

# 6. INTERVIEWS

## IFCC

### EXECUTIVE BOARD

#### 2021 – 2023



Dr. BQF. María del Carmen Pasquel (ECUADOR)

Member C-PR/WG-IANT/CPD-IFCC

#### Interviewer

The interviews presented in this magazine have been conducted by Dr. BQF. María del Carmen Pasquel (Ecuador), as a contribution to the recognition of the great work carried out by the IFCC through its entire global structure that make up the IFCC and that work to achieve the goals that the IFCC has set for itself in Laboratory Medicine in order to carry out breakthroughs in science, education, and research to support improvements in patient care and care worldwide.

#### Academic Titles:

María del Carmen Pasquel Carrera, has a Professional Degree in Pharmaceutical Biochemistry, an Academic Degree of Dr. in Biochemistry and Pharmacy and a Diploma in Hematology from the Central University of Ecuador (UCE), in Internal Auditor ISO 9001: 2015 and ISO 31000: 2018 Risk Management of the European School of Excellence.

#### Representations and Professional Activity:

Former President and current Member of the Ibero-American Working Group on Nomenclature and Translation (WG-IANT), Member for Ecuador of the Ibero-American Corner (RIA), belonging to the Communications and Publications Division (CPD), of the International Federation of Clinical Chemistry and Laboratory Medicine (IFCC). Member for Ecuador of the IFCC Public Relations Committee (CPR). Former Director and current Member of the Editorial Board of the electronic journal *Diagnostico In Vitro* (DIV) of IFCC. Guest Editor of the IFCC Indexed Scientific Magazine and Journal, International Editor of the magazine "Clinical Laboratory" of Spain. Member of the Ecuadorian Accreditation Service (SAE).

Consultant and Speaker in Quality Assurance in the Clinical Laboratory and Risk Management for CONSULTING AND TRAINING IN ECUADOR (CONCAPEC). She was an Assistant Professor of Biochemistry with duties in the Research Department of the Faculty of Chemical Sciences. Central University of Ecuador (1985-1989) (UCE). Consultant for Quality Management Systems ISO 15189, 17025, 9001 since 2010. General Manager of the Center for Specialized Analysis (CEA), since 1989. She has collaborated as a tutor in the COLABIOCLI / OPS online courses related to Quality Management and Good Laboratory Practices Standard 15189; She was president of the Organizing Committee of the XXII COLABIOCLI Congress 2015 and President of the Organizing Committee of more than 36 scientific events in Ecuador, and internationally, she is a speaker at national and international events in congresses, workshops, symposiums.

#### ENTREVISTAS

Las entrevistas presentadas en esta revista han sido realizadas por la Dra. BQF. María del Carmen Pasquel (Ecuador), como un aporte al reconocimiento de la gran labor que realiza IFCC a través de toda su estructura mundial que conforman IFCC y que trabajan por alcanzar las metas que IFCC se ha propuesto en la Medicina de Laboratorio para así realizar grandes avances en la ciencia, educación e investigación para apoyar la mejora en la atención y cuidado del paciente a nivel mundial.

#### Títulos Académicos:

María del Carmen Pasquel Carrera, tiene un Grado Profesional como Bioquímica Farmacéutica, un Grado Académico de Dr. en Bioquímica y Farmacia y un Diplomado en Hematología de la Universidad Central del Ecuador (UCE), diplomado en Auditora Interna ISO 9001: 2015 e ISO 31000: 2018 Gestión de Riesgos de la Escuela Europea de Excelencia.

#### Representaciones y Actividad profesional:

Ex Presidente y actual Member del Grupo de Trabajo de Iberoamérica de Nomenclatura y Traducción (WG-IANT), Member por Ecuador del Rincón Iberoamericano (RIA), pertenecientes a la División de Comunicaciones y Publicaciones (CPD), de la Federación Internacional de Química Clínica y Medicina de Laboratorio (IFCC). Member por Ecuador del Comité de Relaciones Públicas (CPR) de IFCC. Ex Directora y actual Miembro del Consejo Editorial de la revista electrónica *Diagnostico In Vitro* (DIV) de IFCC. Editora Invitada de la Revista Científica indexada e Journal de IFCC, Editora Internacional de la revista "Clinical Laboratory" de España. Miembro del Servicio de Acreditación Ecuatoriano (SAE).

Consultor y Expositor en Aseguramiento de Calidad en el Laboratorio clínico y Gestión de Riesgos para CONSULTORIA Y CAPACITACION EN ECUADOR (CONCAPEC). Fue Profesora Asistente de Bioquímica con obligaciones en el Departamento de Investigación de la Facultad de Ciencias Químicas. Universidad Central del Ecuador (1985-1989) (UCE). Consultor de Sistemas de Gestión de Calidad ISO 15189, 17025, 9001 desde el 2010. Gerente General del Centro de Especializado Análisis (CEA), desde 1989. Ha colaborado como tutora en los Cursos COLABIOCLI / OPS en línea referentes a Gestión de Calidad y Buenas Prácticas de Laboratorio Norma 15189; fue presidente del Comité Organizador del XXII Congreso COLABIOCLI 2015 y Presidente del Comité Organizador de más de 36 eventos científicos en Ecuador, y a nivel internacional, es ponente en eventos nacionales e internacionales en congresos, talleres, simposios.

*Dr. Maria del Carmen Pasquel*

INTERVIEWS  
**IFCC**  
EXECUTIVE BOARD 2021 – 2023

**IFCC Executive Board 2021-2023**

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**IFCC Executive Board: Biographies - IFCC**

IFCC 100th Anniversary 1952-2022  
International Federation of Clinical Chemistry and Laboratory Medicine

<https://www.ifcc.org/executive-board-and-council/executive-board/>

**DR. MARIA DEL CARMEN PASQUEL** | **DR. KHOSROW ADELI**

**INTERVIEW with Dr. Khosrow Adeli**

IFCC 100th Anniversary 1952-2022  
International Federation of Clinical Chemistry and Laboratory Medicine

<https://vimeo.com/730221745>

INTERVIEW WITH  
**PROF. KHOSROW ADELI**  
IFCC PRESIDENT



Khosrow Adeli PhD,  
FCACB, DABCC.

