Call for Abstracts for 4th Congress of AFCC MedLab
Victoria 2015, ZIMBABWE

AFCC invites colleagues from Africa and from all over the world to present their experiences, researches and projects at the 4th AFCC Congress in April 2015 in Harare, Zimbabwe. Participants wishing to submit abstracts can do so online in electronic format by sending a MS Word document with their abstract by e-mail to: Congress Management at congress.zacb@gmail.com.

The authors will receive an official confirmation within 3-5 days after submitting their abstract. If authors do not get an official confirmation within 5 days, please send the abstract again to Kudzai Mutsaka at kmutsaka@gmail.com or to Alfred Makura at makuraalfred78@gmail.com.

Deadline for submitting abstracts: 28 February 2015

Congress Themes for Oral presentation:
1. Clinical Chemistry of Infectious Diseases and Nanotechnology and Laboratory Medicine
3. Clinical Laboratory Quality Management
4. Point Of Care Testing (POCT) in Africa
5. PCR, Tocophoresis, Technological Advances in Laboratory Medicine.
6. P4 (Personalised, Predictive, Preventative and Participatory) Medicine in AFCC.
7. Recent Advances to Kidney Disease in Africa.
8. Advances in Automation in Clinical Chemistry and Laboratory Medicine in AFCC.

Any topic in Clinical Chemistry and Laboratory Medicine can be presented on a poster.

General Information on Abstract Submission
Participants are invited to submit original scientific abstracts for oral or poster presentation. Authors have to conform to the following guidelines for abstract submission. Those not conforming to the guidelines will not be considered for reviewing.

- Abstracts must be submitted in English and must be presented in English.
- Abstracts will be reviewed by a panel of experts and may be selected for oral or poster presentations, or may be rejected.
- Notification of acceptance (for oral or poster presentation) or rejection by the AFCC.
- Detailed information, guidelines and recommendations for oral or poster presentation, as well as day, time and room will be sent in due time to duly registered presenting authors.
- Accepted abstracts will be published in official journals of the ZACB, AFCC and IFCC.
The abstract must not be more than 500 words long or must not fill more than one A4 page, using type in 12-point font.
A brief title, which clearly states the nature of the investigation, with the entire title in capital letters
Abbreviations should, if possible, be avoided in the title, but may be used in the text if they are defined on the first usage
The authors’ names (full first name, surname) and the institution (hospital, university, organization, city and country, e-mail and fax number) where the research was carried out, with the name of the presenting author underlined.
Use single line spacing
Include tables if necessary
The abstract should be as informative as possible
The abstract should have a logical, scientific structure (introduction, mains & objectives, method, results, conclusion, summary, references, learning outcomes for audience)
Statements such as “results will be discussed “ or “data /information will be presented” cannot be accepted
Please ensure that your abstracts do not contain any spelling, grammar or scientific errors, as it will be reproduced exactly as submitted
The abstract should have a clinical laboratory medicine relevant content and should add to existing knowledge.
The abstract should have a minimum of 2 relevant References
The abstract should state 2 things the delegates could learn from your presentation

Three workshops will be offered: Bioinformatics “Hands On”, QA,QC & Laboratory Management and Scientific Writing.

Register now for the 4th Congress of AFCC MedLab Victoria in Zimbabwe.
EARLY REGISTRATION DEADLINE - 31 MARCH 2015

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>ORGANISATION</th>
<th>EARLY REGISTRATION PRICE</th>
<th>LATE REGISTRATION PRICE</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>AFCC</td>
<td>USD 150</td>
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<td>NON-AFCC</td>
<td>USD 180</td>
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<td>OUTSIDE AFRICA</td>
<td>USD 200</td>
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NOTE: Registration for workshops will be at USD 60 per day.
Account Details
Zimbabwe Association of Clinical Biochemists
Barclays Bank
Msasa Branch
A/c No.2186-1031276

Swift Code: BARCZWH
# How to prepare a well-written abstract

You can use the template to complete all sections

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Scientific Abstract Template</th>
<th>Explanatory Notes</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>(limit: 500 words or one A4 page) - Please complete ALL Sections</td>
<td>When completed, and before submission – delete this column</td>
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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Title</th>
<th>10 – 12 words that capture the relevance and essence of the research</th>
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</table>
| Introduction / Background | □ What has been investigated  
□ Why is the research important.  
□ Context of the study - has something similar already been done and how the presented work differs |
| Aims / Objectives | □ The purpose of the RESEARCH / project-- not of the abstract!  
□ Providing a brief synopsis  
□ Hypothesis, question or concept underpinning the research. |
| (Research) Methods *  
Please indicate which methodology you have used and delete non-applicable methods:  
□ Randomized Controlled Trial  
(Intervention)  
□ Meta-Analysis  
□ Systematic Review  
□ Cohort Study (Prediction)  
□ Qualitative Research Studies  
(Exploration)  
□ Service / Program Evaluation  
□ Audit  
□ Case Report  
□ Other: state which | □ Should describe HOW the AIMS of the research were achieved.  
□ What the research/project involved - for example:  
* Short description of the study design  
* Underpinning theoretical or conceptual frameworks,  
* Sampling technique(s) used, e.g. qualitative or quantitative,  
* Retrospective or prospective  
* Method of data collection: e.g. review, surveys, focus groups, patient cohorts etc.  
* Sample size, criteria for selection and exclusion,  
* Randomised or non-randomised.  
* Type / method(s) of data analysis (tests)  
* Statistical or interpretative analysis software programs used (GENERIC name of the software)  
* If applicable: state if Ethics Approval was obtained. |
| Findings / Results | What the research discovered  
□ Synopsis of the findings of the study, using key data to demonstrate the outcomes.  
□ Avoid simply citing data, particularly in quantitative studies.  
□ State statistical significance (quantitative studies)  
□ Synthesis of the data and how it answers your research question.  
NEVER submit an abstract without results, |
| Summary and Discussion | □ Provide a short explanation of HOW the findings relate to the AIMS,  
□ present EVIDENCE of the findings from your METHODS (to support the implications of your study = conclusions)  
□ Critically define any weaknesses / strengths identified in your data |
| Conclusion | What the research implies  
□ IMPLICATIONS of the findings and  
□ how they ADD to the existing knowledge |
| Learning Outcomes + Relevance to Clinical Practice | Relevance to Clinical Laboratory and how the findings can be used/applied in Clinical Practice |
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