

## **EDUCATION & MANAGEMENT DIVISION**

### **9.0 Minutes of the meeting of the EMD Executive Committee Hilton Hotel, Athens, 12 June, 2017**

*Confirmed*



<b>Members</b>	<b>Position</b>	<b>Term</b>	<b>Time of Office</b>
Leslie Lai - LL (MY) -	Chair	1st	2015 01 – 2017 12
Elizabeth FRANK – EF (IN)	Vice Chair, VLP	1st	2017 01 – 2019 12
Paolo FORTINA – PF (US)	Secretary	1st	2017 01 – 2019 12
Ana Leticia MASELLI (GT)	Member	2nd	2017 01 – 2019 12
André ZIEGLER – AZ (CH)	Corp. Rep.	1st	2017 01 – 2019 12

Face to face meetings were held with the following:

1. Prof Donald Young (Chair of IFCC Mentoring Programme) and Dr Graham Beastall (To be appointed Chair of IFCC Mentoring Programme from 1 January 2018)
2. Dr Laura Sciacovelli (Chair of WG-LEPS)
3. Ms Janet Smith (Chair of C-DL)
4. Dr Evi Lianidou (Chair of C-CMBC)
5. Prof Ulrich Sack (Chair of WG-FC)
6. Prof Sam Vasikaran (Chair of WG-ICQA)

## 1. WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS

Dr Leslie Lai welcomed the Executive Committee members to the meeting, especially Dr Andre Ziegler, the new Corporate member, who began his first three year term on 1 January 2017.

## 2. NOTIFICATION OF OTHER BUSINESS AND FINALIZATION OF THE AGENDA

The agenda was agreed by the committee.

## 3. REVIEW OF MINUTES OF EMD-EC MEETING - MUNICH, SEPTEMBER 2016

The minutes had previously been approved.

## 4. REPORT FROM EXECUTIVE BOARD

The report of the IFCC EB was discussed and it was noted that the EB had agreed to the EMD's recommendation that non-performing members could be terminated.

## 5. REVIEW OF COMMITTEES AND WORKING GROUPS

### 9.02.04 Clinical Molecular Biology Curriculum (C-CMBC); Chair: Evi Lianidou

Evi Lianidou	(GR)	Chair	2 <sup>nd</sup>	2017 01-2019 12
Ettore Capoluongo	(US)	Member	1 <sup>st</sup>	2017 01-2019 12
Verena Haselmann	(DE)	Member	2 <sup>nd</sup>	2017 01-2019 12
Andrea Ferreira-Gonzalez	(US)	Consultant		

### ACTIVITY

- The committee had organised a symposium for EuroMedlab 2017 entitled: "The Liquid Biopsy approach: Following the tumor in peripheral blood". The symposium will take place on June 15<sup>th</sup>, 2017, during the Athens EuroMedlab meeting.
- The annual meeting of the C-CMBC Committee will take place during EUROMEDLAB, on Monday, June 12<sup>th</sup>. The annual meeting will be attended by all C-CMBC committee members. Prof Andrea Ferreira Gonzales, a previous member of the committee, will also attend the meeting as a Consultant. The meeting will be attended by the following IFCC Junior members: a) Kovacs Zsolt (2016, Romania), b) Liucija Bikauskaitė (2015, Lithuania) and Maria Eugenia Schroeder (2010, Uruguay).
- During the EuroMedLab meeting there will be a discussion with Dr Oliver Racz, President of the SSKB – Slovak Society of Clinical Biochemistry, to discuss the details of organizing the 2017 Course in Slovakia.
- The committee still has one vacancy that will be advertised in October 2017.

### 9.02.05 Analytical Quality (C-AQ), Chair: Annette Thomas

Annette Thomas	Chair	UK	1 <sup>st</sup>	2017 01 - 2019 12
David Grenache	Member	US	1 <sup>st</sup>	2016 01 - 2018 12
Alexander Haliassos	Member	GR	2 <sup>nd</sup>	2017 01 - 2019 12
Lina Khoroskaya	Member	RU	1 <sup>st</sup>	2017 01 - 2019 12
Qing Meng	Member	CA	1 <sup>st</sup>	2016 04 - 2018 12

### ACTIVITY

- The "Directory of EQA Services" will be replaced by the *Proficiency Testing – External Quality Assurance Programs in Laboratory Medicine database* (PTDB; see [ptdb.ifcc.org](http://ptdb.ifcc.org)) in 2017. PTDB was released as a prototype version for review by C-AQ committee members (first version) on November 9, 2016. Letters were distributed in December 2016 to all the member countries and the site updated accordingly. A number of additional PT providers have now been added to the database since

December 2016. This has now been completed and the site will be maintained by Alexander Haliassos (AH) as an IFCC Task Force on Proficiency Testing (TF-PT) and C-AQ venture.

