

EDUCATION & MANAGEMENT DIVISION

9.0 Minutes of the meeting of the EMD Executive Committee Munich, 16 - 17 September, 2016

Confirmed



Members	Position	Term	Time of Office
Leslie Lai - LL (MY)	Chair	1st	2015 01 – 2017 12
Elizabeth FRANK – EF (IN)	Secretary / VLP	2nd	2015 01 – 2017 12
Paolo FORTINA – PF (US)	Member	2nd	2016 01 – 2018 12
Ana Leticia MASELLI (GT)	Member	1st	2014 01 – 2016 12
Christoph EBERT – CE (DE)	Corp. Rep.	2nd	2016 01 – 2018 12

The EMD meeting was held on Friday, September 16th 2016 – h. 14.00-17.00 -- Roche Campus, Munich, Germany and on Saturday, September 17th h 9.00-12.00 -- Marina Hotel, Bernried, Germany

1. WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS

Prof. LL welcomed the committee members. Special mention and thanks were proffered to Dr. Christoph Ebert and for the kind Roche's hospitality in hosting this meeting. Since CE will not continue on the EMD after the end of 2016, LL took this opportunity to thank CE for his invaluable contributions to the EMD. C. Ebert will resign from the EMD EC on 31st December 2016. The EMD EC will be advertising for a new Corporate Member. EMD EC will be recommending A.L. Maselli to the IFCC EB for a second term. The EMD EC recommends that Dr Elizabeth Frank be appointed as Vice-Chair from January 2017 for a three year term. The EMD EC also recommends that Paolo Fortina should take over as Secretary of the EMD from January 2017.

2. NOTIFICATION OF OTHER BUSINESS AND FINALIZATION OF THE AGENDA

The agenda was discussed and agreed by the committee.

3. REVIEW OF MINUTES OF EMD-EC MEETING - MADRID, MARCH 2016

Since the minutes were previously approved via e-mail there was no further discussion.

4. REPORT FROM EXECUTIVE BOARD

The EB report was discussed in detail, especially the SWOT analysis, Finance and VLP.

5. REVIEW OF COMMITTEES AND WORKING GROUPS COMMITTEES

9.2.4. Clinical Molecular Biology Curriculum (C-CMBC)

Evi Lianidou	Chair	GR	1st	2014 01-2016 12
Andrea Ferreira-Gonzalez	Member	US	2nd	2014 01-2016 12
Verena Haselmann	Member	DE	1st	2014 01-2016 12
Atsushi Watanabe	Member	JP	1st	2014 06-2016 12

Action Items:

1. EMD-EC will be recommending to the IFCC EB that Drs. E. Lianidou, V. Haselmann and A. Watanabe be appointed for a second term.
2. EMD EC will be advertising for a new Member in order to replace A. Ferreira Gonzalez whose second term expires end of 2016.

Activity

In 2016, the C-CMBC committee has completed the following:

- Updated the C-CMBC website where general information about the Course can be found:<http://www.ifcc.org/ifcc-education-division/emd-committees/c-cmbc/>
- Held its annual C-CMBC meeting during the IFCC Congress in Madrid, Spain, 19-21 March 2016. This meeting was attended by:
 - Dr. Evi Lianidou, PhD, Professor of Analytical Chemistry - Clinical Chemistry, University of Athens, Greece (Chair)

- Dr. Verena Haselmann, MD, Department: Institute for Clinical Chemistry, University Medicine Mannheim, Medical Faculty Mannheim of the University of Heidelberg, Germany
- Andrea Ferreira-Gonzalez, PhD, Professor of Pathology and Director Molecular Diagnostics Laboratory, VCUHS, Richmond, USA

There were many setbacks encountered in arranging the 8th Course on “Molecular Diagnostics for Beginners” in Ethiopia due primarily to lack of communication from the Ethiopians. The 8th Course will now be held in Bucharest, Romania from December 5-10, 2016, in collaboration with the National Representative Dr. Ioanna Brudasca, President of the Romanian Association of Laboratory Medicine (RALM).

The EMD EC commended the work of this committee.

