkan regions was given the utmost attention, making all delegates feel very special and distinguished while in the capital of Serbia.

The congress organized from April 11-12th, 2019 by the Society of Medical Biochemists of Serbia (SMBS), full member of EFLM and IFCC was held at the conference center of the Hyatt Regency in new Belgrade, located on the left bank and under the watchful eye of Pobednik «the Victor», statue built in 1928 by Ivan Mestrovic, looking forward across the confluence of the Sava and the Danube. It is one of the most popular visual

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Tomris Ozben, IFCC Treasurer; Zorica Sumarac, President SMBS (Serbia); Anyla Bulu Kasneci, National Representative (Albania); Bernard Gouget, Chair IFCC-C-MHBLM; Nada Majkic-Singh, SMBS National Representative; Mag. Evgenija Homšak, Past-President of SZKLM (Slovenia); Anna-Maria Simundic, President-elect EFLM (Croatia)

symbols of the city, located in the Belgrade fortress at the place where the medieval castle once stood. Three hundred participants from all Balkan countries, Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Greece, North Macedonia, Montenegro, Romania, Serbia, Turkey as well as from Austria, Belgium, Cyprus France, Hungary, Italy, Israel and Slovenia attended the symposium. There were eight sessions and 36 outstanding oral presentations covering state-of-the-art topics in laboratory medicine in hemostasis, drug management, endocrinology, -omics as well as leadership skills, lab organization and planning, quality management and accreditation.

The role of the specialist in lab medicine is becoming more complex and as such requires increasingly a deep understanding of management, strategy, education and new technologies in order to improve clinical laboratory practices. The conference allowed us to have a detailed knowledge of the national organizations and practices. We discovered the latest trends in harmonization of training, territorial strategies with private and public labs networks as well as the use of state-of-the-art technologies in all BCLF countries.



Dr. Damien Gruson (BE) and Dr. Bernard Gouget (FR) at the congress

Such presentations provided, a clear vision of the needs and expectations of each Balkan member society and a profound insight of the construction of the BCLF identity in a dynamic context, highlighting the specificities of each country and reinforcing the similarities of this regional community sharing certain strong values in order to improve the quality of care and public health.



SMBS members, along with COC members and IFCC VLPs

In the country of the genial **Nikola Tesla**, Serbian-American, engineer-physicist *and* **modern Prometheus**, it was a great honor for me, as chair of the IFCC C-MH-BLM, to open the congress with a plenary lecture on preparing the specialist of lab medicine to deliver the digital future. Prof. Damien Gruson, distinguished representative of the IFCC-EC-ETD, chaired by Prof. Sergio Bernardini, delivered a lecture on digital tools in Lab medicine and presented the very attractive concept of Machine learning, defined as a small part of the study of AI, referring to a specific sub-section of computer science related to constructing efficient algorithms that can make accurate predictions about future clinical outcomes.

The path of genomics, digital medicine and AI incorporation into clinical practices is fraught of challenges. Technological innovation is increasingly shifting the balance of care toward more centralized highly specialized care and decentralized testing. Through progressively miniaturized and increasingly powerful

mobile computing capabilities, everyone is now capable of monitoring, tracking and transmitting health metrics continuously. Harnessing the power of digital technologies via biosensors, wearables for diagnostic and remote monitoring, smart phones, tablets, computers, web portals and telemedicine is essential for achieving universal health coverage. These new devices are not end in themselves, they are vital tools to promote health, keep the world safe and serve the vulnerable and people must be assured that their own data is safe. We need to assimilate quickly the changes, create a culture of innovation and visionary digital leadership and be aware on any ethical implications. Successful implementation in lab medicine is requiring education, more intensive training and investment in informatics, genomic medicine for the future generation as well as effective clinical and managerial governance processes.

Congratulations to Prof. Dr. Nada Majkic-Singh, SMBS National Representative, for continuing actively her

legendary journey of promoting the Balkans, for her achievements in Lab Medicine and mentorship inspiring the next generation. Thank you to Dr. Zorica Sumarac, President SMBS; and to Dr. Snezana Jovicic, co-President COC and SD committees and all who contributed to making the Balkan symposium a great success. This 15th Belgrade symposium successfully combined the high-level scientific program, a large turnout of the IVD companies and enlightening social interactions, blended with great hospitality. Belgrade (Serbia) is in a remarkable regeneration and one of the most exciting places promoting Laboratory Medicine.