- Further develop the “EQA Setup Checklist” in the C-AQ section of the IFCC website. This is available on the C-AQ website to assist countries to plan and design an EQA scheme. There is also a more detailed document on planning an EQA Scheme available on the website. It was agreed to review the two documents to produce a simple checklist for developing countries and a further document with sufficient detail to assist countries to develop EQA Schemes to comply with ISO 17043. The simple checklist was reviewed by Annette Thomas (AT) in January 2017 and tested at a workshop in South Africa – see item 6. The existing checklist was deemed as suitable by the audience.
- Updating the existing “Resource table for EQA”. This database will be critically reviewed and updated again in 2017 - this is ongoing.
- Develop eLearning presentation on “Principles of EQA” for IFCC eAcademy  
A power point presentation on the Principles of EQA has recently been reviewed and updated by AT. The Principles of IQC has been developed by AH and both are awaiting the software to provide to the eAcademy in the expected format. A presentation on “Quality Planning” is in development. The Committee reviewed the draft presentation written by AT and decided to include additional information to cover risk management, patient daily mean, etc.
- Develop a joint C-AQ / C-CLM publication on “Developing a Quality System” aimed at developing countries.  
This is a joint effort with C-CLM.  
Following the feedback from the workshop held in South Africa in January 2017 (item 6) it was agreed that the document for developing countries needs to be tailored to their existing needs – a minimum requirement. This would involve developing a simple checklist and a more detailed monograph of “how to do it”. AT has drafted a high level plan of content and needs to get agreement from the C-CLM for a change in approach.
- To conduct at least one C-AQ workshop upon request in 2017.  
AT conducted a workshop in South Africa organised by the Chair of the IFCC - EUBD Committee. This was a knowledge exchange international workshop on Diabetes education and quality of diagnostic testing. There were representatives from Ethiopia, Nigeria, Kenya, South Africa, Cameroon and Zambia. Workshop covered Principles of EQA, EQA Checklist and developing a Quality Management system. Dates of workshop: 27-28th January 2017. Feedback from this workshop has provided the plan for item 5.
- Meeting organized for Monday 23<sup>rd</sup> October at 8.30 am at the IFCC WordLab in Durban. AT to check registration, accommodation and travel expenses available for Committee members.
- Conference call held 20<sup>th</sup> February 2017. All members were present. Next conference due in June 2017.

#### 9.02.07 Evidence-Based Laboratory Medicine (C-EBLM), Chair: Chris Florkowski

Chris Florkowski	Chair	NZ	1 <sup>st</sup>	2015 01 - 2017 12
Annalise Zemlin	Member	ZA	1 <sup>st</sup>	2015 01 - 2017 12
Julien Wils	Member	FR	1 <sup>st</sup>	2015 01 - 2017 12
Karina Rodriguez-Capote	Member	CA	2 <sup>nd</sup>	2017 01 - 2019 12
Nuria Gimenez-Gomez	Member	ES	1 <sup>st</sup>	2017 01 – 2019 12

#### ACTIVITY

- Submission of new units to the IFCC e-Academy
  - a. EBLM Curriculum has been applied to allocate topics to members.
  - b. EBLM members are preparing presentations for uploading – in progress.
- Undertake further Guidelines reviews
  - a. Endocrine guidelines selected for review include adrenal incidentaloma.
  - b. EBLM members have undertaken some reviews –using AGREE II instrument.

- c. Collation of findings underway with a view to a publication – Julien Wils.
- Prepare EBLM questionnaire with a view to global distribution
  - a. Questionnaire distributed through IFCC portals and responses received.
  - b. Data being collated from the questionnaire.
  - c. Findings to be presented at IFCC and publication prepared for e-IFCC journal.
- Symposia that have been accepted for COLABIOCLI (Uruguay) and IFCC Worldlab (Durban)

#### **Colabliocli Congress, Punta del Este, Uruguay, September 2017**

EMD Workshop: Why should we use Medicine Evidence-Based clinical laboratory in practice?  
Chair H.Fares-Taie

- 1). Introduction to EBM and EBLM, Speaker: H. Fares Taie (AR)
- 2). Description of the EBM/EBLM tools, Speaker: K.Rodriguez-Capote (CA)
- 3). Evaluation of clinical practice guidelines and scientific literature using PSA testing for prostate cancer screening as an example of EBM/EBLM, Speaker: N.Gimenez (ES)
- 4) Small group discussions, formulate an answerable question for PSA
- 5) Applying informatics technology to disseminate clinical biochemistry knowledge  
Speaker: H.Fares-Taie

#### **IFCC WorldLab October 2017**

Chair A.Zemlin (ZA)

- 1) What is EBLM and why do we need it?, Speaker: C.Florkowski ( NZ)
  - 2) Why do Guidelines vary so much and how do we recognize a good one?, Speaker: J.Wils (FR)
  - 3) Global feedback on EBLM perceptions and requirements for training, Speaker: K.Rodriguez-Capote (CA)
  - 4) Getting the EBLM message out to the world new resources, H.Fares-Taie – (AR)
- A committee meeting will be held at the IFCC Worldlab in Durban, South Africa.
  - Publications:  
Invited Critical Review in Laboratory Medicine on POCT and clinical decision making.
    - a. Template prepared for an article.
    - b. Sections have been allocated to individual c-EBLM members.
    - c. CMF will coordinate integration into a unique document.
    - d. Submit review article to Critical Reviews in Laboratory Medicine [by July 2017].
  - Prof Chris Florkowski has indicated that he does not wish to continue as Chair for a second term and has recommended Prof A.Zemlin should be the Chair from 2018.