9.2.5. Analytical Quality (C-AQ)

Egon Amann	Chair	DE	2nd	2014 01 - 2016 12
David Grenache	Member	US	1st	2016 01 - 2018 12
Alexander Haliassos	Member	GR	1st	2014 01 - 2016 12
Annette Thomas	Member	UK	1st	2014 01 - 2016 12
Qing Meng	Member	CA	1st	2016 04 - 2018 12

Lina Khoroskaya (Russia) has been appointed (replacing A. Thomas) for a three year term starting from 1st Jan 2017- 31st December 2019.

The EMD EC accepted Egon Amann’s recommendation that A. Thomas should be the new C-AQ Chair after the end of Egon Amann’s term at the end of 2016. LL will put forward this proposal to the IFCC EB for approval.

Action Items:

1. LL to recommend to EB the extension of A. Haliassos for a second term and the appointment of A. Thomas as the new Chair.

Activity

In 2016, the C-AQ committee has completed the following:

- Updating the “Directory of EQA Services” for placing it in the C-AQ section of the IFCC website.
Status: Pending. IFCC Full Member National Societies and affiliated members need to be contacted. One update request was received from the Spanish Society for Clinical Biochemistry and Molecular Biology (SEQC) which needs to be incorporated into the database.
- To develop the “EQA Setup Checklist” in the C-AQ section of the IFCC website.
Since the addition of the document: “*Procedure for Planning an EQA Scheme*” to the C-AQ website in the “Resources” section in 2015, no new material was found to be suitable for complementing this section.
- Updating the existing “Resource table for EQA” database.
Status: The existing “Resource table of relevant quality related documents” on the C-AQ website was reviewed again and was classified as “current”.
- Develop eLearning presentation on “Principles of EQA” and “Principles of IQC”.

- A joint C-AQ / C-CLM workshop was conducted on “*What is the best strategy to achieve compliance with QMS- and QC-requirements in the clinical laboratory?*” at the IFCC General Conference in Madrid in 2016. This workshop was seen as useful for IFCC members from developing countries in order to identify their needs and to provide basic information on QMS- and QC-compliance principles. Questionnaires were analyzed after the workshop and learnings were drawn and documented. These will be utilized for future projects. These learnings were published in the IFCC eNews, July – August 2016, issue
- Egon Amann was invited to participate in a DQCML workshop at the 6th Scientific Conference of the Association of Clinical Chemists of Nigeria from October 12 -14, 2016.

The EMD EC commended the achievements of this committee.

9.2.7. Evidence-Based Laboratory Medicine (C-EBLM)

Chris Florkowski	Chair	NZ	1st	2015 01 - 2017 12
Annalise Zemlin	Member	ZA	1st	2015 01 - 2017 12
Hernan Fares Taie	Member	AR	2nd	2014 01 - 2016 12
Julien Wils	Member	FR	1st	2015 01 - 2017 12
Karina Rodriguez-Capote	Member	CA	1st	2014 06 - 2016 12

Action Items:

1. LL will recommend to the EB the extension for a second term of K. Rodriguez Capote
2. The EMD EC will be advertising for a new member to replace H. Fares Taie whose second term ends end of 2016.

Activity

- There has been on-going collaboration with the committee for distance learning (C-DL) and the Communications and Publications Division (CPD) to advance the establishment of an on-line learning resource in EBLM.
So far, two presentations have been uploaded to the IFCC e-Academy:
EBLM: “*What Is It And Why Do We Need It?*”; and, “*Sources of Bias in Diagnostic Accuracy Studies*”.
- Formulation of an EBLM Curriculum, with input from individual members of the committee and consultants, is in progress.
- Guideline reviews specifically Targeting Endocrine Guidelines with a view to undertaking a critical appraisal using the AGREE (+/- other) instruments will be undertaken. The process of collating the data is in progress.
- Outdated or redundant material has now been removed from the c-EBLM website, with the input and approval of all committee members. Valuable links, however, were retained and the information provided is now more up-to-date and relevant.
- The C-EBLM Chair, Chris Florkowski has been invited to speak on POCT and EBLM at the 4th Joint EFLM-UEMS Congress in Warsaw, Poland 2016.
- A symposium proposal on by C-EBLM entitled “*Why Should We Use Medicine Evidence-Based Clinical Laboratory in Practice?*” has been accepted by the organizers of the COLABIOCLI 2017 congress in Uruguay. This symposium was proposed by Hernan Fares-Taie and will include Karina Capote and Nuria Gimenez as co-contributors.