Dr. Snezana Jovicic, co-President COC, with Dr. Gouget (L) and Dr. Gruson (R)

IFCC-BSZ External Quality Assurance Project in Zambia

by Renze Bais

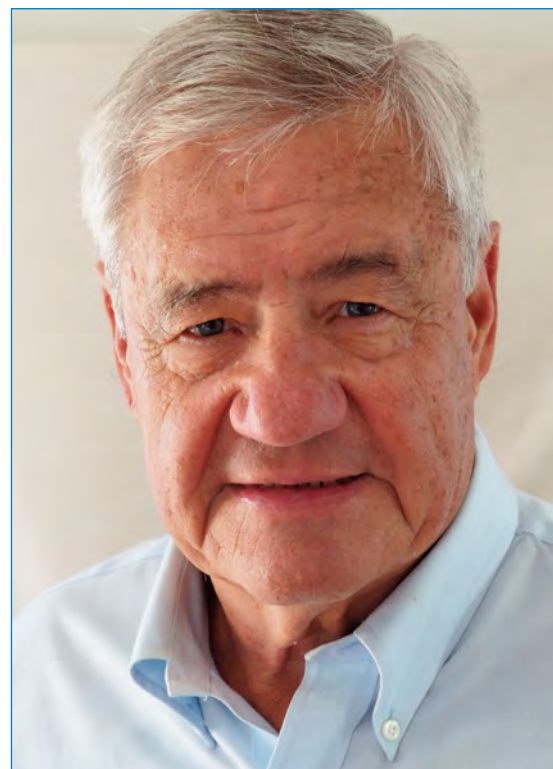
www.rbaisconsulting.com
renzebais@rbaisconsulting.com
Queensland, Australia

Since 2014, the International Federation of Clinical Chemistry and Laboratory Medicine (IFCC) has been coordinating an External Quality Assurance (EQA) project in Zambia in conjunction with the Bio-medical Society of Zambia.

- The purpose of the project is to establish a sustainable EQA scheme in Zambia.
- The project measures the performance of the selected laboratories by comparison with other Zambian laboratories enrolled in the program as well as with peer laboratories from around the world.
- The project also monitors the change in performance of participating laboratories and can provide feedback and educational support.

In 2012, Dr. Renze Bais submitted a proposal to the IFCC Executive Board suggesting that IFCC would sponsor EQA programs in developing countries. The basic premise was that IFCC could form a partnership with International QA providers and run projects as joint ventures. IFCC would provide the expertise and educational input into such projects.

The proposal was developed from previous experience on projects run in Vietnam for over 10 years and included the following aspects:



Renze Bais

Article continued on next page

- Any such project has more chance of success if it has support from a local official authority such as the Ministry of Health (MoH).
- There is need for a local “Champion or a number of Champions”. These people are vital as they know the local regulations, are familiar with the local environment and culture and will be responsible for the logistics such as sample distribution.
- An initial questionnaire will be sent to laboratories to establish baseline data on practices and procedures..
- The survey will be run depending on the level of understanding and involvement in EQA in a particular country.
- Any program will be designed so that it can eventually run locally.

Through the contacts made by two IFCC Executive Board members, Prof. Jocelyn Hicks and Prof. Vanessa Steenkamp, Zambia was ultimately identified as a



Dawn Lab Making up EQA Material

potential country where a project could be set up successfully. Additionally, the President of BSZ at the time, Hilary Lumano, was willing to act as the local coordinator. The concept was supported by the then IFCC President, Dr. Graham Beastall and the Executive Board.

A meeting was held during Euromedlab in Milan, in 2013, with representatives of the IFCC, BSZ and Randox, a major EQA provider. At the meeting Randox agreed to partner with IFCC to run an EQA program in Zambia and a Memorandum of Understanding was drawn up between IFCC, Zambian Ministry of Health and Randox.

The BSZ was officially recognised by the MoH as their representative in the project through a letter from the Permanent Secretary of the MoH.

Randox had initially agreed to supply material for 12 months, as well as to enrol the laboratories in their World-wide QA program free of charge. This phase, which covered 16 laboratories, ran for the initial 12 months; but after reviewing the project, Randox would only continue support if the laboratories paid for enrolment, which was not possible for most of them due to the cost.

To enable the project's continuation, IFCC was able to negotiate with an alternative supplier (RCPAQAP Pty Ltd in Australia) who agreed to provide enough material at a significantly reduced cost in order to enable 25 laboratories to be enrolled.

Purchase of material was organised at the end of 2015 and the material shipped to Lucky Kalyapu, Ndola College of Biomedical Science, that agreed to store and distribute the material to the selected laboratories as well as be the local contact.

Laboratories were contacted by the BSZ and after acknowledging their willingness to take part, received a questionnaire regarding their range of tests and instruments they used.

The first samples were analysed in January 2016 with samples tested monthly in laboratories selected by the BSZ from all regions within Zambia.

Most laboratories in Zambia have a limited biochemistry menu and the analytes included in the program were chosen if they were performed by at least 5 of the participant laboratories. They were:

Sodium	Bilirubin - Conjugated
Potassium	Urea
Glucose	Urate
Creatinine	Total Protein
ALT	Albumin
AST	Cholesterol
Bilirubin – Total	Triglycerides

REPORTS

Data were analysed using computer programs written and developed by Dr. Renze Bais and laboratories received two types of reports on a monthly basis. One compared their results with the Zambian laboratories in the survey while the other compared their results with those from the World-wide results for the material. In the World-wide survey there are at least 500 results for each analyte. There was no separate analysis for specific instruments or reagents as there would be insufficient data for each group.