**Dr. Khosrow Adeli** is: the Head of Clinical Biochemistry in the Department of Pediatric Laboratory Medicine, as well as a Senior Scientist in the Molecular Medicine Program of the Research Institute, at the Hospital for Sick Children. He is also a Full Professor and Vice Chair of Quality in the Department of Laboratory Medicine and Pathobiology at the University of Toronto, the President of the International Federation of Clinical Chemistry and Laboratory Medicine (IFCC). He is also the current Editor-in-Chief of Critical Reviews in Clinical Laboratory Sciences. Since 1988, Dr. Adeli has been actively involved in both molecular and clinical laboratory research. He has over 30 years' experience in clinical chemistry service, education, and research, with over 600 articles and abstracts published to date. His achievements have been recognized through several distinctions and careers awards.

The year 2022 is a special year for IFCC, the great IFCC family that is around the world wants to know your answers to these four questions, in this year, that IFCC celebrates 70 years of its foundation.

The questions are as follows.

**1. In your position as President of IFCC could you give us a short summary of the history of IFCC**

Thank you Maria for inviting me to this interview. In fact, the IFCC is celebrating its 70th anniversary this year.

It would be 70 years since the IFCC was formed in Europe initially in 1952, in Paris and then changed its name until the new name has been used for more than 60 years, called the International Federation of Clinical Chemistry and Laboratory Medicine.

The IFCC has a rich history, it is a scientific organization and its mission is to promote health care throughout the world by supporting high quality medicine and diagnosis of treatment. The IFCC contributes to both science and education, supporting quality clinical laboratory research and development around the world.

IFCC is a strong Federation, it has 96 members and 415 societies in 96 countries, as well as 52 corporate members that are companies involved in laboratory medicine diagnostics. All this strength contributes to supporting laboratory medicine professionals, which is a very strong community of the six world federations that are in all corners of the world so we have the European Federation, the North American Federation, COLABIOCLI which is the Latin American Federation, the Asia Pacific Federation, the Arab Federation and the African Federation, so the six federations formed an efficiency structure and have activities all over the world.

## **2. How have you faced the challenges of meeting the IFCC objectives in these times of pandemic?**

IFCC continues to maintain strong activity even within the past two years during the pandemic. Despite the pandemic, IFCC has started numerous programs with a new name because it had to change from its physical conferences to virtual conferences and webinars. Today we have a very strong webinar program. For this reason, during the past year, we had almost 30 different webinars, with about 100 speakers, because each webinar has three speakers, and also IFCC has given other virtual conferences.

In February 2021, we had a virtual conference on COVID-19, on the diagnostics of COVID. We had an attendance of more than 3000 people and a strong corporate support which resulted in a very successful first ever IFCC Virtual meeting.

The IFCC has faced a challenge moving to online and virtual events, but has also held town halls with COLABIOCLI, North America, Europe, Asia Pacific, Africa, and the Arab Federation, continuing activities despite the Pandemic.

For the last year and a half, a number of programs have been initiated, such as the "IFCC New Born Screening Program" to support countries that do not do New Born Screening to help them initiate it in their country.

They have also initiated the "Global Quality Program". IFCC is already helping countries, especially developing countries/nations that need "EQA" which stands for external quality assurance. We have selected 10 countries: 3 in South America, 2 in Africa, 3 in Eastern Europe, 2 in Asia. 10 countries in total and 5 laboratories for each country, a total of 50 laboratories are starting in this month (February) an EQA Program that the is being paid by the IFCC, who is financially supporting the program to countries that do not already have an EQA system. This is an example of the programs that IFCC carries out and that have been very successful.

In summary IFCC has met the challenge by continuing, and actually increasing activities during the past two years.

## **3. Laboratory medicine has been the center of attention in the last two years. What recommendation would you give to the IFCC associate members who are working on this important activity?**

My recommendation is that all IFCC member societies and laboratory professionals use this opportunity to promote the roll of laboratories and the laboratory professionals.

During this pandemic, it has become very clear that labs are vital to public health. The management of COVID-19 around the world has only been possible because of lab support, laboratory testing, PCR, antigen and antibody testing. These are all laboratory activities. So, labs have played, and continue to play, very important roll in public health. Which is also very important in the patient care as every day labs help by providing diagnostic tests.

Therefore, I think that lab professionals have the responsibility to promote the roll in our hospitals, in our cities, in our institutions with governmental agencies, with industry leaders and with the public in general. So, everyone of us, as laboratory professionals, have a responsibility to promote the discipline of laboratory medicine. It has been regarded that laboratory medicine has become a profession without a face because labs work behind the scenes.

The public see the doctors and nurses, they do not see the lab professionals who are vital to public health and patient care. So, it our responsibility to promote our discipline. This pandemic has helped increase visibility of labs. Therefore, my recommendations would be for us to take this opportunity in every country, Latin America and every other country around the world to promote our roll. Both the roll of lab professional and the importance of laboratory medicine as a profession in clinical medicine and public health.

## **4. Finally, what invitation as president of the IFCC does it make to laboratory medicine professionals?**

Well, it is sort of the same invitation that we should all be involved in promoting our profession, but also of course, be very active at the scientific level as well as the educational level and to participate in IFCC programs.

IFCC has many programs and unfortunately, many countries are not utilizing these programs. So, my invitation is to please go to the IFCC website, follow the programs that are being delivered and try to participate in our: webinars, committees, working groups, task forces that we have. There are many positions that we have in different functional groups. So, I invite colleges in COLABICLI and Latin America to actually try to participate more. I realize the language is a barrier, but many of our colleges speak Spanish and therefore it should not be very difficult to participate in our programs.