The EMD EC was happy with the progress of this committee.

9.2.9. Clinical Laboratory Management (C-CLM)

Sedef Yenice	Chair	TR	1st	2014 05 - 2016 12
Modupe Kuti	Member	NG	1st	2014 04 - 2016 12
Matthias Orth	Member	DE	1st	2015 03 - 2017 12
Ed Randell	Member	CA	1st	2016 04 -2018 12
Aye Aye Khine Wamono	Member	ZA	1st	2016 04 -2018 12

Action Items:

1. LL will recommend to EB that Sedef Yenice (Chair) and Modupe Kuti be reappointed for a second term.

Activity

- C-CLM conducted an interactive workshop on “What is the best strategy to achieve compliance with QMS- and QC-requirements in the clinical laboratory?” jointly with C-AQ at the IFCC General Conference in Madrid. A post-implementation report was submitted to EMD EC on April 14, 2016 and the related article was published in the July/August 2016 issue of the IFCC eNews.
- To develop a joint C-AQ/C-CLM publication on “Developing Quality Systems in the Clinical Laboratory” aimed at developing countries by the end of 2016.
- To update “Terms of Reference” of C-CLM on the website.
- To develop “Training Module” on “Leadership” and place the contents at the C-CLM website.
- The chapters of "Leadership" module were completed by the full members of C-CLM. Editing phase is currently in progress and planned to finalize by October 2016.

The EMD EC was happy with the work of this committee.

9.2.10. Distance Learning (C-DL)

Janet Smith	Chair	UK	2nd	2015 01 - 2017 12
Ronda Greaves	Member	AU	2nd	2015 01 - 2017 12
Damien Gruson	Member	BE	2nd	2015 01 - 2017 12
Endang Hoyaranda	Member	ID	2nd	2015 01 - 2017 12
Loralie Langman	Member	US	1st	2015 01 - 2017 12

Activity

- Approval of material for the website and the curriculum development is on-going.
- The e-Academy development is going well and the first phase was launched during the EuroMedLab Congress in Paris in 2015. The second phase was launched in March this year at the General Conference in Madrid. Phase 3, which will permit self assessment by those working through the modules, is in preparation by Insoft.
- The mass spectrometry module continues to be developed by Dr Ronda Greaves and material is gradually being added to the e-Academy on this topic and on others. The C-EBLM is actively working to prepare a series of present-me presentations for the EBLM module and the first of these have recently been uploaded. The proposal for a joint EMD/CPD symposium on the e-Academy at the COLABIOCLI Congress in Uruguay in September 2017 has been accepted.

The EMD EC commended the work of this committee.

9.2.11. Education In The Use Of Biomarkers In Diabetes (C-EUBD)

Garry John	Chair	UK	1st	2016 01 - 2018 12
Emma English	Member	UK	1st	2016 01 - 2018 12
Rajiv Erasmus	Member	ZA	1st	2016 01 - 2018 12
David Sacks	Member	US	1st	2016 01 - 2018 12
Cas Weykamp	Member	NL	1st	2016 01 - 2018 12

