Report: Arab Federation of Clinical Biology

Pr Abderrazek Hedhili
IFCC Regional Member (AFCB)
The AFCB is a regional federation of associations, societies and syndicates of clinical biology and medicine laboratory created in 1974 by Egypt, Syria, Sudan, and Kuwait.

Principal Objective: the Development of the clinical Biology and laboratory medicine in the Arabic World.

Egypt, 1974 (Pr Mohamed Shaarawy, Egyptian Society of Clinical Chemistry and Laboratory Medicine ESCCLM),
Syria, 1974 (Dr Mohamed Najjar Tinaoui, Syrian Clinical Laboratory Association SCLA),
Sudan, 1974 (Imead Fadl Elmula, Sudanese Society of Clinical Biology SSCB),
Tunisia, 1991 (Pr Taieb Messoud, Tunisian Society of Clinical Biology STBC),
Algeria, 1991 (Dr Abdelhalim Chachou, Tunisian Society of Clinical Biology STBC),
Morocco, 1991 (Pr Layachi Chabraoui, Marocaine de Chimie Clinique SMCC),
Jordan, 1991 (Pr Youssef Bilto, Jordanian Society for Medical Laboratory Sciences),
Lebanon, 1994 (Dr Christian Haded, Syndicat des Biologistes du Liban SNBL),
Palestine, 1997 (Dr Osama Najjar, Palestinian Medical Technology Association PMTA),
Yemen, 2000 (?, Clinical Laboratory Sciences Society Yemen CLSSY),
Libya, 2012 (Dr Abud Ayed, Libyan Society of Clinical Laboratories LSCL),
Saudia Arabia 2018 (Dr Samia Sebki, Saudia Society of Clinical Chemistry SSCC),
Koweit and Irak?
The first ArabMedLab was held in Egypt 1974
The second ArabMedLab was held in Damascus 1979
The 3rd, 4th and 5th (1980, 1986, and 1988) ArabMedLab were held in Cairo
The 6th ArabMedLab was held in Tunisia 1991 (New organization and New status)
The 7th ArabMedLab was held in Syria 1994
The 8th ArabMedLab was held in Amman (Jordan) 1997
The 9th ArabMedLab was held in Rabat (Morocco) 2000
The 10th ArabMedLab was held in Monastir (Tunisia) 2004
The 11th ArabMedLab was held in Damascus (Syria) 2006
The 12th ArabMedLab was held in Beirut (Lebanon) 2009
The 13th ArabMedLab was held in Marrakech (Morocco) 2012
The 14th ArabMedLab was held in Sudan (Khartoum) 2015
The (last) 15th ArabMedLab was held in Palestine (Ramallah) 2018

I. Algeria 2017/2018 Association Algerienne de Biologie Clinique

1. Training day on automated spermogram
2. The 2th Congress of practical Biology and the 7th French Speaking day of biology November 27-28, 2017
3. Continuos formation of Algerian private biologists 2018
I. Algeria : Activities 2017/2018
SABC SOCIETE ALGERIENNE D E BIOLOGIE CLINIQUE

1. Continuos Formation
2. 5th Clinical/ microbiology May-6 , 2017
3. 8th JMP ( Clinical /Pharmacists Day ) November-8,2017
4. 7th Congress of Medical Biology and Laboratory Medecine May-6-7 , 2018

II. Saudi Arabia
SSCC activities 2017/2018

1. Annual meeting for the SSCC Jedda November 21-23 , 2017 The society hosted about 500 delegates.
2. EDUCATION : Preanalytical working group was created with BD collaboration - The SSCC is collaborating with the journal called Journal of Health Specialties
3. MedLab conference, Dubai, UAE 5-8 Feb 2017 The society contributed with speakers in the scientific program
4. The best of AACC in the Middle East Abu Dhabi, UAE 23-24 March 2017 Collaborated with the AACC and Alborg laboratories in conducting the conference
5. Collaboration with other Saudi Laboratory Societies i.e Saudi society for Clinical Laboratory Sciences (SSCLS) has been established.
6. The SSCC was able to support one of the IFCC Travel Scholarship to attend Durban IFCC WorldLab meeting 2017. A Young Scientist from Zambia was able to attend the meeting. The Scholarship sponsoring was called “IFCC SSCC Travel Scholarship”.
7. Election of New EB Dr Samia Sebki elected as President of SSCC May-7,2018

1. Annual meeting for the SSCC Jedda December-5,6 , 2018
• **Workshop:**
  1. Laboratory Quality Management and Accreditation
• **Symposium I:**
  1. Newborn Screening
  2. Markers of Autoimmune Disease
  3. Serum Biomarkers Panel in the Early Diagnosis of Lung Cancer

