

EDUCATION & MANAGEMENT DIVISION

9.0 Minutes of the meeting of the EMD Executive Committee

Madrid, 18 - 19 March, 2016

Confirmed

Members	Position	Term	Time of Office
Leslie Lai - LL (MY)	Chair	1 st	2015 01 – 2017 12
Elizabeth FRANK – EF (IN)	Secretary / VLP	2 nd	2015 01 – 2017 12
Paolo FORTINA – PF (US)	Member	2 nd	2016 01 – 2018 12
Ana Leticia MASELLI (GT)	Member	1 st	2014 01 – 2016 12
Christoph EBERT – CE (DE)	Corp. Rep.	2 nd	2016 01 – 2018 12

Welcome and introductions

LL welcomed the Committee members and thanked everybody for making time to attend this meeting. He wished everyone a pleasant stay and hoped that we could get through the discussion efficiently as he had to attend the EB meeting. Apologies were received from Christoph Ebert, as he was ill with influenza.

1. Notification of other business and finalization of agenda

LL reviewed the agenda and since there were no comments the agenda was confirmed. He recommended that all divisions needed to be more proactive and submit a work plan annually. Emphasis was to ensure that the committees were active, plan purposefully for the current three-year EMD strategic plan and be prompt in sending their interim and annual reports.

2. Review of minutes of EMD-EC meeting – Paris 2015

The minutes were approved.

3. Report from Executive Board

The report from the EB was discussed and the strategic plan pertaining to EMD was highlighted: Budget constraints and lack of Abbott support for the VLP were key concerns. Evaluation of performance of the committees and working groups was discussed.

4. Review of Committees and Working Groups

▪ 9.02.04 Clinical Molecular Biology Curriculum (C-CMBC)

Evi Lianidou	(GR)	Chair	1 st	2014 01-2016 12
Andrea Ferreira-Gonzalez	(US)	Member	2 nd	2014 01-2016 12
Verena Haselmann	(DE)	Member	1 st	2014 01-2016 12
Atsushi Watanabe	(JP)	Member	1 st	2014 06-2016 12

The annual meeting of C-CMBC is scheduled to take place on Friday, 18th of March 2016 in Madrid, during the IFCC general Assembly meeting, from 10 am – 2 pm.

IFCC Junior Member: Ms Liucija Bikauskaitė, medical geneticist, VU MF Department of Human and Medical Genetics, Vilnius, Lithuania also attended the meeting

Ms Liucija Bikauskaitė was nominated as the IFCC Junior Member from Lithuania, based on her performance both in the written examination as well as in the practical workshop. Ms Liucija Bikauskaitė will join the C-CMBC group in Madrid and will participate in the next C-CMBC course.

The new Junior Member will present on the current situation concerning the application of Molecular Diagnostics and External Quality Control as a follow-up of the C-CMBC course in her country

The 2016 C-CMBC course will be held in Ethiopia.

Publications by the committee are as listed:

1. Publication in the IFCC eNews (January-February 2015) on the 2014 C-CMBC course held in Manila, the Philippines.
2. LabMedica International May 2015 on the 2014 C-CMBC course held in Manila.

The EC appreciated the efforts of the committee especially in recruiting and involving active young participants.

Action points: Silvia to get the list of the program and dates planned to be updated on the IFCC website

▪ **9.02.05 Analytical Quality (C-AQ)**

Egon Amann	(DE)	Chair	2 nd	2014 01-2016 12
David Grenache	(US)	Member	2 nd	2016 01-2018 12
Annette Thomas	(UK)	Member	1 st	2014 01- 2016 12
Alexander Haliassos,	(GR)	Member	1 st	2014 01- 2016 12
To be nominated				

The activities of the C-AQ Committee were mentioned in the report provided by the Chair and included:

1. Updating the “Directory of EQA Services” for the web site. The update was planned for 2016 by contacting IFCC Full Member and Affiliate Member Societies and asking them for possible changes, feedback and experiences.
2. To develop an improved version of the EQA setup check list in the CAQ section. The “EQA Setup Checklist” is available on the C-AQ web site. It is planned to expand the presently available information with additional more detailed procedures for a new EQA scheme (for example, to achieve ISO 15189 accreditation).
3. To finalize the “Resource table for EQA” for the C-AQ section of the IFCC web site.
4. Develop eLearning presentation on “Principles of EQA” and “Principles of IQC”.
5. To conduct a joint C-AQ / C-CLM workshop “What is the best strategy to achieve compliance with QMS and QC-requirements in the clinical laboratory?” at the IFCC General Conference in Madrid in 2016.

