



COLABIOCLI Latin American Regional Organization of Clinical Biochemistry

In December 1968, a group of biochemists from the Federation of Biochemistry of Buenos Aires, Argentina held the first Latin American Congress of Clinical Biochemistry. Participants in the first congress included Nobel Prize winners Bernardo A. Houssay, Luis F. Leloir, and Cesar Milstein, and the President of the International Federation of Clinical Chemistry and Laboratory Medicine (IFCC), Martin Rubin. During its opening ceremony, the recommendation was the integration of the national societies of clinical biochemistry from Latin America into one single organization.

On November 28, 1973, the Latin American Confederation of Clinical Biochemistry (COLABIOCLI) was officially established during the second Congress of Clinical Biochemistry held in Porto Alegre, Brazil (See photo)

- The mission of the confederation is to continuously improve the ethical, scientific, technical, and economic aspects of the clinical biochemistry profession.
- COLABIOCLI seeks to benefit individuals and nations through the development of laboratory sciences within Latin America, the organization and promotion of scientific meetings, the provision of external quality assurance programs, and the implementation of ISO requirements.

COLABIOCLI endorses the Latin American Congresses in every Latin American country and collaborates with both the IFCC and PAHO in order to fulfill its mission, vision, and objectives.

This regional organization includes the following countries: Argentina, Brazil, Bolivia, Colombia, Cuba, Chile, Ecuador, Honduras, El Salvador, Dominican Republic, Mexico, Nicaragua, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Puerto Rico, Uruguay and Venezuela. Also Spain (AEFA) is a member of COLABIOCLI, and in the past, Italy (SIBioC) also coordinated efforts with the region on several topics. COLABIOCLI's Executive Committee (EC) is formed by a President, a Vice-President, a Secretary, a Treasurer and three Members-at-Large that are elected by all member societies during the council that takes place every two years.

COLABIOCLI is a non-governmental organization that is affiliated to international organizations such as IFCC. It is also an advisor for laboratory services at the Pan

American Health Organization (PAHO). IFCC. It is also an advisor for laboratory services at the Pan American Health Organization (PAHO). COLABIOCLI's main activities are to improve the level of the profession in all members' countries; stimulating research in the field of laboratory sciences, and encouraging the development of education in the universities and polytechnic institutes. The main tasks are to establish quality control programs, supervising the standardization of laboratory procedures, and supporting training and continuing education courses in clinical biochemistry in the region. A publication is distributed bi-monthly, this is the Acta Bioquímica Clínica Latinoamericana, published by the Federación Bioquímica de la Provincia de Buenos Aires from Argentina.

Twenty three Congresses have been organized in the Region: the XXII th one will be held in Quito (EC), in October 2015, hosted by the Sociedad Ecuatoriana de Bioquímica Clínica; the XXIIIth one will take place in Punta del Este (UY) in 2017.



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Porto Alegre, Brazil,
II Latin American Congress
of Clinical Biochemistry, from right to left:
Dr Abol Correa (BR)
Dr Enrique Chernoff (AR).



Colleagues from Argentina, Brasil, Chile,
and other Societies from Latin America
discussing the Status of COLABIOCLI during
the, II Latin American Congress of
Clinical Biochemistry held in
Porto Alegre, Brazil in 1973.