Foreword from the editor-in-chief
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The present issue of the eJIFCC is composed of articles focused on topics discussed at the conference entitled “Laboratory medicine: meeting the needs of the Mediterranean nations.” The conference was held this year in Rome between July 2-4, with professor Sergio Bernardini as the Conference President.

The current issue is part one of a two-part series, and contains articles covering three sections of the conference, namely:
- Transmissible diseases in the Mediterranean area;
- Training and education in laboratory medicine;
- Improving health with emerging technologies.

János Kappelmayer
Editor