The Executive Committee commended the C-AQ Committee for its good work and suggested at least one additional AQ workshop. EC also emphasised the importance of publications and encouraged more of them from this committee

▪ **9.02.07 Evidence-Based Laboratory Medicine (C-EBLM)**

Chris Florkowski	(NZ)	Chair	1 st	2015 01-2017 12
Hernan Fares Taie	(AR)	Member	2 nd	2014 01-2016 12
K. Rodriguez Capote	(CA)	Member	1 st	2014 06-2016 12
Annalise Zemlin	(ZA)	Member	1 st	2015 01-2017 12
Julien Wils	(FR)	Member	1 st	2015 01-2017 12

The activities proposed for 2016 are:

1. To commence work on a contribution to the IFCC e-Academy.
 - a. Finalise the EBLM Curriculum.
 - b. Allocate topics to individual C-EBLM members for review – and others.
 - c. Acquire rights to use the Present.Me software and prepare modules.
 - d. Review all of the above at the Madrid general meeting and progress.
2. Undertake a Guidelines review.

- a. Select endocrine guideline topics for review.
- b. Undertake reviews.
- c. Compare appraisals at the Madrid general meeting.
- d. Collate findings with a view to a publication.

3, Prepare a possible EBLM questionnaire with a view to global distribution.

- a. Review the possible questionnaire.
- b. Update and consider how this may be distributed and reviewed.

The committee felt that the distance learning effort so far has not had sufficient resources and commitment to assist C-EBLM in this effort. LL said that funds allocated for e-Academy could be used for this activity of C-EBLM provided the committee works jointly with the Chair of C-DL.

▪ **9.02.09 Clinical Laboratory Management (C-CLM)**

Sedef Yenice	Chair	(TR)	1 st	2014 05-2016 12
Matthias Orth	Member	(DE)	1 st	2015 03-2017 12
Modupe Kuti	Member	(NG)	1 st	2014 04-2016 12
Tjan Sian Hwa	Member	(ID)	1 st	2014 04-2016 12
To be nominated				

The Chair of the committee was very proactive and detailed in her presentation. Key concern was to find a replacement for Rajiv Erasmus who resigned from this committee as he had been appointed as a member of the newly established C-EUBD. SY also raised the issue of how to deal with members who have been totally inactive.

Activities and proposed activities of the committee include:

- To develop a joint C-AQ/C-CLM publication on “Developing Quality Systems in the Clinical Laboratory” aimed at developing countries by the end of 2016.
- To conduct an interactive workshop on “What is the best strategy to achieve compliance with QMS- and QC-requirements in the clinical laboratory?” jointly with C-AQ at the next IFCC General Conference scheduled on 20 March 2016 that will be held in the Hotel Auditorium and consolidate the finding from this workshop
- To update “Terms of Reference” of C-CLM on website.
- To develop Training Module on Leadership at the C-CLM section of IFCC web site.

The EC recommended that non-active members should be asked to leave the committee, as this would affect its overall function and performance evaluation.

▪ **9.02.10 Distance Learning (C-DL)**

Janet Smith	(UK)	Chair	2 nd	2015 01-2017 12
Ronda Greaves	(AU)	Member	2 nd	2015 01-2017 12
Damien Gruson	(BE)	Member	2 nd	2015 01-2017 12
Endang Hoyaranda	(ID)	Member	2 nd	2015 01-2017 12
Loralie Langman	(US)	Member	1 st	2015 01-2017 12

On-going activities of the Committee:

The committee will approve educational material to be made available on or through the IFCC website as well as continue to develop the IFCC curriculum. The committee will continue to develop the e-Academy in collaboration with the Committee on Internet and e-Learning (C-IeL). Focus will also be on the development of the mass spectrometry area of the e-Academy. The EC pointed out that close collaboration would be needed with other EMD committees in the development of e-learning modules.

The EB commended the efforts of this committee.

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

Garry John	(UK)	Chair	1 st	2016 01-2018 12
Emma English	(UK)	Member	1 st	2016 01-2018 12
Rajiv Erasmus	(ZA)	Member	1 st	2016 01-2018 12
David Sacks	(US)	Member	1 st	2016 01-2018 12
Cas Weycamp	(NL)	Member	1 st	2016 01-2018 12

This new committee met for the first time in Madrid on 19 March 2016 to agree on their terms of reference and work plan.

▪ **9.03.08 Laboratory Errors and Patient Safety (WG-LEPS)**

Laura Sciacovelli	(IT)	Chair	1 st	2014 01-2016 12
Mario Plebani	(IT)	Past Chair		

This working group plans to organize a Consensus Conference that aims to approve the Model of Quality Indicators (MQI) to be used in clinical laboratories over the world, and to define the criteria to evaluate the quality indicator data (quality specifications). The Consensus Conference is planned to be held in October 2016. Specific activities will be implemented. It will be analysed in a way to stimulate clinical laboratories to use the MQI.

The EC commended the good work of this working group and recommended that an EC,

member would attend this meeting.