#### **ACTION:**

- **LL will recommend to the EB that Prof A Zemlin should be appointed Chair of C-EBLM from 1 January 2018 for a first term of three years and for Julien Wils' committee membership to be extended for a second three-year term from 1 January 2018.**

#### **9.02.09 Clinical Laboratory Management (C-CLM), Chair: Sedef Yenice**

Sedef Yenice	Chair	TR	2 <sup>nd</sup>	2017 01 - 2019 12
Matthias Orth	Member	DE	1 <sup>st</sup>	2015 03 - 2017 12
Ed Randell	Member	CA	1 <sup>st</sup>	2016 04 - 2018 12
Aye Aye Khine Womano	Member	ZA	1 <sup>st</sup>	2016 04 - 2018 12
Praveen Sharma	Member	IN	1 <sup>st</sup>	2017 03 - 2019 12

#### **ACTIVITY**

- Executive Committee of the IFCC Education and Management Division, in agreement with the Chair and full members of the EMD Committee on Clinical Laboratory Management (C-CLM), appointed Prof Praveen Sharma (India) for the first term as Full Member of the Committee on Clinical Laboratory Management (C-CLM) from March 8<sup>th</sup>, 2017 till December 31<sup>st</sup>, 2019.

- The first conference call (CC) meeting via Skype was held on April 7, 2017, for 45 minutes despite failures of connection (either no audio or no audio and no visual) with Aye Aye KHINE and Ed RANDELL. The meeting was successfully performed with the participation of Matthias ORTH and Praveen SHARMA. Hopefully, these problems with connection will be resolved by the next CC meetings that are planned to be held on June 19 and September 10, 2017.
- A face-to-face meeting has been scheduled on October 24, 2017, at the IFCC WorldLab - Durban, South Africa.
- To develop a monograph on "Project Management Basics for Laboratory Leaders". It is planned to cover the development of related skills in team management, risk management, plus other leadership skills C-CLM identified with terms of reference. Chapters were defined and assigned to the authors who are the full members of C-CLM, except for Aye Aye KHINE by her request because of her engagement in submitting a thesis to achieve MPhil in Health Sciences. Instructions for Authors which consist of the Manuscript Requirements, Manuscript Guidelines composing of Text, Acknowledgements, References, Tables, and Figures have been shared with all authors by Sedef YENICE on April 13, 2017.

Timelines set for this activity is as follows:

<b>Monograph Outline for "Project Management Basics for Laboratory Leaders"</b>			
<b>Task</b>	<b>Time</b>	<b>Deliverable</b>	<b>Deadline</b>
Preparation of outline and assignment of roles	March 13, 2017	Outline for approval by Chair	April 15, 2017
Preparation of the first draft of chapter content	3 months	Completed draft of chapters	June 30, 2017
Compiling, editing and finalizing monograph for review	2 months	First version of monograph	August 31, 2017
Review by peers and finalizing for publication	3 months	Final version of monograph	December 15, 2017

- To conduct at least one survey activity.  
Designing a survey activity is planned from June onwards.
- To hold a symposium entitled "Improvement in Clinical Laboratory Services: Approaches to Adding Value" at the IFCC WorldLab, October 25, 2017, Durban, South Africa. The symposium is going to be held on October 25, 2017, at 10:45 – 12:15 and has already been publicized within the preliminary scientific program on the website of IFCC WorldLab, Durban ([www.durban2017.org](http://www.durban2017.org))
- To update C-CLM website on a quarterly basis by working more on the "Clinical Laboratory Management Toolbox" and "Glossary of Terms" sections. Next update is planned from June onwards.
- To publish a guide entitled "A Training Manual on Leadership Basics for Clinical Laboratory Professionals".  
In progress. Editing phase is about to be finalized and the guide will be published by June 2017. Ed RANDELL and Praveen SHARMA are acknowledged for their excellent editing.
- Sedef YENICE was invited by the Romanian Association of Laboratory Medicine (RALM) that was held from 10 to 13 May 2017 to deliver two lectures as an IFCC-Abbott Visiting Lecturer at the 2nd Conference of the RALM with international participation in Timișoara, Romania on May 11, 2017.