Reports were returned in the form of pdf files showing Zambian laboratories against their peers and against World-wide laboratories printed side-by-side for comparison. As expected, the statistics for the Zambian laboratories are generally but not always, less precise than the world-wide result simply due to the smaller number of points in the data. If there were significant discrepancies, it was suggested that laboratories would compare their results with the world-wide results.

The full text including examples of the reports and findings from the project thus far, and an example of the report sent to each laboratory, are available on the IFCC Website at: <http://www.ifcc.org/ifcc-communications-publications-division-cpd/newsarchive-links/enews-2019-06/>

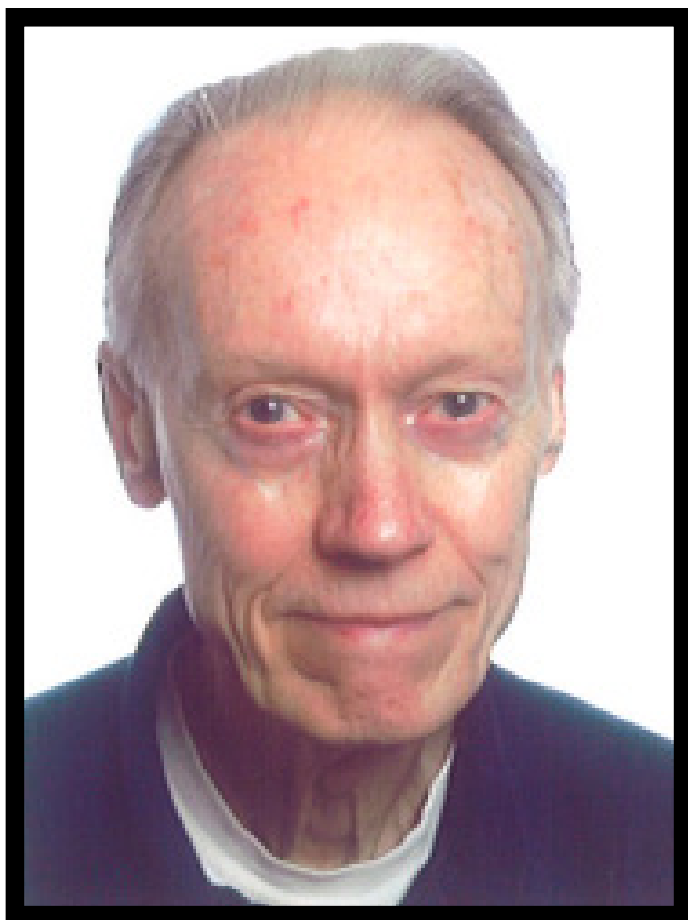


Dawn Lab, one of the Zambian laboratories enrolled in the programme

IFCC: THE PEOPLE

Prof. René Dybkaer: a man of vision and great intellect

by Graham Beastall
IFCC Past President



IFCC has lost its second President in just a matter of days. Prof. René Dybkaer from Copenhagen, Denmark passed away on 29th April 2019 at the age of 93. Prof. Dybkaer was IFCC President from 1979 until 1984, having been Vice-President from 1973.

Prof. Dybkaer was a medical graduate from the University of Copenhagen who chose to specialize in laboratory medicine, both medical microbiology and clinical chemistry. He held several appointments at hospitals in Copenhagen, including the one of Head of the Department of Clinical Chemistry at Frederiksberg Hospital

from 1977 until 1996. From 1997, at the age of 70, he became head of a department dedicated to laboratory standardization at the Kommunehospitalet in Copenhagen and that gives us an insight to his greatest contribution to our profession.

More than 50 years ago Prof. Dybkaer appreciated the need for international collaboration to achieve harmonization in laboratory medicine in the interests of patient safety. In particular, he noted inconsistency and confusion in the way that laboratory test results were reported to doctors. This led him in 1960, together with Kjeld Jørgensen, to establish the basis for a logical system of terminology for laboratory tests and their results. Since then his formative system of terminology has been adopted internationally, under the auspices of the International Union of Pure and Applied Chemistry (IUPAC). Prof. Dybkaer was the primary author of the 'IUPAC Silver Book' entitled 'A Compendium of Terminology and Nomenclature of Properties in Clinical Laboratory Sciences'. This definitive work was revised, updated and republished in 2017.

Prof. Dybkaer's interest in terminology extended into wider areas of metrology, the science of measurement, which he applied to several aspects of laboratory medicine. He became established as the leading international expert and worked with many global organizations including IUPAC, the International Standards Organization (ISO), the World Health Organization (WHO) and the International Bureau of Weights and Measures (BIPM). He was a skilful committee member and chair applying logic and good humour to achieve consensus from deep discussions on difficult topics.