• **Symposium II:**
  1. Point-of-Care Testing in the Emergency Department
  2. Metabolomics and its Use in Studying and Treating Diabetes
  3. Liquid Biopsy as an Emergency Non-invasive Clinical Tool to Cancer Patient Management
  4. Molecular and Cellular Mechanisms of Aging – Associated Diseases
  5. Antiangiogenesis Therapy: A new Strategy for Cancer Treatment
IV. Liban
SNBL Activities 2017/2018

1. VII Congress of Lebanon Biologist and IV Congress of the International Francophone Federation under the IFCC and AFCB auspices March- 2-3-4, 2017 (28 CME)
2. Continuous Education Session 3 CME November-4,2017
3. Continuous Education Session: November-19,2017, 1.5 CME
4. Continuous Education Session: April-2,2017, 3 CME
5. Partnership Agreement between SBL and Association FCBM (Toulouse France): e-Medicine Image (Hematology-Parasitology-Bacteriology)
6. Organization of EQC in Biochemistry, Hematology, Hormonology for all Lebanon laboratories
8. March 2019 Congress of Lebanon Biologist

V. Libya
LSCL Activities 2017/2018

➢ Celebrate world blood donor day
➢ Training was carried out in many hospitals related to all aspects of professional quality laboratory activities;
➢ Antimicrobial Resistance
➢ biosafety and biosecurity: 3 workshops
VI. Marocco
SMCC Activities 2017/2018

1. 17th Morrocan days of clinical Biology October -5-7,2017
2. Workshop : meeting Clinical-biology ( Prolactin ) september-15, 2017
3. Workshop 2018
4. 18th Morrocan days of clinical Biology September – 27-29,2018

VII. Palestine
PMTA Activities in 2017

1. Regional Clinical Lab. Conferences in 11 Governorates 2017
2. Workshop Clinical Endocrinology :April-21 ,2017
3. National Lab. Week Theme “ Unite for Patient Care” April-25 , May-12,2017
5. Festival of the Labor Day : May-1 ,2017
6. Festival of Blood Donations Day :June-14 ,2017
7. Blood donation Campaign in all Palestinian Governorates June & July/2017
8. Workshop Genetics & Society : October -3,2017
10. Workshop QC in Lab. Medicine : November-17,2017
VII. Palestine
PMTA Activities in 2018-2020


2. Implementation of the Project “What Physicians didn’t know about the Lab.”


4. Training Course in Medical Lab. Institution, Supplies, Kits & disposable Marketing.

5. Establishment of the Continuing Education Center.


8. Hold the 11th International Palestinian Conference of Laboratory Medicine in 2020.

VIII. Syria
SCALA Activities 2017/2018

1. The Damascus lab Days January 24-25-26, 2017
   Infertility and tumors

2. Infections, bacterial transplants and parasites

3. Autism in clinical laboratory

4. Molecular biology

5. Heart valves.

6. Autosomal diseases and systemic diseases
IX. Tunisia: STBC Activities 2017

1. Automation in microbiology, decision criteria, controls and traps  
   January-20,2017
2. Diagnostic traps in hemostasis  
   March-24,2017
3. Parasitological diagnosis of amoebiasis  
   April-7,2017
4. JNBC2017 May
5. Validation of an automatic blood count  
   October-6, 2017
6. World Thrombosis Day  
   October -13, 2017
7. Thyroid exploration: the need for a clinical-biological dialogue  
   October-14,2017
8. ANTI VITAMINS K  
   October23, 2017
9. Characteristics of the biological assessment in geriatrics  
   November -24,2017
10. Clinical-biological screening of the T21  
    December -15 ,2017

IX. Tunisia: STBC Activities 2018

- Marqueurs biologiques viraux des hépatites B et C et VIH Tunis 9 /02/2018
- Exploration thyroidienne : nécessité d’un dialogue clinico-biologique Sousse 23/02/2018
- Les Troponines ultra-sensibles Tunis 16/03/2018
- Analyse automatisée en spermiologie Tunis 6/04/2018 K. Ben Abdallah
- Validation de l’hémogramme Zaghouan 20/04/ 2018
- 32th JNBC 2018 , May7-12 , 2018
- Démarche diagnostique devant une anémie néonatale Sfax 7/09/2018
- Pièges diagnostiques en hémostase -Phase pré-analytique en biochimie - Diagnostic microbiologique des IST Djerba  
  28/09/2018
- Management du risque biologique Tunis 5/10/2018
- Les antifongigrammes Tunis 26/10/2018
- La qualité en microbiologie : focus sur le prélèvement - Electrophorèse de l’hémoglobine et des protéines Kebilli  
  10/11/2018 F.
- RAI : étude de cas cliniques Sousse 30/11/ 2018
- Le CQI en biologie clinique Tunis 14/12/2018
- Apport des indices hématologiques dans le diagnostic différentiel des anémies microcytaires - Electrophorèse de  
  l’hémoglobine
- L’antibiogramme Bèja 22/02/2019
**AFCB Activities**

**I. Athenes June 11-15, 2017**

The AFCB has organized with the collaboration of EFLM, FIFBCML and AFCC two successful experiences in Athens and Durban.