One last invitation I have is that we are starting, as of April, a new program called "*Global Lab Week*". So, this Global Lab Week will be promoting the feel of the medicine around the

world. So, I invite Latin American countries and COLABIOCLI to nominate representatives that can help with the promotion in Latin America. So, we are developing, actually a lot of material, videos, posters, pamphlets, and social media messages. Actually, we are working with a company in Argentina called the Naranhous.

Naranhous in Buenos Aires is working with us. They are developing many tools, videos and so on. I hope that COLABIOCLI and countries in Latin America use these. We will be sending them end of March, early April.

We will be sending them to all countries, so please do use these tools and support the program,

the Global Lab Week. The idea is that every country in Latin America we can promote the field of lab medicine and the roll of lab professionals. We will be providing the tools, providing the materials. All that we are asking is that the countries promote, promote, promote.

Thanks for the interview, Maria.




Khosrow Adeli PhD, FCACB, DABCC

*Thank you very much dear Prof. Adeli for your time for this interview.*


*Dr. Maria del Carmen Pasquel*  
**Member CPR and WG-IANT/RIA/CPD-IFCC**

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

**IFCC live webinar on:**  
**COVID-19 Guidelines on Molecular, Serological  
 and Biochemical/Hematological Testing**

<p><b>Giuseppe Lippi [Italy]</b>          Professor of Clinical Biochemistry,          Director of Laboratory Service          University Hospital of Verona, Verona</p>  <p><b>IFCC Guidelines on Molecular          Diagnostic Testing of SARS-CoV-2          Viral Infection</b></p>	<p><b>Khosrow Adeli [Canada]          (Chair)</b>          Professor of Clinical Biochemistry,          University of Toronto and President IFCC</p>  <p><b>IFCC Guidelines on Serological          Testing of Anti-SARS-CoV-2          Antibodies</b></p>	<p><b>Rita Horvath [Australia]</b>          Director of Chemical Pathology          NSW Health Pathology, Prince of          Wales Hospital, Sydney</p>  <p><b>IFCC Guidelines on Biochemical          and Hematological Monitoring of          Patients with COVID-19</b></p>
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**Registration link (Scan QR code)**  
<https://www.workcast.com/register?pak=6064600417678978>  
 Date: Sept 23, 2020,  
 Time: 8 AM (Eastern Standard), 2 PM (European), 10 PM (Sydney, Australia)



Participation of Dr. Adeli in one of the IFCC webinars. 23 September 2020.



Dr. Khosrow Adeli establishing the Global Med Lab Week during the EuroMedLab Council, Munich April 10, 2022.

# PROF. KHOSROW ADELI

## PRESIDENTE IFCC



Khosrow Adeli PhD,  
FCACB, DABCC.

El **Prof. Dr. Khosrow Adeli** es: Científico sénior en el Programa de Medicina Molecular del Instituto de Investigación, así como Jefe de Bioquímica Clínica en el Departamento de Medicina de Laboratorio Pediátrico, en el Hospital for Sick Children. También es profesor titular en los Departamentos de Medicina de Laboratorio y Patobiología (LMP), Bioquímica y Fisiología de la Universidad de Toronto. Actualmente se desempeña como Director del Programa de Pruebas en el Punto de Atención en SickKids y Vicepresidente de Calidad en LMP en la Universidad de Toronto. Recientemente, es el actual presidente de la Federación Internacional de Química Clínica y Medicina de Laboratorio (IFCC), una organización mundial con 92 países miembros y más de 45 000 médicos y científicos de laboratorio en todo el mundo. También es el actual editor en jefe de *Critical Reviews in Clinical Laboratory Sciences*.

El año 2022 es un año especial para la IFCC porque cumple 70 años de su fundación, Los profesionales de las Ciencias del Laboratorio que están alrededor del mundo desean saber sus respuestas, por ello, permítame hacer cuatro preguntas de interés para los lectores.

### 1. Desde su posición como presidente de la IFCC, ¿podría darnos un breve resumen de la historia de la IFCC?

Gracias María por invitarme a esta entrevista. De hecho, la IFCC está celebrando su 70 aniversario este año.

Serían 70 años desde que la IFCC se formó en Europa inicialmente en 1952 en París y luego cambió su nombre hasta que se empieza a utilizar el nuevo nombre desde hace más de 60 años, llamado Federación Internacional de Química Clínica y Medicina de Laboratorio.

La IFCC tiene una historia relevante, es una organización científica y su misión es promover el cuidado de la salud en todo el mundo apoyando la medicina y el diagnóstico del tratamiento de alta calidad. La IFCC contribuye a la ciencia como a la educación, apoyando la investigación y el desarrollo de laboratorios clínicos de calidad en todo el mundo.

La IFCC es una federación fuerte, está conformada por 96 miembros y 415 sociedades en 96 países, así como 52 miembros corporativos que son empresas involucradas en el diagnóstico de la medicina de laboratorio. Toda esta fuerza contribuye a apoyar a los profesionales de la medicina de laboratorio, que es una comunidad muy sólida por las seis federaciones mundiales que están en todos los lugares del mundo así tenemos: la Federación Europea, la Federación Norteamericana, COLABIOCLI que es la Federación Latinoamericana, la Federación de Asia Pacífico, la Federación Árabe y la Federación Africana, por lo que las seis federaciones formaron una estructura eficiente y tienen actividades en todo el mundo.

## 2. ¿Cómo ha enfrentado los desafíos de cumplir los objetivos de la IFCC en estos tiempos de pandemia?

La IFCC continúa manteniendo una intensa actividad incluso en los últimos dos años durante la pandemia. Durante la Emergencia Sanitaria, la IFCC ha iniciado numerosos programas con un nuevo nombre porque tuvo que cambiar de sus conferencias físicas por conferencias virtuales y seminarios web. Hoy tenemos un programa de seminarios robusto. Por esta razón, durante el año pasado, tuvimos casi 30 webinars diferentes, con alrededor de 100 ponentes, porque cada webinar tiene tres oradores, y también la IFCC ha dado otras conferencias virtuales.

En febrero de 2021, se realizó una conferencia virtual sobre COVID-19, sobre el diagnóstico de COVID. Tuvimos una asistencia de más de 3.000 personas y un fuerte apoyo corporativo que resultó en una primera reunión virtual de la IFCC que fue muy exitosa.