In 2004 Prof. Dybkaer became a Doctor of Science in Medicine at the University of Copenhagen, submitting

Obituary continued on next page

a thesis entitled 'An Ontology on Property for Physical, Chemical and Biological Systems'. Such is the repute of this work that it merits its own pages on the IUPAC website, accessible at the following address: <https://ontology.iupac.org>.

As Vice-President and President Prof. Dybkaer helped to introduce metrology to IFCC and this endures through the Scientific Division Committee for Nomenclature, Properties and Units (C-NPU) and the active involvement of IFCC as a founding member of the Joint Committee for Traceability in Laboratory Medicine (JCTLM). He led the introduction of Corporate Members into IFCC and hosted the first IFCC General Conference in Copenhagen. He also applied his clarity of thinking and organizational skills to prepare the IFCC Articles and to introduce congress guidelines and IFCC archives.

Prof. Dybkaer received numerous international awards for his groundbreaking work, including the IFCC Henry Wishinsky Distinguished International Service Award in 1993. He received these awards with characteristic modesty and grace.

Away from laboratory medicine Prof. Dybkaer was a talented jazz clarinetist and a meticulous collector and archivist of postage stamps. He has the honour of being IFCC's first, and perhaps only, Olympian representing Denmark in fencing at the 1948 and 1952 Olympic Games.

With the death of Prof. Dybkaer, the world of laboratory medicine has lost a true visionary and a man of great intellect. His legacy can be seen every day in the millions of laboratory test results that are reported according to the convention that he introduced.

IFCC: THE YOUNG SCIENTISTS

Young Scientists Session – Alexandria, Egypt

by Ramy Assaad Khalil

*Dept. of Chemical Pathology, Alexandria University, Egypt
Corresponding Member: IFCC C-MHBLM, IFCC TF-YS*

A successful session for Young Scientists in Laboratory Medicine, took place in Egypt at the Annual International Conference of The Chemical Pathology Department, Medical Research Institute - Alexandria University, in collaboration with The African Federation of Clinical Chemistry (AFCC). The conference was held on the 22nd and 23rd of February 2019, in the charming Mediterranean city of Alexandria, with participation of many international speakers including many eminent IFCC members. The Young Scientists session in the conference had the following title:

Exchanging Young Scientists Experience Session "Opportunities and Challenges"

Presenting **IFCC: Task Force Young Scientists (TF-YS)** mission, role, objectives, activities and achievements to young researchers and lab professionals.

Egyptian researchers' community has been invited to gain benefits from IFCC TF-YS educational webinars, workshops addressed to YS, and to get use of the networking and communication project "Lab Surfing", as



Ramy Assaad Khalil during the YS session

4th International Conference of Chemical Pathology Department
Medical Research Institute, Alexandria University

Exchanging Young Scientists Experience Session “Opportunities and Challenges”

23rd February, 2019 At 15:00

Session Moderators:

Dr. Ahmed ElShazly
Dr. Omneya A. AbdelKarem
Dr. Ramy Assaad

Timeline:

Part 1: IFCC:Task Force Young Scientists.

Dr. Ramy Samir Assaad *Lecturer of Chemical Pathology ,Corresponding Member IFCC-TFYS*

Part 2: Mobility Grants in the Framework of the EU.

Dr. Ahmed ElShazly *Lecturer of Marine Science ,Coordinator of International Cooperation Projects, PMU*

Part 3: Young Scientists Experience in a Nutshell.

Experience with DAAD.

Dr. Raghda Saad Zagloul Taleb

Lecturer of Clinical and Chemical Pathology

Experience With Newton Mosharafa program.

Dr. Mahmoud Raafat Fassad

Lecturer of Human Genetics

Experience With Joint Mission Program.

Dr. Bassem Ahmed Elsherbini

Lecturer of Immunology and Allergy

Part 4: Know the best answer and win a prize.

Dr. Omneya A. AbdelKarem

Lecturer of Chemical Pathology

For young researchers less than 40 years old : Donot forget to get your quiz from registration desk on 2nd day of conference and to hand it by 13:30 max.

well as to actively participate in the surveys. Attendees got adequate information about IFCC eAcademy, the IFCC Research Guide publication and also Professional Exchange Programmes (PEP). They have been also briefed about a group of research projects planned in collaboration with both IFCC and AFCC, where youth's active input and participation are encouraged.

The young-targeted session aimed to reveal different horizons for research opportunities to YS, through a presentation covering information on the mobility grants in the framework of the EU. The session has provided real live experiences of young scientists with various research programs (DAAD German program, Newton Mosharafa British program, and Joint Mission Egyptian program), communicating successful research proposals and describing challenges and ways to overcome. It was ended finally by a competition quiz targeting various aspects of quality lab management.