A Mediterranean leading platform for collaboration and innovation in laboratory medicine.


1. A key player in the surrounding region to strengthen clinical labs infrastructures and expertise: C. Hadad.
2. The role of the SMCC for sharing and transferring laboratory medicine knowledge in Morocco: L. Chabraoui.
4. ALAM The added value of the clinical laboratory in the Algerian health care system: A. Chachou.
5. Round Table Challenge in the management of laboratory Medicine in the Mediterranean and Middle East: MT Ben Jelloun, T. Messoud, A. Ghedira, A. Sabah.

---

**AFCB Activities**

**II. IFCC Worldlab Durban October - 22 - 25, 2017**

Arab Federation Workshop: The evolution of lab medicine in the Arabic countries.

Chair: L. Chabraoui (Morocco), B. Gouget (France).

1. The role of International aids to fight AIDS, tuberculosis and malaria in developing countries with special emphasis on Africa: G. Shannan (Syria).
2. Pandemic preparation and response in the AFCB countries: M. Haddad (Lebanon).
3. The primary care and round table session on Quality management and EQC in the Arab Federation countries the lab: an AFBC concern: M. H. Kamil.
III. Euromediterranean Meeting Rome
IFCC/EFLM/aAFCB/FIFBCML2 - 4 JULY, 2018

1. 1ST IFCC, EFLM, AFCB, FIFBCML Conference “Laboratory Medicine: Meeting the needs of Mediterranean Nations” Congress

2. Organizing committee: Smail Belazzoug - Layachi Chabraoui and Christian Haddad


4. Round table: “The Role of Laboratory Medicine to Address Migrant Health Issues” : Osama Najjar - Christian Haddad

III. Euromediterranean Meeting Rome
IFCC/EFLM/aAFCB/FIFBCML2 - 4 JULY, 2018

1. Round table: “The Role of Laboratory Medicine to Address Migrant Health Issues”

2. Session n. 1: Improving Efficiency in Laboratory Medicine: Where is Medical Laboratory Diagnosis in Palestine in terms of accreditation and molecular diagnosis (Osama Najjar, Palestine)

3. Session n. 2: Transmissible Diseases in the Mediterranean Area: Pharmacogenomics: Pharmacogenomics and Therapy for Hepatitis C Virus infection (Mohamed Shaarawy, Egypt)

4. Session n. 3: Perinatal and Pregnancy Laboratory Medicine: The role of Laboratory Medicine for Health during Pregnancy (Adnan Alkhatib, Syria)
III. Euromediterranean Meeting Rome
IFCC/EFLM/aAFCB/FIFBCML2 - 4 JULY, 2018

4. Session n. 4: Lab Med Training and Education:
   Training of Laboratory Medicine; South Mediterranean Layachi Chabroui (Maroc)

5. Session n. 5: Mediterranean Diet and Area’s specific Diseases: Epidemiological and molecular profile of Beta thalassemia in Tunisia Taieb Messaoud (Tunisia)

6. Round Table: “Benchmarking the organization of Medical Biology in EuroMediterranean Countries” Mohamed Shaarawy (Egypt), Rania Abu Seir (Palestine), Abderrazek Hedhili (Tunisia)

III. Next Euromediterranean Meeting 2020

AFCB Participate in Alexandroupolis Greece at the Steering committee meeting: Elaboration of the Draft guidelines for the organization of the IFCC Mediterranean Conference of laboratory Medicine (Medit. Co.Lab)

IFCC: Sergio Bernandini
EFLM: Sverre Sandberg
AFCB: Abderrazek Hedhili
FIFBML: Bernard Gouget

North Mediterranean Countries: Alexander Hliossos
South Mediterranean Countries: Layachi Chabraoui
1. Prof. Bernard Gouget E Health Tools For The Medical Lab For Better Outcomes
2. Dr. Alexander Haliassos Digital Tools For Researchers In Laboratory Medicine
3. Prof. Sergio Bernardini The Clinical Significance Of Circulating miRNAs As Biological And Prognostic Markers