La IFCC se ha enfrentado al desafío de pasarse a eventos virtuales y en línea, pero también ha realizado grandes foros *on line* con COLABIOCLI, América del Norte, Europa, Asia Pacífico, África y la Federación Árabe, continuando las actividades a pesar de la pandemia.

Durante el último año y medio, se han iniciado una serie de programas, como el "Programa de detección de enfermedades congénitas en el recién nacidos de la IFCC" para apoyar a los países que no realizan esta detección en los recién nacidos, para ayudarlos a iniciarlos en su país.

También hemos iniciado el "Programa de Calidad Global". La IFCC ya está ayudando a los países, especialmente en vías de desarrollo, que necesitan un "EQA", que significa tener una Evaluación Externa de Calidad. Hemos seleccionado 10 países: 3 en América del Sur, 2 en África, 3 en Europa del Este y 2 en Asia y 5 laboratorios para cada país, un total de 50 laboratorios están iniciando en este mes (febrero) un Programa EQA que está siendo financiado por la IFCC. Este es un ejemplo de los programas que lleva a cabo la IFCC y que han tenido mucho éxito.

En resumen, la IFCC ha enfrentado el desafío de continuar y, de hecho, aumentar las actividades durante los últimos dos años.

## 3. La medicina de laboratorio ha sido el centro de atención en los últimos dos años. ¿Qué recomendación le daría a los miembros asociados de la IFCC que están trabajando en esta importante actividad?

Mi recomendación es que todas las sociedades miembros de la IFCC y los profesionales de laboratorio aprovechen esta oportunidad para

promover el papel de los laboratorios y sus profesionales.

Durante esta pandemia, ha quedado muy claro que los laboratorios son vitales para la salud pública. La gestión de COVID-19 en todo el mundo solo ha sido posible gracias al apoyo de laboratorio, pruebas de laboratorio, PCR, pruebas de antígenos y anticuerpos. Todas estas son actividades de los laboratorios. Entonces, los laboratorios han jugado, y continúan jugando, un papel muy importante en la salud pública. Lo cual también es muy importante en la atención al paciente, ya que todos los días los laboratorios ayudan brindando pruebas diagnósticas.

Por lo tanto, creo que los profesionales de laboratorio tienen la responsabilidad de promover la importancia de su rol en nuestros hospitales, en nuestras ciudades, en nuestras instituciones con agencias gubernamentales, con líderes de la industria y con el público en general. Entonces, todos nosotros, como profesionales de laboratorio, tenemos la responsabilidad de promover la disciplina de la medicina de laboratorio. Se ha considerado que la medicina de laboratorio se ha convertido en una profesión sin rostro porque los laboratorios trabajan entre bastidores.

El público ve a los médicos y enfermeras, no ve a los profesionales de laboratorio que son vitales para la salud pública y la atención al paciente. Entonces, es nuestra responsabilidad promover nuestra disciplina. Esta pandemia ha ayudado a aumentar la visibilidad de los laboratorios.

Por lo tanto, mi recomendación es que aprovechemos esta oportunidad en todos los países, América Latina y todos los demás países del mundo para promover nuestro rol. Tanto el rol del profesional de laboratorio como la importancia de la medicina de laboratorio como profesión en la medicina clínica y la salud pública.

## 4. Finalmente, ¿qué invitación como presidente de la IFCC hace a los profesionales de la medicina de laboratorio?

Bueno, es más o menos la misma invitación de que todos debemos involucrarnos en la promoción de nuestra profesión, pero también, por supuesto, ser muy activos a nivel científico y educativo y participar en los programas de la IFCC.

La IFCC tiene muchos programas y, lamentablemente, muchos países no están utilizando estos programas, por lo tanto, mi invitación es que se visite el sitio web de la IFCC ([www.ifcc.org](http://www.ifcc.org)), seguir los programas que se están impartiendo e intentar participar en nuestros seminarios web, comités, grupos de trabajo, fuerzas de trabajo que tenemos. Hay muchas posiciones que tenemos en diferentes grupos funcionales. Entonces, invito a las entidades de COLABIOCLI y de América Latina a intentar participar

más. Sé que el idioma es una barrera, pero muchos de nuestros miembros hablan español y, por lo tanto, no debería ser muy difícil participar en nuestros programas.

Una última invitación que tengo que hacer es que estamos iniciando, a partir de abril, un nuevo programa llamado "Global MedLab Week". Por lo tanto, el Global MedLab Week promoverá la sensación de la medicina en todo el mundo. Entonces, invito a los países latinoamericanos y a COLABIOCLI a nominar representantes que puedan ayudar con la promoción en América Latina. Entonces, estamos desarrollando, en realidad, mucho material, videos, carteles, folletos y mensajes para las redes sociales. De hecho, estamos trabajando con una empresa en Argentina que se llama Naranhous, en Buenos Aires está trabajando con nosotros. Están desarrollando muchas herramientas, videos, etc. Espero que COLABIOCLI y los países de América

Latina los utilicen. Los enviaremos a finales de marzo, principios de abril a todos los países, así que utilice estas herramientas y apoye el programa Global MedLab Week. La idea es que en todos los países de América Latina podamos promover el campo de la medicina de laboratorio y el rol de los profesionales de laboratorio.

Estaremos proporcionando las herramientas y los materiales, lo único que estamos pidiendo es que los países promuevan, promuevan, promuevan.

Gracias María por la entrevista.

Khosrow Adeli PhD, FCACB, DABCC

*Muchas gracias querido Prof. Adeli por su tiempo para esta entrevista.*

*Dr. Maria del Carmen Pasquel*  
**Member CPR and WG-IANT/RIA/CPD-IFCC**



# INTERVIEW WITH

## MR. JOSEPH PASSARELLI

### IFCC CORPORATE REPRESENTATIVE



Mr. Joseph Passarelli  
IFCC Corporate Representative

Joseph Passarelli is Senior Director, Scientific Relations at Roche Diagnostics. In this role, he represents Roche as a scientific liaison to professional societies and standard- and guideline-setting organizations worldwide. He has worked both domestically and internationally in research and development for more than 35 years and has experience in discovery, research, development, laboratory management, technology transfer, regulatory submissions, and market commercialization.