- The Congress Scientific Committee has accepted the proposal of C-CLM to conduct a satellite educational workshop at the IFCC WorldLab, on October 22, 2017, Durban, South Africa. The title of Symposium is "Intelligent Clinical Laboratory Management: Impacts on Quality System Improvement. Matthias ORTH and Sedef YENICE have collected a sum of € 5505 from the IVD, in addition to the support of FSASP. The current budget income has reached up to date as € 7569 and this amount of funding does not include an income expected from the collection of registration fees. The budget comprising a calculation of income and expenses with a forecasting of the surplus has been submitted to the organizing committee of IFCC WorldLab, Durban. Publicizing of the workshop is expected soon.
- The contents and a timeline for the joint C-AQ/C-CLM monograph for "Developing Quality Management Systems" are ready to share with the chair of C-AQ soon and the progress is expected upon communications accordingly.

<b>Monograph outline for "Developing Quality Management Systems"</b>			
<b>Task</b>	<b>Time</b>	<b>Deliverable</b>	<b>Deadline</b>
Preparation of outline and assignment of roles	March 13, 2017	Outline for approval by Chair	April 15, 2017
Preparation of the first draft of chapter content	2 months	Completed draft of chapters	June 30, 2017
Compiling, editing and finalizing monograph for review	2 months	First version of monograph	August 31, 2017
Review by peers and finalizing for publication.	3 months	Final version of monograph	November 30, 2017

- Other Activities of Members

<b>Member</b>	<b>Date</b>	<b>Activity</b>
Praveen SHARMA	March 28 – April 1, 2017	Resource person for Workshop on "Scientific paper writing and Ethics in Medical Research" at Khesar Gyalpo University of Medical Sciences, Bhutan (KGUMSB) organized in collaboration with All India Institute of Medical Sciences, Jodhpur.
Praveen SHARMA	April 20 – 23, 2017	Invited APFCB speaker to deliver a talk on 'Ethics in laboratory based on ISO 15189' and to conduct a workshop on 'Accreditation of medical labs based on ISO 15189' in 10th International and 15th National Congress on Quality Improvement in Clinical Laboratories being organized by Iranian Scientific Association of Clinical Laboratory Doctors, Tehran, Iran.
Praveen SHARMA	May 16 – 18, 2017	Attending a meeting called my Government of India at Port Blair (Andaman Island).
Praveen SHARMA	June 10 – 15, 2017	Attending EuroMedLab in Athens, Greece

Sedef YENICE	June 10 – 15, 2017	Being a full member of EFLM WG on Patient-Focused Laboratory Medicine, attending EuroMedLab in Athens, Greece
Sedef YENICE	July 31 – August 5, 2017	Attending AACCC Annual Meeting in San Diego, USA
Praveen SHARMA	October 18 – 20, 2017	Invited Speaker in symposium "Training and Education of Laboratory Professionals in Asian Countries" at LMCE 2017 & Korean Society of Lab Medicine (KSLM) 58th Annual Meeting, in Seoul, Korea.
Praveen SHARMA	December 3 – 6, 2017	Attending ACBICON 2017 at Lucknow.

- A “Leadership Training” module was constituted and placed on the web page of C-CLM
- A conference call (CC) meeting via Skype was held on April 7, 2017. Details are explained above in Activity 2
- Publications:  
**Abstracts**  
**Yenice S.** Understanding Quality Management System: Essential Strategies to Improve Laboratory Performance. Romanian Journal of Laboratory Medicine. S21-22, Supplement Vol.25, Nr.2, April 2017  
**Yenice S.** Role of Proactive Measures in the Clinical Laboratory Practice. Romanian Journal of Laboratory Medicine. S25, Supplement Vol.25, Nr.2, April 2017

#### ACTIONS:

- **The Executive Committee members would like all items, including monographs and training modules, placed on the website to be approved by the EMD-EC. This applies to all committees, working groups and special projects. Silvia Cardinale will send all requests for items to be uploaded onto the website to EC members for approval.**
- **LL will recommend to the EB for Mathias Orth’s committee membership to be extended for a second three-year term beginning 1 January 2018.**

#### 9.02.10 Distance Learning (C-DL), Chair: Janet Smith

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

- The approval of educational material to be made available on or through the IFCC website, to ensure quality, continues.
- The development of the IFCC curriculum continues.
- Continued collaboration with the Committee on the Internet and e-Learning (C-IeL) on e-Academy development and planning for the future, including for the joint CPD/EMD symposium at the COLABLIOCLI Congress in September 2017.
- To further the development of the mass spectrometry area of the eAcademy continues.