This first of Young Scientists session in the region had a very encouraging feedback for repeated similar ones, aiming to fulfill YS needs very encouraging feedback and interests and to provide a link for young scientists with the IFCC, as a core objective of the IFCC TF-YS.



Speakers and participants in the Annual International Conference of The Chemical Pathology Department, Medical Research Institute, Alexandria University, Egypt

Contribute to the IFCC eNews

Joint Committee for Traceability in Laboratory Medicine (JCTLM) website: News Update



PUBLICATION OF THE ANNUAL JCTLM NEWSLETTER

The sixth issue of the JCTLM Newsletter has been published and distributed to all JCTLM Members.

The JCTLM Newsletter:

- Reports on JCTLM activities and Working Groups
- Describes the new Task Force on Reference Measurement System Implementation
- Lists the new entries in the JCTLM database
- Calls for nominations for new materials, methods and services for the database
- Welcomes new personnel in the JCTLM Executive Committee
- Looks forward to the biennial JCTLM Meeting
- Lists other future activities for JCTLM

A copy of the Newsletter is available for download [here](#).

Accompanying the Newsletter is a Special Report on the role of external quality assessment (EQA) in monitoring metrological traceability. This thought-provoking report has been written by Tony Badrick from Australia and may be downloaded [here](#).

NEWS FROM REGIONAL FEDERATIONS AND MEMBER SOCIETIES



News from The German Society of Clinical Chemistry and Laboratory Medicine (DGKL)

DGKL award "Biochemical Analytics"



The German Society of Clinical Chemistry and Laboratory Medicine (DGKL) is the non-profit, scientific organization for clinical chemistry and laboratory medicine

*by Anja Turkalj
DGKL eV*

in Germany. We represent, promote and shape Clinical Chemistry and Laboratory Medicine in research, education and patient care.

The Biochemical Analytics award was established in 1970 and is awarded every two years to scientists who demonstrated outstanding achievements in research and analytical method development. Nominations

Article continued on next page

are made by the Board of Directors of the DGKL, the Nominating Committee or by self-nominations.

The next award ceremony will be held at the 16th Annual Conference of the DGKL from 25th to 28th of September 2019 in Magdeburg, Germany.

The award is sponsored by SARSTEDT AG & Co. KG and comprises an award sum of **EUR 50.000**. The award winner must be present at the prize giving ceremony.

Valid applications shall encompass a scientific CV, an abstract of scientific achievements and those papers the nomination is based on.



25. - 28.09.2019
Labormedizin
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Deutsche Gesellschaft für
Klinische Chemie und Laboratoriumsmedizin e.V.



News from the Saudi Society for Clinical Chemistry (SSCC)
SSCC updates in Clinical Chemistry and Laboratory Medicine

by *Borai Anwar*
SSCC



Saudi Society for Clinical Chemistry (SSCC)

ةيريررسلا ءاي ميكلل ةي دوعسلا ةي عمجلا



الهيئة السعودية للتخصصات الصحية
Saudi Commission for Health Specialties

The SSCC has held workshop series in collaboration with Snibe. The workshops were held in different regions of Saudi Arabia. The first workshop was held at Sheraton Hotel and Towers in Riyadh, 18th March 2019. The second workshop was held at Le Meridien Hotel, Jeddah, 20th March 2019. The third workshop was held at Le Meridien Hotel, Alkhobar, 21st April 2019. The fourth workshop was held in Abha, 22nd April 2019. All the workshops were accredited by the Saudi Commission for Health Specialties (SCHS) by 4 CME hours. The topics included discussion of the New Approaches in Clinical Diagnostics, Clinical Validation of Hyaluronic Acid and Liver Diseases, Clinical Utility of Anti Mullerian Hormone and Special Assays by Snibe.

Highlights on clinical chemistry pediatric disease is another seminar conducted on 31st March by the SSCC in collaboration with Maternity and children hospital in Dammam, KSA. Topics were presented by well known speakers. Topics were about Thyroid Function Test in Pregnancy and Newborn Screening in Saudi Arabia.

On 19th April 2019, SSCC in collaboration with the College of American Pathologist (CAP) – sponsored by Al Shalan Group – conducted a course on the CAP Educational Program. Two speakers from the CAP, Dr. Michael Peat and Ms. Stacey Mayer, presented updates on Accreditation Standards, including observations on getting the most from PT & EQA, General Chemistry & Toxicology, Frequently Cited Deficiencies

Article continued on next page

& Questions and Method Validation/Non-accredited Labs.

On 24th April 2019, SSCC in collaboration with Sebia – sponsored by Dar Al Zahrawi – conducted a workshop on Protein Electrophoresis. Topics presented by Mr. Lionel Bey from Sebia with interactive case discussion session included “Diabetes: How can a capillary electrophoresis measurement of HbA1c provide a clinical added value” and “Myeloma: Advantages of immunotyping for monoclonal Ig confirmation and typing comparison with gel immunofixation”.