Mr. Passarelli is currently the corporate representative on the IFCC's Executive Board. He also has served as the Secretary to the Scientific Division Executive Committee with his term ending in December 2020 and before that as SD's corporate representative. He is also a member of the Harmonization Oversight Group of the International Consortium for Harmonization of Clinical Laboratory Results (ICHCLR). His interests and responsibilities include educating and promoting the value of assay standardization and harmonization using recognized standards and guidelines and collaborates extensively with professional organizations worldwide.

In addition to these activities, Mr. Passarelli currently serves on the CLSI Board of Directors as one of its Officers – Secretary. He also serves as a member of the US Technical Advisory Group to ISO Technical Committee 212 – clinical laboratory testing and in vitro diagnostic test systems.

#### INTERVIEW

**1. What do you think has been the greatest achievement of International Federation of Clinical Chemistry and Laboratory Medicine (IFCC) in these 70 years of existence?**

Answer: Staying true to its mission throughout such a long duration: *Advancing excellence in laboratory medicine for better healthcare worldwide* and in making a real difference in the lives of patients around the globe.

**2.- What do you consider to be an IFCC goal for the coming years?**

Answer: To successfully execute on its 2020 – 2023 strategic plan, particularly in the following areas:

- Directly Impacting Healthcare and Patient Outcomes
- Continuing to Promote the Value of Laboratory Medicine
- Enhancing Functional Unit Productivity at all Levels

**3. You are the current Corporate Representative of the IFCC. What is the most important challenge you have to face in your position?**

Answer: To enhance and strengthen the engagement of all corporate members and not just

those that are always participating and contributing to the efforts of the IFCC. This is my primary goal as Corporate Representative along with serving as the “voice of industry” and to enable a greater understanding and appreciation of the needs of corporate members to the IFCC Executive Board.

**4.- What is your greatest satisfaction in fulfilling your service in IFCC and what does it send a message to the great IFCC family in this year 2022 of its 70th anniversary of foundation?.**

Answer: I am honored and privileged to be

representing the more than 50 IFCC companies and take seriously the responsibility to continue the great legacy previous Executive Board Corporate Representatives built over the last many years. I hope my tenure will result in a similar way to those that served before me and I will hand over an even strengthen opportunity to my successor.

*Thank you very much for your valuable answers and your time in this interview, Mr. Joseph Passarelli.*

*Dr. Maria del Carmen Pasquel*  
**Member CPR and WG-IANT/RIA/CPD-IFCC.**



## IFCC Corporate Members Representative

1

[joseph.passarelli@roche.com](mailto:joseph.passarelli@roche.com)

- Living in Indianapolis, Indiana, United States (“Crossroads of America”)
- Biochemist by training
- Tenure with Roche – 37 years; all in Research and Development
- Senior Director – Scientific Relations:
  - *Liaison to professional societies and standards and guideline setting organizations (IFCC, EFLM, AACC, ISO, CLSI – Secretary to the Board)*

### IFCC history:

- Corporate Representative Scientific Division: 2010 – 2014
- Secretary Scientific Division: 2015 – 2020
- Chair Task Force Corporate Members (TF -CM): 2019 – 2020
- Member TF -CM: 2021 – end 2023 (*first term*)
- Executive Board – corporate representative: 2021 – end 2023 (*first term*)



INTERVIEW WITH  
**PROF. ABDERRAZEK HEDHILI**  
REGIONAL REPRESENTATIVE OF ARAB  
FEDERATION OF CLINICAL BIOLOGY (AFCB).



Dr. Abderrazek Hedhili

**Prof. Abderrazek HEDHILI** is Professor of Toxicology at the Faculty of Pharmacy of Monastir Tunisia. He is Head of the Biology & Toxicology Laboratories Centre Mahmoud Yacoub d'Assistance Medicale Urgente (CMYAMU). He is the Chair of the Laboratory of Toxicology & Environment research LR12SP07, Consultant Toxicologist for the Tunisian ministries of Health, Social Affairs and Environment, and for the Tunisian control Agency (ANCSEP). He is also member of the Board of Directors INEAS and EPS Jebel Ouest Hospital for drug addicts, President of the specialized expert committee on Food and Aliments, Member of the National Committee for the Prevention and Combating of Maritime Pollution Accidents, of the Tunisian Committee on Pesticides. Prof Hedhili is Toxicologist Expert for many international organisations such as WHO ICSCs - WHO advisor on drugs abuse; International labour organization (atmospheric and work polluters) and of the Arab Organization of Work (polluters in the work areas). He is an elected member of the French Academy of Pharmacists since September 2016.

Prof Hedhili has been active in the promotion of Clinical Chemistry and Laboratory Medicine throughout the world and in particular in the Arab countries and in Africa. His research and professional activities have sizable impact on Clinical Chemistry in general, and toxicology in particular. He has been designed as member of

the International Scientific Board of two IFCC Congresses: Berlin 2011 and Istanbul 2014. Since 1998 Prof Hedhili activities include the organization of several international (Arab, African and Francophone) and national (15 annual "Journées Nationales de Biologie Clinique", JNBC) conferences, workshops, symposia, and other scientific activities. In addition, he contributed to the organization of the Congresses of the Arab Federation (AFCB) in Morocco (2000), in Tunisia (2004), Syria (2006), in Lebanon (2009), in Jordan and Sudan (2015) and of the 2nd IFCC Conference (Sousse - Tunisia, 2004), and the FIFBCML conferences in Morocco (2008), Tunisia (2010) and Algeria 2019.