- The Committee will meet in Athens in June 2017 and will also meet jointly with C-leL. Both meetings are scheduled for 12 June.
- The Committee hopes to meet with other EMD Committees on the development of e-learning modules, in Athens.
- The commissioning of webinar development on topics recommended by National Societies and where appropriate, identification of relevant presentations from IFCC and National Society conferences for recording to populate the eAcademy continues.
- Liason with IFCC Office to obtain permissions for authors to upload their work onto the IFCC website continues.
- With the appointment of Eduardo Freggiaro as the new Chair of the C-leL, more focus has been put to provide learning objectives and multiple choice questions for published webinars for which these were not originally provided. This comprehensive task is currently being undertaken by C-DL and C-leL members and IFCC experts. This exercise will enable the next phase of the e-Academy to be successfully launched.
- Ronda Greaves will take over as Chair of the C-DL at the beginning of 2018. Two other members of the committee will have completed two terms of office at the end of 2017 and a call for nominations for three committee members will need to be made. JS will become a consultant to the C-DL committee from 1 January 2018.
- PUBLICATIONS – eAcademy webinars  
Number of published webinars: 108  
Number of webinars pending publication: 25

LL informed JS in the face-to-face that there has been a suggestion from Prof Khosrow Adeli, Chair of CPD, to merge C-DL and C-leL to ensure better cohesiveness between the two committees. There has been a suggestion by Prof Khosrow Adeli that the current membership of both committees would be reduced to three members from the EMD and three members from the leL. LL suggested to Prof Khosrow Adeli that this should be a joint committee. If approved, it will have two Co-Chairs, one from EMD and one from CPD. In addition, CPD will appoint a professional staff to assist this joint committee, paid for out of the donation of 35,000 Euros per year from Siemens.

#### **ACTION:**

- **LL will recommend to the EB that Ronda Greaves should be appointed Chair of C-DL from 1 January 2018 and that Lorale Langman's membership on C-DL should be renewed for a second three-year term from 1 January 2018. There will be three vacancies from January 2018 but whether all three vacancies will be filled will depend on the discussions with the Chair of CPD and approval by EB for a joint C-DL and C-leL committee.**

#### **9.02.11 Education in the Use of Biomarkers in Diabetes (C-EUBD), Chair: Garry John**

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**

- Terms of Reference have been updated to reflect discussions at the first meeting of the committee in Madrid and will be ratified at the next meeting of the committee.



- Committee members (CW, EE and GJ) will finalise the WHO 'compendium of diagnostic tests associated with diabetes'. Completion of this will be accelerated in line with recent WHO announcements on the global diabetes epidemic. This will be published as a joint WHO/IFCC document. Final version is in discussion. Hopefully, final agreement on content will be achieved before the end of the year.
- The results of the joint IFCC, WHO and IDF worldwide questionnaire on use of glucose and HbA1c testing will be finalised and submitted for publication within the next three months.
- The committee will collaborate in a project to look at the diagnostic cut points for type 2 DM diagnosis using HbA1c. Currently, there is representation from IFCC, IDF and ACB. Further links will be developed (ADA and EASD) and an evidence gathering project launched
- This project is continuing; the team are in the process of culling papers identified from the searches into papers for full review. The Committee is currently using the services of Cornell University Library.
- A project was developed to investigate a European wide evaluation of HbA1c EQA programmes in different countries using fresh whole blood and lyophilised samples. The aim was to evaluate cross National network performance. The outcome can be used to educate users on the analytical variability of HbA1c measurements. The project has been completed successfully and the results will be presented at the satellite symposium on diabetes to be held at the end of the Athens EuroMedLab Congress in June 2017.
- Members of the EUBD will form part of the scientific committee for a satellite symposium on diabetes to be held at the end of the Athens EuroMedLab Congress in June 2017
- Members will work with National societies and with Manufacturers to deliver educational meetings in countries that would benefit from scientific updates. This year educational meetings have been held in South America, India and China and also in South Africa for delegates from Ethiopia and Kenya.
- It is planned to work with the Education Committee and IFCC head office to develop a well-managed website for the EUBD although there has not been any activity on this yet.

#### **9.03.08 Laboratory Errors and Patient Safety (WG-LEPS), Chair: Laura Sciacovelli**

Laura Sciacovelli	Chair	IT	2 <sup>nd</sup>	2017 01- 2019 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		

#### **ACTIVITY**

- Updating of the website [www.ifcc-mqi.com](http://www.ifcc-mqi.com), in particular:
  - updating of the Model of Quality Indicators on the basis of the findings of Consensus Conference "Harmonization of quality indicators in Laboratory Medicine: two years later?" held in Padova (Italy) on 26<sup>th</sup> October 2016;
  - facilitate the entering procedure of Quality Indicators data by laboratories..
- Selection and appointment of a National Leader, who should coordinate and manage the Model of Quality Indicators project in each Country. It is expected that the National Leader should (i) encourage the use of MQI; (ii) "personalize" the use of QIs in daily practice according to national practices,

requirements and regulations; (iii) co-operate with members of the WG-LEPS providing valuable suggestions or improving the project.

