

IFCC 12th General Conference 2016's Report
Feeding the future of IFCC now!
Madrid, March 19-21, 2016

By Sri Paulani

Indonesia IFCC representative

It has been a great pleasure for me to be present in this conference as IACC's national representative. The General Conference was being held in Madrid JW Marriot Hotel near Madrid's airport and half an hour trip to the city.

I attended all sessions, including session 6 which was a Simultaneous Interactive Workshop where we could attend three from twelve interesting workshops. From session one, we were introduced to the new vision of IFCC which is *"We advance excellence in laboratory medicine for better healthcare worldwide"*. We also were shared IFCC's priority action plan for achieving their three strategic plans. The action plans are:

1. < 6 months:

- ❖ More effective and efficient divisions, committees, working groups and task force by establishing professional performance management including the selection of people to act in certain roles.
- ❖ Deal with the new Medtech Europe code of conduct and its impact on conferences.
- ❖ Revisit vision and focus so that it is clear, compelling and communicated.
- ❖ Re-note the value of Laboratory medicine in healthcare.

2. 6-12 months:

- ❖ Set up a cost reduction task force
- ❖ Review of the IFCC organizational structure
- ❖ Deal with expected financial challenges
- ❖ Demonstrating and communicating specific value generated and benefits received to all member groups.
- ❖ Find ways to increase collaboration with international organization in lab medicine and international clinical societies and other international stakeholders in healthcare.
- ❖ More multi-language educational materials.

3. 9-24 months:

- ❖ Increased focus on harmonization and standardization in lab. Medicine
- ❖ More extensive and professional, customer/user-oriented media presence.
- ❖ More specialized conferences stimulating new interest and membership
- ❖ Expand educational opportunities through innovative e-learning and distance learning programs
- ❖ Find ways to improve the involvement of young scientists

- ❖ Identifying new and efficient ways to share best practices
 - ❖ Redefining the interfaces between IFCC and its members to ensure effective communication
- From Corporate Members (CM) report, we were explained how the CM gain advantage by becoming IFCC's members, such as:

1. Increasing awareness for the importance of lab testing in general and providing education with focus on countries with limited resources
2. Together with clinical societies, supporting medical claims leading to reimbursement
3. Emphasizing the importance of quality and use of IFCC's unique expertise in standardization
4. Co-operating intensively with others (CLSI, FDA, clinical societies, etc) to get alignment of guidelines and recommendations
5. Providing opportunities for exhibition, industry symposia and networking with lab professionals during high-level academic conferences

And the challenges and opportunities in IVD's industries:

1. Regulatory submission are becoming more complex; local regulatory requirements are increasing.
2. The recognition of lab professionals being in charge of lab testing quality assurance and result interpretation is sometimes challenged
3. More people get access to healthcare'
4. Economic growth often goes along with better access to healthcare for a large proportion of the population. Middle-class people are becoming more health-conscious
5. Big data companies are providing solutions that are partially complementary to IVD products, enhancing their usefulness and partially competitive.

In session 2, we had Education and Management Division (EMD)'s presentations.

The first topic was [Mentoring Program](#) by Mr. Donald Young, which is a lab expert guidance programs from developed countries to developing countries. This topic make me interest to make the first proposal for IACC to implement this in Indonesia. Our pathologists or lab expert were not distributed well around the country. We have expertise more in several big islands around Indonesia such as Java and Sumatera. If those experts willing to guide the junior ones as their mentor, the result would give great benefit to science advance and patient outcome all around Indonesia.

From EMD-CPD (Communication and Publications Division) Joint Interactive Session, we knew that IFCC has developed IFCC e-Academy as a new tool for a distance learning program in medical lab. Several things that has been developed by this Division: Website; the new IFCC e-newsletter; IFCC e-journal. In 2016, this division will release two new applications: IFCC Mobile App and Annual IFCC CPD Survey.