Activity

- CW (or nominated representative) will present a report on the activities of the Reference Network for HbA1c at future meetings.
- Inclusion of the American Diabetes Association (ADA), European Association for the Study of Diabetes (EASD) and NGSP as partners, was suggested.
- Inclusion of 'monitoring of diagnosis' in addition to diagnosis was suggested.
- A need to focus on developing (low and lower middle income) countries was highlighted and discussed by all. Kenya and Uruguay were suggested as potential countries. In addition, although not a low income country, Qatar was suggested as there are already links with the country that could be further developed. It was noted that India was an obvious choice but it was felt that the scale of the project would be too great for this pilot stage.
- Continue to support the effective running of the IFCC Reference Network.
- Two projects have been brought forward from the TF-HbA1c. Progress of the WHO 'compendium of diagnostic tests associated with diabetes' was reviewed (post meeting note: completion of this will be accelerated in line with recent WHO announcements on the global diabetes epidemic). Preliminary findings of the joint IFCC, WHO and IDF questionnaire on use of glucose and HbA1c testing worldwide were presented at the IDF congress in Vancouver in 2015 and is due for submission in the next three months.
- It was suggested by AM that the term 'to promote the correct management of diabetes mellitus at the laboratory level in developing countries' should be added as a TOR.

The EMD EC appreciated the work of the committee.

WORKING GROUPS

9.3.8. Laboratory Errors and Patient Safety (WG-LEPS)

Laura Sciacovelli	Chair	IT	1 st	2014 01- 2016 12
Mario Plebani	Past Chair	IT		
Keila Furtado Veira	Member	BR		
Isabel Garcia del Pino Castro	Member	ES		
Agnes Ivanov	Member	EE		
Giuseppe Lippi	Member	IT		
Zorica Sumarac	Member	SRB		
Jamie West	Member	UK		

Action Item:

- 1 LL will recommend to the EB that Laura Sciacovelli should be re-appointed for a second term.

Activity

- Organization of a Consensus Conference that aims to approve the Model of Quality Indicators (MQI) to be used in clinical laboratories throughout the world, and to define the criteria to evaluate the quality indicator data (quality specifications). The Consensus Conference, “*Harmonization of Quality Indicators In Laboratory Medicine: Two Years Later*”, will be held on 26th October in Padova (Italy).
- The following topics will be discussed during the Conference in order to achieve a consensus:
 - Update of the current list of Quality Indicators;
 - Automated versus manual data collection;
 - Statistical treatment of the data and reporting.
- A Consensus statement will be issued.
- Quality indicator results of participating laboratories collected through dedicated website (www.ifcc-mqi.com), will be reported in a scientific paper.
- Collaboration with other international Working Groups/Task forces in order to define quality specification for quality indicators.

Action Items: EF will be attending the meeting as an EMD EC representative

9.3.9. Cancer Genomics (WG-CG)

Jason Park	Chair	US	1st	2015 01-2017 12
Paolo Fortina	Co-Chair	US		
Eric Londin	Member	US		
Peter Clark	Member	US		
Stephen Master	Member	US		
Allen Chan	Member	US		
Michael Neumaier	Member	DE		
Evi Lianidou	Member	GR		
Parviz Ahmad-Nehad	Member	DE		
Tae Hyun Hwang	Member	US		
Deborah Payne	Member	US		
Thomas Rattei	Member	AT		
Pierre.Jean Lamy	Member	FR		

Activity

- The second meeting of the working group was in conjunction with the IFCC general meeting in Madrid, Spain. The outline of the first document was completed and is currently in preparation for publication. A presentation to the IFCC General Conference was made by Jason Park and Paolo Fortina on “*Cancer Genomics: Revolution in Medical Practice*”.
- Symposium for APFCB 2016 was accepted on Clinical Cancer Genomics. The speakers and talks are as follows:
 - Paolo Fortina (Thomas Jefferson University, USA)
 - David Wang (UT Southwestern Medical Center, USA)
 - Jason Park (UT Southwestern Medical Center, USA)

- Financial support for the working group has been received from SoftGenetics and Affymetrix. Additional support is being solicited for future activities.