- Involvement of National Scientific Societies, Accreditation bodies and EQA/PT Providers of different Countries, as a means for disseminating the MQI project and promoting participation of laboratories.
- Identification of automated and computerized systems for an easy and systematic data collection and recording.
- Presentation on invitation to the MEDLAB EUROPE in Barcelona on 14<sup>th</sup> September 2017
- Publications:
  - L. Sciacovelli, A. Aita, M. Plebani. Extra-analytical Quality Indicators and Laboratory Performances. Clin Biochem 2017 (*accepted - in press*)
  - L. Sciacovelli, M. Panteghini, G Lippi, Z. Sumarac, J. Cadamuro, CA. De Olivera Galoro, I. Garcia Del Pino Castro, W. Shcolnik, M. Plebani. Defining a roadmap for harmonizing quality indicators in Laboratory Medicine: A consensus statement on behalf of the IFCC Working Group "Laboratory Error and Patient Safety" and EFLM Task and Finish Group "Performance specifications for the extra-analytical phases". Clin Chem Lab Med 2017 (*accepted - in press*)

#### 9.03.09 Cancer Genomics (WG-CG), Chair: Jason Park, Co-Chair: Paolo Fortina

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		
Christina Lockwood	Member	US		

#### ACTIVITY

- Prepare publication of standards and regulations for genomic testing (next-generation sequencing). Include recommendations for clinical laboratories performing genomic testing and bioinformatic analysis for oncology. *In progress*.
- Prepare publication on standards and terminology specific to circulating nucleic acids (i.e., liquid biopsies, circulating tumor cells and cell free DNA). *In progress*.
- Make recommendations and transition to future chair of the working group. Dr Jason Park's term as Chair of WG-CG ends end of December 2017. He is unable to continue as Chair for a second term due to work commitments. Dr Park has recommended that a member of his working group, Dr Eric Londin should take over as Chair. This was strongly supported by Prof Paolo Fortina, Co-Chair of WG-CG. Dr Eric Londin has agreed to take over as Chair from 1 January 2018.

#### ACTION:

- **LL will recommend to the EB that Dr Eric London should be appointed as Chair of WG-CG for a first three-year term from 1 January 2018 and that Prof Paolo Fortina should continue for a Second three-year term as Co-Chair from 1 January 2018.**

#### 9.03.10 Harmonisation of Interpretive Comments External Quality Assurance (WG-ICQA) Chair: Samuel Vasikaran

Sam Vasikaran	Chair	AU	1 <sup>st</sup>	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**

- A workshop will be held at WorldLab, Durban  
Interpreting and Commenting on Clinical Chemistry results  
Chair Sam Vasikaran (AU)
  - 1) Case presentation and discussion, Speaker: E.Kilpatrick (UK)
  - 2) Case presentation and discussion, Speaker: M.J. Turzyniecka (ZA)
  - 3) Case presentation and discussion, Speaker: S.Vasikaran (AU)
- A patient report comment EQA program in Africa, locally led, will be initiated in during the IFCC WorldLab in Durban.
- Working Group meeting planned to be held in Durban during WorldLab.
- PUBLICATIONS: Completed last year. None planned for this year.
- The WG-ICQA will now write standards that hopefully will be incorporated into ISO 15189.

The Executive Committee felt that with the EQA program to be launched and implemented in Africa and the standard writing for ISO there is sufficient work to continue with this working group.

**ACTION:**

- **LL will recommend to the EB for Prof Sam Vasikaran to be appointed Chair for a second three-year term from 1 January 2018.**

**9.04.01 IFCC Visiting Lecturer Programme (IFCC-VLP), Chair: Elizabeth Frank**

With Abbott sponsoring the programme in 2017 many more applications by member societies can be approved. In 2016, 13 VLPs were approved and the budget spent in 2016 was CHF 20,218.

Details of VLPs approved in 2017 are attached in a separate file.

**9.04.02 Working Group on Flow Cytometry (WG-FC), Chair: Ulrich Sack**

Ulrich Sack	Chair	DE	extended term	2017 01-2018 12
Claude Lambert	Member	FR		
Andreas Spittler	Member	AU		
Katharina Psarra	Member	GR		
Cecilia Rodriguez	Member	AR		
Andrey M. Ivanov	Member	RU		

## ACTIVITY

- A course on Cell Processing and Purification will be conducted in Munich from September 18 to 22 2017. This has been announced already at the following links: <http://www.ifcc.org/ifcc-congresses-and-conferences/>; <http://www.ifcc.org/ifcc-education-division/working-groups-special-projects/course-on-flowcytometrywg-cf/>
- A winter school was held in St-Etienne/France (6th-10th March 2017).
- The second Latin American IFCC course in flow cytometry took place in Montevideo/Uruguay (29th - 31st March 2017).
- Reviewing and updating of the WG-FC webpage is on-going.
- A manuscript on validation in cytometry will be submitted for publication soon.
- A short report had been submitted to IFCC news.
- In preparation for the Montevideo course, weekly telephone conferences were held. Meetings are planned in Athens (WG-FC members attend as active contributors at the EuroMedLab) and Durban (the annual meeting of the WG has been scheduled there).
- Publications:  
An article on the topics held in our 2013 meeting is now in press in Cytometry B.
- It is hoped that the South American Course in 2018 will be held in Brazil.
- EF asked Ulrich Sack whether he could conduct a flow cytometry course in India. Ulrich said he would explore the possibility of conducting a flow cytometry course in India.