Prof Hedhili is member of many International Journals as a scientific board member. He is the author and co-author of 100 published articles, 50 thesis and masters, and he is responsible of the Laboratory of Toxicology & Environment research (50 researchers) and have supervised more than 40 researchers (thesis projects, masters). His research areas mainly focus on: pesticides, mycotoxins, drug abuse, chemical risks, trace elements, drug monitoring, environmental pollutants, residues of licit and illicit drugs in wastewater, bio and chemical hazards, impact of toxic elements on biological and clinical parameters.

Prof Hedhili has been the General Secretary (1999-2005) and President of the Tunisian

Society of Clinical Biology (2005-2011). He served as Secretary, President, Past President and Vice-President of the Arab Federation of Clinical Biology (AFCB) where currently he is President of the Scientific Committee. He was President, Vice-President and member of the Federation International Francophone de Biologie Clinique et de Medicine du Laboratoire, (FIFBCML). He was President of the Tunisian Friendly Pharmacists and General Secretary and Vice-President of Tunisian Pharmacists Council (2011-2016). Prof Hedhili was IFCC Representative of the Tunisian Society (2005-2011), Corresponding Member of the IFCC C-CC, member of the WG eNews and IFCC EB Member (2018-2020).

## INTERVIEW

### 1. In what aspects has the Arab Federation of Clinical Biology, received support from the IFCC to carry out and fulfill its objectives?

The collaboration between the AFCB and the IFCCC goes back more than 20 years.

Several seminars and congresses have been organized in all AFCB countries under the auspices of the IFCC. We can mention for instance, the general conference in Tunisia-Sousse organized by the IFCC in 2004 but also the IFCC EB meeting in Hammamet Tunisia in 2019-2020.

Financially, the IFCC has financed the activities of the AFCB member countries, we receive an annual funding for our activities. At the

beginning it was 10,000 dollars and since last year it has increased to 25,000 dollars.

### 2. Since when is your Federation part of IFCC?

Since the end of the nineties of the last century.

### 3. What vision do you have of your Federation and IFCC for the coming years?

A Closer collaboration between our two federations through:

- Support for laboratory accreditation
- Training and incentive for young scientists
- Increasing the participation of AFCB members in various committees and task forces
- Organization of training cycles (webinars) for AFCB members, taking into account their specific needs
- Better decentralization of AFCB activities

### 4. What message do you give to the IFCC in this 2022 that celebrates its 70th anniversary.

Great efforts have been made by the different offices of the IFCC, a notable restructuration has been initiated but a lot remains to be done. Happy 70th anniversary and best of luck.

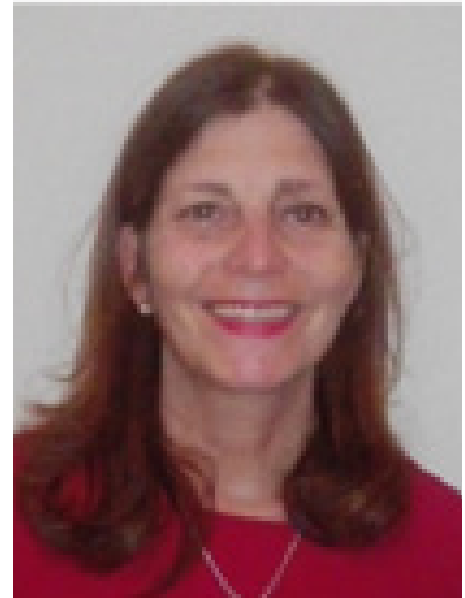
*Dear Dr. Profesor Abderrazek Hedhili, thank you so much for your time.*

*Dr. Maria del Carmen Pasquel*  
**Member CPR and WG-IANT/RIA/CPD-IFCC.**

INTERVIEW WITH  
**DR. ANA LENA**  
REGIONAL REPRESENTATIVE OF THE LATIN  
AMERICAN CONFEDERATION OF CLINICAL  
BIOCHEMISTRY (COLABIOCLI)



COLABIOCLI



DR. ANA LENA

**Dr. Ana Lena is:** Postgraduate thesis in coagulation disorders in diabetic patients.

Technical Director of the Specialized Center for Hemostasis and Thrombosis Conditions-Uruguay from 2005 to 2020.

Professor in the Chair of Clinical Analysis and in charge of the Hematology course at the Faculty of Chemistry of the University of the Oriental Republic of Uruguay from 2004 to 2021.

Head of the Hematology Service of the Military Hospital Laboratory from 1997 to 2011.

Vice President of ICHT (Research and Science in Hemostasis and Thrombosis).

General Secretary of the Latin American Confederation of Clinical Biology COLABIOCLI (2017-2019).

### INTERVIEW

Dear Ana Lena, the International Federation of Clinical Chemistry and Laboratory Medicine (IFCC), is celebrating its 70th anniversary on July 24, 2022, we would like to know your opinion as you are the Regional Representative of one of the six large federations to world level that make up IFCC.

**1. As Regional representative of the Latin American Confederation of Clinical Biochemistry (COLABIOCLI), what would be your suggestions in this position to support the goals in continuing education of IFCC?**

One of the main goals of IFCC is precisely education. Webinars are organized with a frequency of two monthly webinars, for which the contribution of the regions and member countries is very important so that they can be made available.

In 2021 COLABIOCLI proposed three webinars:

- Quality in the Laboratory held in June with the participation of Anna Carobene (Italy), André Guimarães (Brazil) and Elías Miranda González (Mexico).
- Neonatal screening in July with the participation of Cecilia Queijo (Uruguay), Armando Fonseca (Brazil) and José Ángel Cocho (Spain).
- Metrology and clinical laboratory in August with the participation of Ana Piana (Uruguay), Melina Pérez Urquiza (Mexico) and Raúl Girardi (Argentina).

In 2022 COLABIOCLI will give two webinars:

- D-Dímeros and their different clinical

applications on July 6. Gloria Ramos (Colombia), Alejandro Morales de la Vega (Mexico) will speak and Yudiana Montenegro (Panama).

- Importance of the pre-analytical stage in the different areas of the Laboratory on September 7. Bertha Lacouture (Colombia), Beatriz Varela (Uruguay) and Eduardo Aranda (Chile) will speak.