IFCC Scientific Division in Session 5 explore that they have 6 committees and 14 Working Groups. One of their aims is standardization and harmonization for: Patient Safety, Patient Empowerment, Public Confidence, Accreditation, Consolidation & Networking, Clinical Guidelines, Clinical Governance,

Informatics, Electronic Patient Record. Standardization used ISO 17511:2003 IVD medical devices - Measurement of quantities in biological samples - Metrological traceability of values assigned to Calibrators and Control Materials.

I followed session 6 with great enthusiasm. There were three workshops I followed:

1. What is the best strategy to achieve compliance with QMS and QC requirements in the clinical lab? This was a discussion group for developing strategies to comply QMS for ISO 15189 in medical lab.
2. [Increasing Clinical Effectiveness \(ICE\)](#), which is an initiative of the Clinical Laboratory Management Association (CLMA) in collaboration with a number of partners – one of which is IFCC. ICE has been launched to encourage laboratory medicine specialists to collaborate with clinical colleagues to demonstrate that optimal use of the laboratory can have a measurable positive impact on patient outcomes. This ICE is very familiar because here in Indonesia we also have several programs that describes testing-related interventions and the quantifiable positive impact for patients that they produced. I am very interested to propose this program to be implemented in IACC. We will encourage lab. Medicine specialists to submit an abstract form their continuous improvement programs which has made benefit for patients or hospitals or labs.
3. Precision, Personalized and Stratified Medicine: Central role of lab medicine in its development and clinical use. Where do we stand, where can we go? This workshop invited labs to take part in the supply of tests to determine drug reactions in the body based on the genetic of each patient. The goal is to obtain optimal drug levels in the body of each patient

Other topic that is a challenge for IACC is the development of [Young Scientist Task Force in Indonesia](#). We have many young scientists with their research in educational hospitals or labs. The Young Scientist are the next generation for this clinical chemistry society. So establishing and developing them would be a *legacy* project

Some take home messages I would like to propose are:

1. Promote the IFCC Mentoring Program, for IACC members to participate as mentor as well as mentored.
2. Promote the ICE Program for IACC members.
3. Link all topics of the e-academy / CDL materials to IACC website, not just a link of IACC to IFCC but each particular item.
4. As the HbA1c consensus is now already accepted by ADA, IACC can play a role in promoting the use of this consensus nationwide.
5. All IACC members shall be informed about the FaceBook page and LinkedIn page of IFCC so members can make use of it.

Jakarta, May 16th, 2016

Report from Scholarship Recipients at IFCC General Conference in Madrid

Name of scholarship recipient: Sri Paulani

Name of society represented: Indonesian Association of Clinical Chemistry (IACC)

1. List the scientific items from the programme that interested you:
 - The HbA1c consensus is now already accepted by ADA

2. List non-scientific items from the programme that interested you:
 - The IFCC Mentoring Program
 - Increasing Clinical Effectiveness (ICE) Program
 - The development of Young Scientist Task Force
 - The development of IFCC e-Academy as a new tool for a distance learning program in medical lab

3. List learning points that will be useful to your society:
 - As the HbA1c consensus is now already accepted by ADA, IACC can play a role in promoting the use of this consensus nationwide
 - Promote the IFCC Mentoring Program, for IACC members to participate as mentor as well as mentored.
 - Promote the Increasing Clinical Effectiveness (ICE) Program for IACC members
 - Develop of Young Scientist Task Force in Indonesia.
 - Link all topics of the e-academy / CDL materials to IACC website, not just a link of IACC to IFCC but each particular item
 - All IACC members shall be informed about the FaceBook page and LinkedIn page of IFCC so members can make use of it

4. Suggest topics for the programme of the next General Conference:
 - More explanation of ethics in patient management
 - More topics regard clinical governance and patient empowerment
 - More discussion which involve national representatives
 - More activities to open networking

5. Add any final remarks:

It was an open insight conference about IFCC and all activities that have been worked all these years for clinical chemistry and lab medicine around the world. I hope this general conference could involve more representatives include the government and others such as ISO representative.