1. Dr. Nelson .M: Mycotoxins In Food Commodities
2. Pr. J.C.Alvarez Intoxications And Deaths Involving Pesticides
3. Pr. Hedhili .A: Drug Abuse Role Of Toxicological Laboratory And Arab Situation
4. Dr. J.Langrand : Organization Of Poison Control Centers In France .
V. 15th Arab Conference Of Clinical Biology April-18-21

1. Pr. P. Fortina : Interpreting The Genome Through Next Generation Sequencing
2. Pr. P. Fortina: Implementing Cancer Molecular Profiling
3. Pr. P. Fortina Technologies For Personalized Medicine (Workshop)
4. Pr. M. Ferrari How To Imagine The Future Of Laboratory Medicine
5. Pr. Maurizio Ferrari: Non-Invasive Prenatal Diagnosis By Circulating Nucleic Acid Analysis
6. Pr. Maurizio Ferrari Molecular Diagnostic Methods And Quality Assurance (Workshop)
7. Pr. B Gouget : Big Data In Lab Medicine

V. 15th Arab Conference Of Clinical Biology April-18-21 Palestine :EB AFCB Meeting

1. Obligation of the AFCB and the all Arab societies to submit their annual scientific activity reports to the IFCC EB
2. All the Arab societies must pay their annual IFCC fees
3. Support by the IFCC EB the candidate of One Arab Society to the organization of the next general conference and The 2st IFCC, EFLM, AFCB Conference on "Laboratory Medicine: Meeting the needs of Mediterranean Nations"
4. Encouragement of the participation of the majority of the Arab societies at the next general conference in Budapest
5. Unaffordable high cost of Congress (registration fees , travel and hotel accommodation ) : Reduction of registration fees for Developing countries
6. The AFCB hopes the support of the candidate of the Arab biologists to the IFCC committees
VI. Meeting of AFCB EB Casablanca Marocco September 27-29, 2018

1. Revision of the status of AFCB and elaborate a new document.

2. Collaboration between the AFCB and the other federations (EFLM, AFCC ...) and the organization of the of the AFCC congress in Marrakech September – 2019

3. Collaboration between IFCC/AFCB (Young Scientists, VLP, IFCC Annual Assistance to AFCB).

4. Encouragement of the Organizing of the 2th Euro-Mediterranean Meeting and the candidacy of Tunisia in 2020 (south/north alternance)

5. The AFCB have participate in Athens October 10-14, 2018 meeting (elaborate a project of status)

6. Creation of the AFCB Awards (Every 3 Years during Arab Congress)

7. Every year the AFCB must to encourage the organization of a young scientific meeting in 4 or 5 AFCB affiliate countries by attribution of 2000 - 2500 dollars per country: Palestine –Tunisia –Morocco-Syria-Liban –Egypt -Libya
Next Arab Meeting:

1. Arab Congress
   16th Lebanon 2021
   17th Morocco 2024
2. Algeria FIFBCML and Algerian Congress 2019
3. Organization of the African Congress by SMCC Morocco 2019
4. SNDBL Beyrouth March 2019
5. STBC Hammamet April 2019
6. Saudia Arabia December 2018

IFCC STBC Meeting Hammamet – Tunisia February 1st, 2019

Scientific Program

- 8:30-9:00: Welcome § Registration
- 9:00-9:15: Opening : STBC President/ IFCC President
- 9:15-9:45: Vitamin D to improve health outcomes : Howard Morris (Australia)
- 9:45-10:15: Circulating tumor DNA: A promising biomarker in the liquid biopsy of cancer: Maurizio Ferrari (Italy)
- 10:15-10:30: Coffee break
- 10:30-11: Coffee break
- 10:30-11: Validation of prostate cancer biomarkers and inflammation: A proteomic study: Tomris Ozben (Turkey)
- 11:00-11:30: Use of POCT for glycated haemoglobin measurement for diagnosis and management of type 2 diabetics in Africa: Kunle Okesina (Nigeria)
- 11:30-12:00: Role of genetic markers in clinical expression variability of mucoviscidosis in Tunisia: Sondes Hadj Fredj (Tunisia)
- 12:00-14:00: Lunch
- 14:00-14:30: Biological variation: Sverre Sandberg (Norway)
- 14:30-15:00: Who or what is SHERLOCK?: Ann Gronowski (USA)
- 15:00-15:30: Laboratory accreditation experience in LATAM: Rose Sierra-Amor (Mexico)
- 15:30-16:00: Standardization and harmonization in laboratory medicine: Howard Morris (Australia)
- 16:00: Closing
Thank you

Pr HEDHILI.A