The main suggestion is that the countries propose webinars, which may be given in Spanish and would be translated into English by Belén Landi from Radio el Microscopio.

## 2. During your time as COLABIOCLI Regional Representative, what experience has been the most positive for you and what would you like to share with us?

The most positive experience has been learning more about the scope of the IFCC, with all the divisions, its committees, its task forces, working groups. It is a world, and I believe that through the organized townhalls, all countries have a little chance to learn more about IFCC, so it is highly recommended to be able to attend them when they take place.

## 3. Considering that we have lived through difficult years, how do you consider that the pandemic positively or negatively influenced your activity as a regional representative?

The start of my term as regional representative

practically coincided with the start of the pandemic. So I can't compare how it would have been to work face-to-face. The pandemic forced to have virtual meetings, which surprised me in a positive way, because a lot of things could be done and we had very good contact thanks to the informatics tools available.

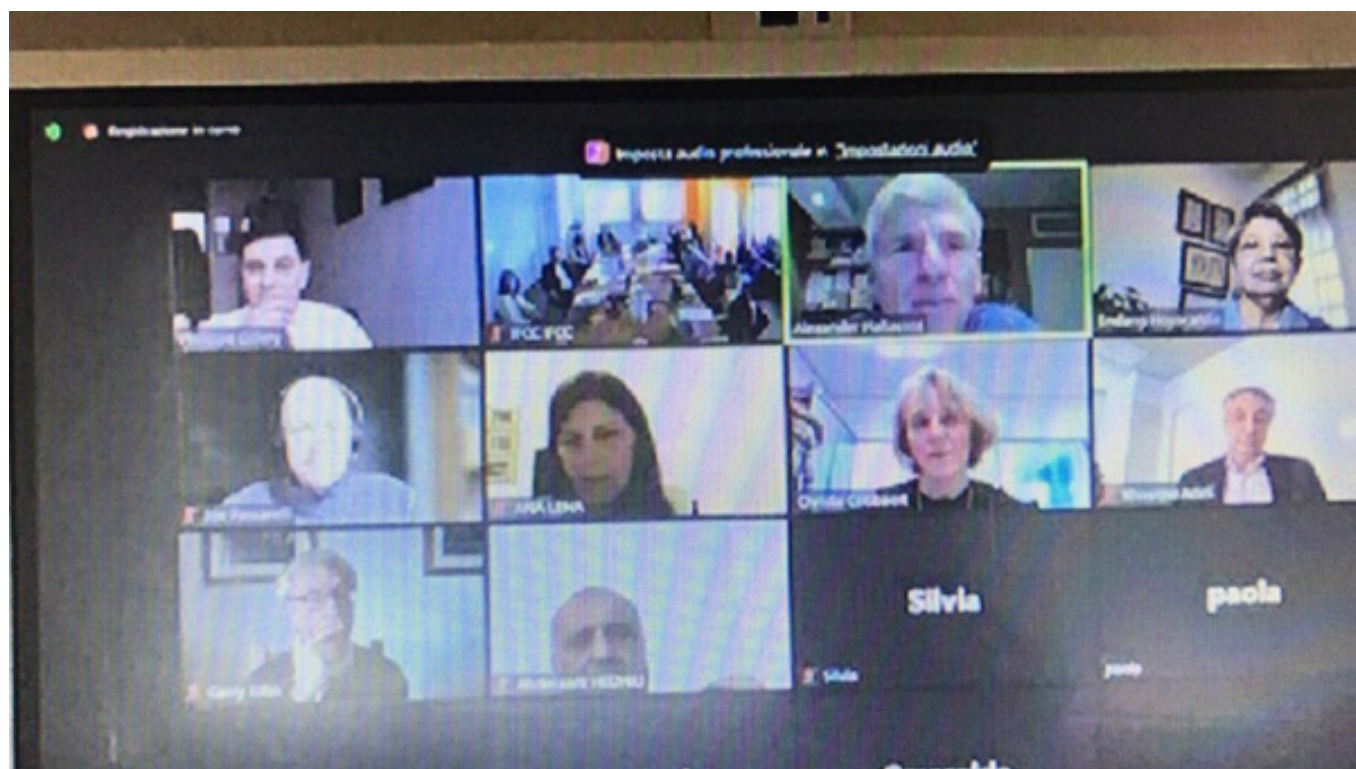
Remote activity has been so important that it has been considered that although, God willing, the pandemic will be overcome, virtuality and hybrid activities should continue.

## 4. What message do you give to laboratory medicine professionals who are part of the great IFCC family?

To the professionals who are part of the great IFCC family, I send a message about how important it is to have this family. As a family we support each other. Those who know more help those who know less. We all grow together. And we all improve ourselves because there is always something to learn. IFCC is very supportive of distance education and encourages the spread of knowledge. This is very valuable and something to be thankful for.

*Dear Dr. Ana Lena, we greatly appreciate your time for this interview.*

*Dr. Maria del Carmen Pasquel*  
Member CPR and WG-IANT/RIA/CPD-IFCC



Dr. Ana Lena during meetings with IFCC.

ENTREVISTA A  
**DRA. ANA LENA**  
REPRESENTANTE REGIONAL DE LA CONFEDERACIÓN  
LATINOAMERICANA DE BIOQUÍMICA CLÍNICA  
(COLABIOCLI)



COLABIOCLI



DR. ANA LENA

## ENTREVISTA

Estimada Ana Lena, la Federación Internacional de Química Clínica y Medicina de Laboratorio (IFCC), está cumpliendo el 24 de julio del 2022 sus 70 años de fundación, quisiéramos saber su opinión al ser usted la representante Regional de una de las seis grandes federaciones a nivel mundial que conforman IFCC.

### **1. Como Representante Regional de la Confederación Latinoamericana de Bioquímica Clínica (COLABIOCLI), ¿cuáles serían sus sugerencias en este cargo para dar apoyo a los metas en la educación continua de IFCC?**

Una de las principales metas de IFCC es justamente la educación. Se organizan webinars con una frecuencia de dos webinars mensuales, para lo cual es muy importante la contribución de las regiones y de los países miembros para que pueda haber disponibilidad de los mismos.