SSCC workshop in collaboration with Snibe



Mr. Lionel Bey from Sebia at the Workshop on Protein Electrophoresis



Participants at the Workshop on Protein Electrophoresis



SSCC members at the Course of the College of American Pathologist (CAP) course on Accreditation Standards

NEW IFCC MEMBERS

IFCC welcomes a new Corporate Member: SCL Healthcare



www.sclhealthcare.co.kr
+82 70-7115-8351

SCL Healthcare Central Laboratory is Korea's first laboratory dedicated to clinical studies for Pharmaceutical companies.

Leading Central Laboratory service technology accumulated for over 20 years.

I. CENTRAL LABORATORY SERVICE FOR CLINICAL TRIALS

Experience

- The first Korea's Central Laboratory dedicated to clinical studies, established in 2006.
- Over 300 cases of clinical studies(phase I~IV) for vaccines and new drugs for various diseases including cancer, diabetes, cardiovascular diseases and others.
- Experience of multinational and multicenter clinical studies.

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Central Laboratory puts unsurpassed resources, knowledge and experience in laboratory management to work for you on each clinical trial study.

We provide experienced project management staff to support the high-test level of quality.

- National and International communications
- Clinical trials knowledge resources
- Risk management focus with a customer service
- Support for kits
- Study data management
- Quality assurance

II. COMPANION BIOMARKER CENTER

Establishment of various companion biomarker analysis platform and development of higher value-added products

- Analytical techniques for diagnosis and prognosis of human diseases
- Clinical verification and data construction of various Biomarkers for clinical trials
- Construction of medical big data based on bioinformatics-based personal genetic information
- Development of analysis platforms for clinical verification of health functional foods

III. BIO-LOGISTICS

SCL Healthcare Bio-Logistics couriers are experts in supplying clinical trial supplies, human and animal specimen and investigational products to investigator sites and we have lots of SOPs and experiences.

Article continued on next page

AFFILIATES



www.scllab.co.kr

+82 1800-0119

Seoul Clinical Laboratories (SCL), a clinical diagnostic laboratory founded in 1983, is the first referral laboratory in Korea to receive accreditation from the CAP (College of American Pathologists). Our expertise and reliability as an inspection agency of CAP, world-class quality assurance institution have been certified for 20 years. In addition, we are continuously improving the quality of laboratory by participating in

various international and domestic prominent external quality assurance programs.

By endeavoring to fulfill its core values, 'Quality, Service and Research', SCL has developed into the largest nationwide laboratory with the best reputation in the reference laboratory field in Korea. SCL provides a wide variety of specialized laboratory assays and cutting-edge research tests to over 4,500 medical institutions nationwide. SCL intends to increase its presence as the world class reference laboratory by providing precise test results and high-quality customer-oriented services to medical practitioners throughout the world, as well as throughout Korea.

Lab divisions

- Diagnostic Laboratory Services / Molecular Diagnosis
- Functional Medicine / Diagnostic Pathology / Special Chemistry

Research & Business Development division

1) SCL Research Center

- Genome Research
- Method development and validation, Molecular Diagnostics, Immunodiagnostic
- Research and Test Development for Special Test (by LC-MS/MS), DTC

2) SCL R&D Innovation Center

- Bio Bank (Biospecimen collection/processing/ storage), Clinical Trials for Medical Device
- National project management and Coordinate, Research Administration



NEWS FROM THE IFCC WEBSITE

IFCC-STBC CONFERENCE: HAMMAMET (TUNISIA), 1ST FEBRUARY 2019

Organized by "Société Tunisienne de Biologie Clinique - STBC"

Slides are made available for educational purposes only.

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Click on the titles to see the slides (where [hyperlinks](#) available).

Chairs: Dr. David Kinniburgh (Canada), Prof. Abderrazek Hedhili (Tunisia)

[Vitamin D to improve health outcomes](#)

Prof. Howard Morris (Australia)

[Circulating tumor DNA: A promising biomarker in the liquid biopsy of cancer](#)

Prof. Maurizio Ferrari (Italy)

Chairs: Dr. Ann Gronowski (USA), Dr. Naziha Kaabachi (Tunisia)

[Validation of prostate cancer biomarkers and inflammation: a proteomic study](#)

Prof. Tomris Ozben (Turkey)

[Use of POCT for glycated haemoglobin measurement for diagnosis and management of type 2 diabetics in Africa](#)

Prof. Adekunle Bashiru Okesina (Nigeria)

[Role of genetic markers in clinical expression variability of mucoviscidosis in Tunisia](#)

Dr. Hadj Fredj Sondess (Tunisia)

[Molecular and functional study of the autoimmune lymphoproliferative syndrome in highly consanguineous populations](#)

Dr. Imen Ben Mustapha (Tunisia)

Chairs: Dr. Sunil Sethi, Slama Hmida

[Biological variation](#)

Prof. Sverre Sandberg (Norway)