9.3.10. Harmonization of Interpretative Comments (WG – ICQA)

Sam Vasikaran	Chair	AU	1 st	2015 01- 2017 12
Mario Plebani	Member	IT		
Eric Kilpatrick	Member	UK		
Tony Badrick	Member	AU		
Ken Sikaris	Member	AU		
Jane French	Member	UK		
Jacqueline Osypiw	Member	UK		
Michael Metz	Member	AU		
Magdalena Turzyniecka	Member	ZA		
Sharon Markham Geaghan	Member	US		

Sub-group for harmonization of reporting of protein electrophoresis and serum free light chains, and quantification of small monoclonal proteins:

Jill Tate	Chair	AU
Maria Stella Graziani	Member	IT
Michael Moss	Member	CA
Maria Willrich	Member	US

Activity

- The committee is developing harmonized goals for EQA of IC, devise standard methods of assessment, nomenclature and marking scales for EQA of IC, seeks input from similar schemes in other Pathology disciplines such as Histopathology, publish position paper.
- A Proposal for a Workshop on interpretative commenting was submitted to the Scientific Committee of the IFCC WorldLab 2017, Durban.
- An IFCC position paper titled “*Assuring the quality of interpretative comments in clinical chemistry*” has been accepted by Clinical Chemistry and Laboratory medicine.

SPECIAL PROJECTS

9.4.1 Visiting Lecturer Programme (VLP)

Elizabeth Frank	Chair	IN
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The VLP amended the criteria for application, the selection process and funding issues. The decision was to support VLP every alternate year. The guidelines were revised accordingly .The VLP program has been extensively utilized by the member societies.

9.4.2. Flow Cytometry (WG-FC)

Ulrich Sack	Chair	DE	2 nd	2014 01-2016 12
Claude Lambert	Member	FR		

Andreas Spittler	Member	AU
Katharina Psarra	Member	GR
Cecilia Rodriguez	Member	AR
Andrey M. Ivanov	Member	RU

Action Item:

1. LL will ask the EB to extend his term for a third and final term of 3 years, there being no other candidates willing to be Chair of this working group.

Activity

- The annual flow cytometry workshop will take place from October 26 to 28 in St Petersburg (Russia). The established principle will be continued: intense interaction between participants and trainers; 3 topics a day with short introduction and extensive practical exercises; 3 day duration; and emerging and relevant scientific topics with clinical impact for daily practice.
- As planned, the first Latin American Course was offered in Cordoba/Argentina March 9 to 11 in 2016. Furthermore, webpage has been updated, and new members entered the WG.
- The programs of flow cytometry courses are available online via <http://www.ifcc.org/ifcc-education-division/working-groups-special-projects/course-on-flowcytometrywg-cf>.

9.4.3. Developing Quality Competence in Medical Laboratories (DQCML)

Mike Thomas	Chair	UK	extra term	2015 01- 2016 12
Janet Smith	Corresponding Member	UK		
Loretta Doan	Corresponding Member	US		

Action Item:

1. LL will recommend to the EB that Egon Amann should take over as DQCML Chair when M. Thomas ends his term at the end of 2016.

Activity

- A one-day symposium will be delivered as part of the 6th Scientific Conference of the Association of Clinical Chemists of Nigeria on 13th October 2016 on Sustaining Quality Practice and Process in Developing Countries.
- The DQCML continues to offer support to the EQA Zambia Project being undertaken by Renze Bias in collaboration with local champion, Hilary Lumano.
- The DQCML continues to keep a watching brief on the progress of FEN and of opportunities to engage with that initiative.
- IFCC Past President, Graham Beastall had undertaken a scoping visit to Malawi over 18th and 19th January 2016 and a comprehensive report has been provided. The support for the visit was provided through DQCML. It was noted that there was a particular request to develop an EQA similar to that being undertaken in Zambia and so Hilary Lumano was scheduled to accompany Graham on the scoping visit. Unfortunately a last minute commitment meant he was unable to attend.

Recommendations from GB's visit included:

1. A possible application to DQCML to support some elements of the EQA programme in Malawi

2. A possible visit by Hilary Lumano to Malawi to discuss in depth the Zambia experience.

It has been suggested that such scoping visits by DQCML may be valuable in other developing countries too with markers for success being:

- Bringing key stakeholders together
- Developing a partnership programme to shape the future of laboratory medicine

Such scoping visits would require an experienced facilitator from IFCC to be successful. GB's model approach may offer a useful template for future scoping visits through DQCML.