En 2021 COLABIOCLI propuso tres webinars:

1. Calidad en el Laboratorio realizado en junio con la participación de Anna Carobene (Italia), André Guimarães (Brasil) y Elías Miranda González (México).
2. Screening neonatal en julio con la

participación de Cecilia Queijo (Uruguay), Armando Fonseca (Brasil) y José Ángel Cocho (España).

3. Metrología y laboratorio clínico en agosto con la participación de Ana Piana (Uruguay), Melina Pérez Urquiza (México) y Raúl Girardi (Argentina).

En 2022 COLABIOCLI presentó dos webinars:

1. D-Dímeros y sus distintas aplicaciones clínicas el 6 de julio. Disertaron: Gloria Ramos (Colombia), Alejandro Morales de la Vega (México) y Yudiana Montenegro (Panamá).
2. Importancia de la etapa preanalítica en las distintas áreas del Laboratorio el 7 de setiembre, disertarán Bertha Lacouture (Colombia), Beatriz Varela (Uruguay) y Eduardo Aranda (Chile).

### **2. En su periodo como Representante Regional de COLABIOCLI, ¿cuál experiencia le ha sido más positiva y que desee compartirnos?**

La experiencia más positiva ha sido conocer más en profundidad el alcance de IFCC, con todas las divisiones, sus Comités, sus fuerzas de trabajo, grupos de trabajo. Es un mundo, y creo que a través de los townhalls organizados, todos los

países tienen un poco la posibilidad de conocer más sobre IFCC, por lo cual es muy recomendable poder asistir a los mismos cuando éstos tengan lugar.

**3. Considerando que hemos vivido años difíciles, ¿cómo considera usted que la pandemia influyó positiva o negativamente en su actividad como representante regional?**

El inicio de mi gestión como representante regional coincidió prácticamente con el inicio de la pandemia. O sea que no puedo comparar cómo habría sido trabajar en forma presencial. La pandemia obligó a tener reuniones virtuales, lo cual me sorprendió en forma positiva, porque se pudo hacer mucho y tener muy buen contacto gracias a las herramientas informáticas con las que se cuenta.

Ha sido tan importante la actividad a distancia que se ha considerado que, aunque si Dios quiere se supere la pandemia, la virtualidad y las

actividades híbridas deberían continuar.

**4. ¿Qué mensaje da usted a los profesionales de la medicina de laboratorio que formamos parte de la gran familia de IFCC?**

A los profesionales que forman parte de la gran familia de IFCC, les doy un mensaje de lo importante que es tener esta familia. Como familia nos apoyamos unos a otros. Los que saben más ayudan a los que sabemos menos. Crecemos todos juntos. Y todos nos superamos porque siempre hay algo que aprender. IFCC apoya mucho la educación a distancia y propicia la difusión de los conocimientos. Esto es muy valioso y es algo para agradecer.

*Dra. Ana Lena muchas gracias, apreciamos mucho su tiempo para esta entrevista.*

*Dr. Maria del Carmen Pasquel*  
**Member CPR and WG-IANT/RIA/CPD-IFCC**



# INTERVIEW WITH PROF. STEPHEN HILL NAFCC REGIONAL REPRESENTATIVE



PROF. STEPHEN HILL

## Short Biography and contributions to IFCC

An Associate Professor in the Department of Pathology and Molecular Medicine at McMaster University in Hamilton Ontario.

Recently retired as a Clinical Biochemist from the Hamilton Regional Laboratory Medicine Program.

In the past, served as President of the Canadian Society of Clinical Chemists and the Chair of the Canadian Academy of Clinical Biochemistry.

## Current activities for the IFCC EB

EB representative to the Emerging Technologies Division Executive Board

EB representative to the Task Force on Global Newborn Screening

Collaborating with the Taskforce on Global eLearning/eAcademy

Collaborating with other members of the IFCC and the EFLM to organise a symposium on the Environmental Impact of Laboratory Medicine

## INTERVIEW

Maria, before I answer the questions, I will provide a brief history of the NAFCC and the reason for its formation.

With the restructuring of the IFCC Executive Board to have each federation have a place on the board, it became evident that the North American societies, the American Association for Clinical Chemistry, and the Canadian Society of Clinical Chemists, did not have a voice on the board. To have a place on the board the NAFCC was created.

The role of the NAFCC representative to the EB is to represent the NAFCC and bring forward concerns and issues of the NAFCC societies to the EB. Similarly, the other role is to represent the IFCC to the societies and to bring forward issues and concerns of the IFCC to the NAFCC Societies.

### 1. In what aspects has NAFCC, received support from the IFCC to carry out and fulfill its objectives?

The NAFCC's single objective is to represent societies to the IFCC. As such, it does not require support to carry out its objective.

### 2. Since when is your Federation part of IFCC

The NAFCC joined the IFCC in January 2018.

### 3. What vision do you have of your Federation and IFCC for the coming years?

My vision for the NAFCC is to ensure that the AACC and CSCC continue to play strong roles in the many activities of the IFCC, to assist the IFCC in enhancing the profile of laboratory medicine to our health care colleagues and the public, and to assist the IFCC in enhancing the quality of laboratory medicine in developing countries. These activities will ensure that laboratory medicine will continue to improve the health of people in all countries of the across the globe.

**4. What message do you give to the IFCC in this 2022 as it celebrates its 70th anniversary?**

My message to the IFCC would be one of congratulations for seventy years of representing

laboratory medicine across the globe. The work that we do is important for the health of people everywhere. Congratulations for work well done in the past and continue this work into the future.

*Dear Prof. Stephen Hill, we appreciate your time in this interview and the important information you have provided us. I believe that all readers have been informed of the important region that the NAFCC represents and that you currently represent.*

*Dr. Maria del Carmen Pasquel*  
**Member CPR and WG-IANT/RIA/CPD-IFCC.**