[Who or what is SHERLOCK ?](#)

Dr. Ann Gronowski (USA)

[Laboratory accreditation experience in LATAM](#)

Dr. Rosa Sierra-Amor (Mexico)

[How to improve outcomes in diabetes? By combining technology, digital solutions and scientific approaches to change patient behaviour](#)

Dr. Rolf Hinzmann (Germany)

[Standardization and harmonization in laboratory medicine](#)

Prof. Howard Morris (Australia)

IFCC'S CALENDAR OF CONGRESSES, CONFERENCES & EVENTS

Calendar of IFCC Congresses/Conferences and Regional Federations' Congresses

Sep 10 - 13, 2019	 COLABIOCLI	<i>COLABIOCLI Regional Congress 2019</i>	Panama, PA
Sep 26 - 28, 2019		<i>AFCC Regional Congress</i>	Marrakesh, MA
Nov 17 - 20, 2019		<i>APFCB Regional Congress 2019</i>	Jaipur, IN
May 24 - 28, 2020		<i>XXIV IFCC WorldLab Seoul 2020</i>	Seoul, KR
May 29 - 30, 2020		<i>IFCC - ICHCLR Workshop on reference materials and regulations for global standardization of clinical laboratory testing</i>	Seoul, KR
May 16 - 20, 2021		<i>XXIV IFCC - EFLM EuroMedLab Munich 2021</i>	Munich, DE

Calendar continued on next page

May 21 - 25, 2023		XXV IFCC - EFLM WorldLab EuroMedLab - Rome 2023	Rome, IT
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Calendar of events with IFCC auspices

Feb 25 -Dec 31, 2019	<i>Bolivian Continuing Education Program (PROBOECO) of the Bolivian Society of Clinical Biochemistry</i>	Different cities, BO
Jun 3 - Oct 30, 2019	<i>Distance Training Workshop for University Teachers</i>	Online Event
Jun 5 - Dec 24, 2019	<i>Postgraduate course of analytical quality in the clinical laboratory</i>	Online event
Jun 14, 2019	<i>Quality Management, a Path to Accreditation</i>	Mexico City, MX
Jun 26 - 29, 2019	<i>1st Mexican Congress of Clinical Laboratory Sciences</i>	Merida, MX
Jun 29 - Jul 3, 2019	<i>The 23rd International Conference on Laboratory Medicine and Pathobiology: An expert forum in clinical and laboratory sciences</i>	Chios Island, GR
Jul 6, 2019	<i>Vietnam Chemical Pathology Course 2019</i>	Ho Chi Minh, VN
Aug 20 - 23, 2019	<i>73º Congreso Argentino de Bioquímica</i>	Buenos Aires, AR
Sep 9 - 14, 2019	<i>XLIII Congreso Nacional de Químicos Clínicos y Expoquim</i>	Mexico City, MX
Sep 11 - 13, 2019	<i>XXIV Congreso Latinoamericano de Bioquímica Clínica (COLABIOCLI) and XIV Congreso Nacional de Laboratoristas Clínicos de Panamá</i>	Panama City, PA
Sep 22 - 24, 2019	<i>XIV Congress of Czech Society of Clinical Biochemistry</i>	Plzen, CZ
Sep 24 - 26, 2019	<i>Cardiac Biomarkers Symposium - High Sensitive Troponin: Present and Future</i>	Tel Aviv, IL
Sep 25 - 27, 2019	<i>Congreso Nacional Bioquímico CUBRA XV 2019</i>	Chaco, AR
Sept 25 - 29, 2019	<i>16th Annual Meeting of the DGKL e. V.</i>	Magdeburg, DE
Sept 26 - 28, 2019	<i>LMCE 2019 and KSLM 60th Annual Meeting</i>	Busan, KR
Oct 1, 2019	<i>41st Conference LABAC</i>	Paris, FR