### 9.04.03 Developing Quality Competence in Medical Laboratories (DQCML), Chair: Egon Amann

Egon Amann	Chair	UK	1 <sup>st</sup>	2017 01 - 2019 12
Janet Smith	Corresponding Member UK			
Loretta Doan	Corresponding Member US			

## ACTIVITY

- To hold at least one face-to-face meeting of the DQCML Project team each year; for 2017 this will be in association with IFCC WorldLab 2017 congress in Durban, South Africa. A closed DQCML face-to-face working group meeting is planned for Durban.
- To offer an Open Session of the DQCML during the IFCC WorldLab 2017 congress to facilitate meeting National Representatives who may wish to seek the support of the Project for future Quality Systems initiatives. The planning of the Open Session meeting of the DQCML is well underway and shall take place as anticipated.
- To engage and collaborate with Chairs of EMD Committees and the VLP Program by seeking their support in the delivery of Quality Systems initiatives and utilising when appropriate their expertise and resource in the delivery of programs under the DQCML Project.
- The possibilities of financial support (by industry or IFCC sources) of a series of workshops on risk management in laboratories planned by Elizabeth Frank at the IFCC WorldLab 2017 in Durban and possibly subsequently in Japan, India and maybe Malaysia is presently being investigated. Results are pending.

- To consider planning a symposium on Quality Initiatives jointly with colleagues working under the EMD umbrella at forthcoming international conferences and congresses such as EuroMedLab 2019 (Barcelona) and IFCC WorldLab 2020 (Seoul)
- No formal applications for support for IFCC DQCML program have been received between January 1<sup>st</sup> and May 15<sup>th</sup> 2017 despite several e-mail exchanges concerning pre-support information on the DQCML program with Mexico and Malaysia.
- Egon Amann delivered a talk (via Skype), upon invitation by the congress organizers, on “Standardization of laboratory tests – Why it is needed and how to do it?” at the “2nd International Conference of Chemical Pathology”, organised by the Medical Research Institute, Chemical Pathology Department, Alexandria University Egypt, on March 5, 2017.

#### **9.04.04 IFCC Mentoring Programme, Chair: Donald Young**

Donald Young                      Chair                      US                      1<sup>st</sup> Term                      2015 01 – 2017 12

#### **ACTIVITY**

- Expand number of Mentors.  
Several efforts have been initiated. In particular, the individuals in the roster of Latin American experts, with Rosa Sierra Amor's help, is being approached to determine their interest in becoming mentors. Graham Beastall, using his contacts in ACB is attempting to expand the number of U.K. mentors.
- Expand Number of Associates.  
Participants in the PSEP are now routinely invited to become Associates. To try to ensure that other potential associates are properly motivated we will ask that their national society endorses their application.
- Work with CLSI to recruit Associates.  
In spite of several attempts to use CLSI to make available the names of their contacts in Africa they have failed to provide any names to date. Nevertheless, efforts to use this potential resource will continue.
- Repeat questionnaire of the utility of the programme will be done later in the year.
- The Chair would like EMD's guidance on how to most effectively use the resources inherent in IFCC's experts.

The Chair indicated that his current term ends on 31 December 2017 and he does not wish to continue as Chair but will assist the new Chair. Donald Young recommended to the Executive Committee that Dr Graham Beastall should be appointed Chair of the IFCC Mentoring Program and Dr Graham Beastall agreed.

Dr Graham Beastall agreed to look into the matter of utilising the experts on the ‘Experts register’ housed on the EMD website and to write an article for the IFCC eNews on the mentoring programme.

#### **ACTION:**

- **LL will recommend to the EB that Dr Graham Beastall should be appointed Chair for a first term of three years from 1 January 2018.**

#### **6. EMD INPUT FOR EB STRATEGIC PLAN**

A new three-year EMD strategic plan will be discussed in the EMD meeting to be held in Milan in January 2018. This should be in line with the IFCC strategic plan for the IFCC.

#### **7. EMD STRATEGIC PLAN**

See under item 6.

## 8. CORRESPONDING MEMBERS

The list of corresponding members has been updated in the past year.

## 9. EMD CONTRIBUTIONS TO IFCC NEWS

IFCC eNews September-October 2016

page 12

The EMD working group "Flow Cytometry"

U. Sack

IFCC eNews November-December 2016

page 13

What's new with the website of the Committee on Clinical Laboratory Management (C-CLM)?