9.04.04. IFCC Mentoring Programme

Donald Young Chair US 1st 2015 01-2017 12

Activity

- There are now 24 mentors and 32 associates enrolled in the programme. Six of the mentors are Spanish speakers, as are two of the associates. Several additional potential mentors and associates have been contacted. The potential associates include several prior participants in the PMEP programme. Five such individuals have already indicated their interest in participating in the programme and recognize it as a logical extension of their previous management training. MENT will continue to recruit from this pool of individuals.
- MENT will emphasize recruiting both Spanish-speaking mentors and associates to allow an appropriate match of interests. Many of the South American participants have a focus on microbiology, rather than on traditional clinical chemistry. MENT will seek which members of the identified Spanish-speaking experts have the appropriate background to be considered potential mentors and will continue to try to work with CLSI, which has remained reluctant to nominate potential associates until the funding for its continued involvement in Africa is assured.
- Later in the year MENT will seek feedback about the programme from both mentors and associates, either via SurveyMonkey or an alternative more targeted approach. The primary aim would be to seek input on how to enhance the programme.
- Next Tasks to do are (1) to contact the IFCC secretary to see whether the IFCC list of experts could be adapted to a readily accessible format and (2) find a successor for Donald Young to ensure continuity and expansion of the programme.

6. EMD INPUT FOR EB STRATEGIC PLAN

No additional input for the strategic plan was added. However, the SWOT analysis and the appraisal mechanism for the functioning of working groups and committees was discussed in details

7. EMD STRATEGIC PLAN

The EMD discussed increasing the number of IFCC publications and conducting more workshops. Each of the EMD committees and working groups are encouraged to conduct workshops and to publish.

8. CORRESPONDING MEMBERS

No new inputs

9. EMD CONTRIBUTIONS TO IFCC NEWS

IFCC eNews, March-April 2016, Page 5

The IFCC committee of Evidence Based Laboratory Medicine (C-EBLM) – C. Florkowski

IFCC e News, July-August 2016, page 4

The best strategy to achieve compliance with QMS - and QC-requirements in the clinical laboratory - C-CLM-C-AQ, S. Yenice & E. Amann

IFCC e News, July-August 2016, page 9

The IFCC eAcademy - C-DL-C-Iel, J. Smith – P. Vervaart

IFCC e News, July-August 2016, page 12

VLP Programme: CUBA, Romania and Zimbabwe Reports

IFCC eNews September-October 2016 – to be issued

The EMD working group “Flow Cytometry” - U. Sack

- **EMD Articles in Other Publications**

LMI May 2016, page 27

IFCC Committee of Evidence Based Laboratory Medicine (C-EBLM) a profile, C. Florkowski

LMI May 2016, page 27

IFCC Committee of Analytical Quality (C-AQ): a profile, E. Amann

LMI August-September, page 29

Achieving Compliance with QMS- and QC-requirements in the clinical laboratory: which is the best strategy?, C-CLM-C-AQ , S. Yenice & E. Amann

LMI August-September, page 28

IFCC eAcademy: aiming for online scientific education and training worldwide, J. Smith

- **EMD Contributions to Other Publications**

Clinical Chemistry and Laboratory Medicine

The Position paper titled “Assuring the quality of interpretative comments in clinical chemistry” has been accepted for publication by Clinical Chemistry and Laboratory medicine and is going to be printed. S. Vasikaran, WG-ICQA

Action Item:

1. The EMD will encourage all its committees and working groups to actively publish

10. EMD SESSIONS AT IFCC CONGRESSES:

- APFCB Congress, Taipei, Taiwan, November 2016

- EuroMedLab Congress, Athens, June 2017
- WorldLab Congress, Durban, South Africa, October 2017
- Colabliocli Congress, Punta del Este, Uruguay, September 2017

11. LINKS WITH OTHER DIVISIONS

EF will be the Liaison for the TF-CKD.

12. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

Budget was discussed and finding funding for the VLP was the key concern.

13. DATE AND LOCATION OF FUTURE MEETINGS

- Athens, June 11-15, 2017
- Durban, October 22-25, 2017