Calendar continued on next page

Oct 2 - 5, 2019	<i>4th Advances in Circulatory Tumour Cells (ACTC) Meeting, Liquid Biopsy: Latest Advances and Future Challenges</i>	Corfù, GR
Oct 3 - 4, 2019	<i>CELME 2019</i>	Prague, CZ
Oct 3 - 5, 2019	<i>XII Congress of Clinical Biochemistry</i>	Montevideo, UY
Oct 16 - 18, 2019	<i>5th ESPT Congress – Precision Medicine and Personalized Health</i>	Seville, ES
Oct 23, 2019	<i>From Bench to Diagnostic-Therapeutic Pathways - Symposium dedicated to the memory of Professor Angelo Burlina</i>	Padua, IT
Oct 27 - 31, 2019	<i>The Joint Congress of 27th Balkan Clinical Laboratory Federation (BCLF) Congress and 30th National Biochemistry Congress (NBC) of TBS</i>	Antalya, TR
Nov 1 - 4, 2019	<i>19 International Congress of the Colegio Nacional de Bacteriología, CNB Colombia</i>	Bogotá, CO
Nov 6 - 8, 2019	<i>3èmes Journées Francophones de Biologie Médicale</i>	Monaco, MC
Nov 7 - 9, 2019	<i>The Value of Laboratory Medicine into Clinical Medicine</i>	Erice, IT
Nov 21 - 22, 2019	<i>Journées de l'innovation en biologie (JIB 2019)</i>	Paris, FR
Nov 28, 2019	<i>CIRME - 13th International Scientific Meeting - - The Internal Quality Control in the Traceability Era</i>	Milan, IT
Nov 28 - 30, 2019	<i>XIX National Congress of Clinical Laboratory Professionals: Scientific Perspectives to the Technological Advances of the 21st Century</i>	Santo Domingo, DO
Dec 6 - 7, 2019	<i>53e JBP, Journées de Biologie Praticienne</i>	Paris, FR
Feb 6 - 7, 2020	<i>International Congress on Quality in Laboratory Medicine</i>	Helsinki, FI
Jun 9 - 12, 2020	<i>XXXVII Nordic Congress in Medical Biochemistry</i>	Trondheim, NO



XXIV Congreso Latinoamericano de Bioquímica Clínica



Desde el
10 al 13
septiembre 2019

en Panamá



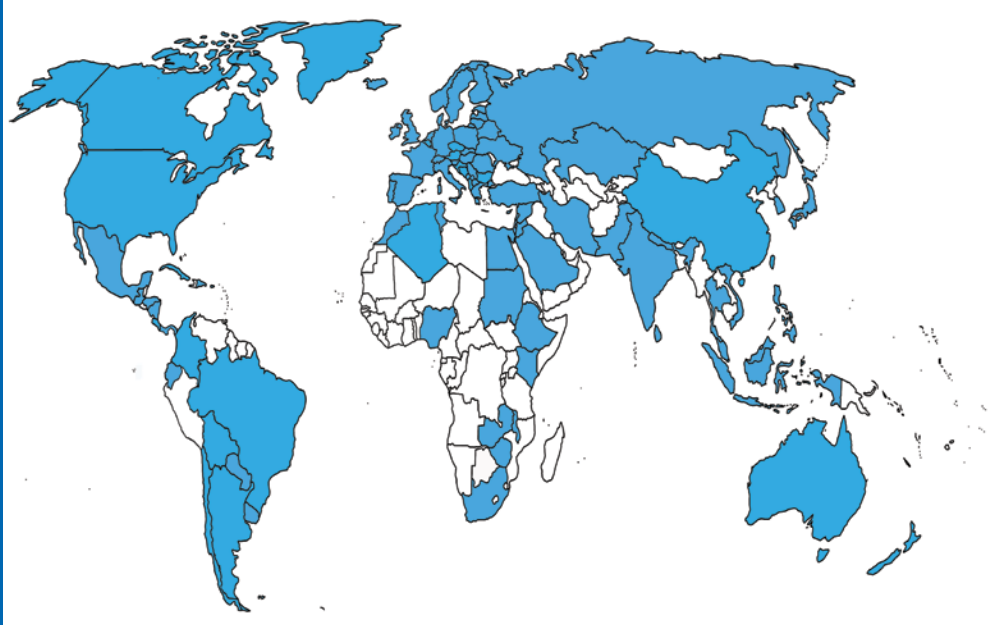
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Regional Federations

Arab Federation of Clinical Biology (AFCB)
 African Federation of Clinical Chemistry (AFCC)
 Asia-Pacific Federation for Clinical Biochemistry and Laboratory Medicine (APFCB)
 European Federation of Clinical Chemistry and Laboratory Medicine (EFLM)
 Latin America Confederation of Clinical Biochemistry (COLABIOCLI)
 North American Federation of Clinical Chemistry and Laboratory Medicine (NAFCC)



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 India: Association of Medical Biochemists of India (AMBI)
 Iran: Iranian Association of Clinical Laboratory Doctors (IACLD)
 Jordan: Society for Medical Technology & Laboratories (SMTL)
 Kazakhstan: Public Association - Federation of Laboratory Medicine (FLM)
 Mexico: Federación Nacional de Químicos Clínicos (CONAQUIC A.C.)
 Nepal: Nepalese Association for Clinical Chemistry (NACC)
 Philippines: Philippine Council for Quality Assurance in Clinical Laboratories (PCQACL)
 Russia: Regional Association for Clinical Laboratory Diagnosis, St. Petersburg
 Serbia: Serbian Society for Clinical Laboratory Medicine and Science (SCLM)
 Spain: Asociación Española de Farmacéuticos Analistas (AEFA)
 Turkey: Society of Clinical Biochemistry Specialists (KBUD)
 Ukraine: Association for Quality Assurance of Laboratory Medicine (AQALM)

Publisher


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N° 3 – March: *by mid February*

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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