Sedef Yenice (Chair), Ed Randell, Matthias Orth, Aye Aye Khine, Modupe Kuti. IFCC Committee on Clinical Laboratory Management (C-CLM)

IFCC eNews January-February 2017

page 6

IFCC Working Group "Laboratory Errors and Patient Safety" (WG-LEPS)

Project on Quality Indicators – The finding of Consensus Conference "Harmonization of quality indicators in Laboratory Medicine: two years later"

L. Sciacovelli, M. Plebani

page 10

Developing Quality Competence in Medical Laboratories

Symposium: Quality Practice and Process in Developing Countries

M. Thomas

Page 14

Survey of the IFCC WG Harmonisation of Interpretive Commenting EQA (WG-ICQA)

Survey on harmonisation of reporting of protein electrophoresis and serum free light chains, and quantification of small monoclonal proteins

Jill Tate (Chair), Maria Stella Graziani, Maria Alice Willrich & Michael Moss Members of the Sub-group for Harmonisation of Reporting of Protein Electrophoresis and Serum free light Chains, and Quantification of Small Monoclonal Proteins

## 10. EMD SESSIONS AT IFCC CONGRESSES:

EuroMedLab Congress, Athens, June 2017

The liquid biopsy approach: following the tumor in peripheral blood (accepted)

Chair E. Lianidou (GR)

1) Biology and Clinical IMPLICATIONS OF Circulating Tumor Cells (CTCs)

Speaker: K. Pantel

2) CTC analysis: an overview of CTC isolation, detection and molecular characterization technologies

Speaker: E. Lianidou

3) Circulating tumor DNA (ctDNA) : detection systems and clinical significance in cancer

Speaker: D. Hoon

4) Clinical significance of CTC detection and molecular characterization in breast cancer

Speaker: M. Cristofanilli

WorldLab Congress, Durban, South Africa, October 2017:

EMD Symposium:

Implementing Cancer Genomics in Low Resource Settings

Chair: P. Fortina (US)

1) Advanced laboratory techniques for low resource

Speaker: L. Kricka (US)

2) Clinical applications of genomic testing

Speaker: P. Fortina (US)

- 3) Infrastructure requirements for genomic oncology  
Speaker: P. Clark (US)

Additional EMD Symposia:

#### C-EBLM

Evidence Based Laboratory Medicine; a Global Perspective

Chair A. Zemlin (ZA)

- 1) What is EBLM and why do we need it?  
Speaker: C. Florkowski (NZ)
- 2) Why do Guidelines vary so much and how do we recognize a good one?  
Speaker: J. Wils (FR)
- 3) Global feedback on EBLM perceptions and requirements for training  
Speaker: K. Rodriguez-Capote (CA)
- 4) Getting the EBLM message out to the world new resources.  
H. Fares-Taie – (AR)

#### C-CLM

Improvement in clinical laboratory services: approaches to adding value.

Chair Sedef Yenice (TR)

- 1) From provider of the results to the contributor of value: Adding value to clinical laboratory services through the use of Six Sigma metrics  
Speaker: E. Randell (CA)
- 2) Direct-to-Consumer Testing: Challenges with Lifestyle Tests  
Speaker: M. Orth (DE)
- 3) Implementing value based laboratory testing  
Speaker: A. Khine Womano (ZA)

#### VLP+EMD Workshop

Interpreting and Commenting on Clinical Chemistry results

Chair Sam Vasikaran (AU)

- 1) Case presentation and discussion  
Speaker: E. Kilpatrick (UK)
- 2) Case presentation and discussion  
Speaker: M.J. Turzyniecka (ZA)
- 3) Case presentation and discussion  
Speaker: S. Vasikaran (AU)

- Colabliocli Congress, Punta del Este, Uruguay, September 2017

#### EMD Workshop

Why should we use Medicine Evidence-Based clinical laboratory in practice?

Chair H. Fares-Taie

- 1) Introduction to EBM and EBLM  
Speaker: H. Fares Taie (AR)
- 2) Description of the EBM/EBLM tools  
Speaker: K. Rodriguez-Capote (CA)
- 3) Evaluation of clinical practice guidelines and scientific literature using PSA testing for prostate cancer screening as an example of EBM/EBLM  
N. Gimenez (ES)
- 4) Small group discussions, formulate an answerable question for PSA
- 5) Applying informatics technology to disseminate clinical biochemistry knowledge  
Speaker: H. Fares-Taie

## 11. LINKS WITH OTHER DIVISIONS

An IFCC Scientific Division member will attend meetings of the C-EUBD

C-DL and IeL are working closely together on learning material for the eAcademy.

## 12. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

The budget approved for 2017 was discussed. LL informed the Committee about the lunch meeting he had with the Treasurer and President of IFCC together with the Chairs of other Divisions where it was highlighted that every year the expenditure of IFCC exceeds the income. In 2018, there will only be expenditure, including that for the General Conference, with no income from any congresses. Hence, it is necessary to deliver all IFCC activities in a cost-effective manner without decreasing the productivity and standard of the committee activities.

The EB is unable to cope with many task forces and would like to change many of these task forces into committees to be placed under the appropriate divisions.

EF has obtained funding from Abbott for her to conduct accreditation workshops. The IFCC Treasurer, Prof Tomris Ozben and the IFCC President, Prof Maurizio Ferrari both agreed that this sum of money can be deposited with the IFCC solely for EF's use for the activities as agreed between EF and Abbott.

### **13. DATE AND LOCATION OF FUTURE MEETINGS:**

- Durban, October 21 and 23, 2017
- Milan, middle of January 2018 to discuss the three-year strategic plan 2018 – 2020