▪ **9.03.09 Cancer Genomics (WG-CG)**

Jason Park	(US)	Chair	1 st	2015 01-2017 12
Paolo Fortina	(US)	Co-Chair		
Eric Londin	(US)	Member		
Peter Clark	(US)	Member		
Stephen Master	(US)	Member		
Allen Chan	(US)	Member		
Michael Neumaier	(DE)	Member		
Evi Lianidou	(GR)	Member		
Parviz Ahmad-Nehad	(DE)	Member		
Tae Hyun Hwang	(US)	Member		
Deborah Payne	(US)	Member		
Thomas Rattei	(AT)	Member		

In its meeting, the Cancer Genomics Working Group (WG-CG) would assess the current technologies, laboratory standards and regulations to develop a framework to guide clinical laboratories performing cancer genomic testing.

The CG-WG aims to prepare a publication on standards and regulations for genomic testing (next-generation sequencing). Recommendations for clinical laboratories performing genomic testing and bioinformatics analysis for oncology will also be included.

The committee will be holding a symposium on Clinical Laboratory Cancer Genomics at the 2016 APFCB Congress in Taiwan

The EC applauded the work plan and also commended the work of the committee.

• **9.03.10 Harmonisation of Interpretive Comments External Quality Assurance (WG-ICQA)**

Sam Vasikaran	(AU)	Chair	1 st	2015 01-2017 12
Mario Plebani	(IT)	Member		
Eric Kilpatrick	(AU)	Member		
Magdalena Turzyniecka	(ZA)	Member		
Tony Badrick	(AU)	Member		
Ken Sikaris	(AU)	Member		
Jacqueline Osypiw	(UK)	Member		
Jane French	(UK)	Member		
Michael Metz	(AU)	Member		
Sharon Markham Geaghan	(US)	Member		

The chair reported that the Working Group (WG) was in the process of developing harmonized goals for EQA of Interpretative Comments (IC). An attempt to devise standard methods of assessment, nomenclature and marking scales for EQA of IC was being done. Input was being sought from similar schemes in other Pathology disciplines such as Histopathology. Discussion was underway on similar lines with RCPA Histopathology EQA group. The WG is working on a publication of a position paper

▪ **9.04.01 IFCC Abbott Visiting Lecturer Program (VLP)**

Elizabeth Frank (IN) Chair

The key concern was that since Abbott stopped funding the program, there was an immediate need to find new funding as the VLP is a flagship activity of the IFCC.. The Chair informed the committee that she has been talking to Dr. Agim from Abbott to consider the funding of the IFCC VLP under an educational grant. The initial talks have been positive and that they were working around the legal requirement. The emphasis was to optimize each VLP by insisting that the speaker gives at least 3 lectures. As had been done previously, workshops are strongly recommended..

ACTION ITEM: EF to liaise with Dr. Agim regarding funding of the VLP program.

▪ **9.04.02 Working Group on Flow Cytometry (WG-FC)**

Ulrich Sack (DE) Chair 2nd 2014 01-2016 12

The working group was active and was to conduct one course in Europe and another one in Latin America both sponsored by Beckman. The webpage was being reviewed and updated. The EC commended that these workshops were consistent and of high quality.

A Flow Cytometry course was held for the first time in South America, in Cordoba, Argentina March 11-13, 2016. Later this year, there will be a course in St Petersburg, Russia.

▪ **9.04.03 Developing Quality Competence in Medical Laboratories (DQCML)**

Michael Thomas (UK) Chair Extended term 2015 01-2016 12

DQCML was to offer an Open Session during the IFCC General Conference to facilitate meeting National Representatives who may wish to seek the support of the Project for Future Quality Systems initiatives. It was suggested that the DQCML works closely with the VLP program. DQCML should engage and assist IFCC Members in the development of Quality Systems in their countries through the delivery of educational lectures, seminars and workshops. The group also wants to ensure that any presentations delivered under the auspices of the DQCML Project

be subsequently made available through appropriate electronic means via the IFCC web site and e-Academy

Specifically DQCML planned

a. To follow-up contact with the President of the Association of Clinical Biochemistry of Sri Lanka and to identify the needs of laboratories in Sri Lanka for accreditation (ISO 15189) and support the organisation and delivery of a 2-day accreditation workshop in 2016.

b. To follow-up contact the President of the Ukrainian Society of Clinical Laboratory Diagnostics to identify the needs of laboratories in Ukraine and formulate a program plan for delivery in 2016.

DQCML will continue to offer support as requested for the EQA Zambia Project being led by Dr Renze Bais, for example, in the provision of logistics and support for an educational seminar in 2016/17.

DQCML will also determine those activities that may be appropriate in supporting the ambitions of Malawi to develop a programme of Quality Competence following an exploratory visit and report by the IFCC Past-President, Graham Beastall in the spring of 2016.

▪ **9.04.04 IFCC Mentoring Programme**

Donald Young (US) Chair 1st 2015 01-2017 12

Prof DY would continue working with existing mentors and associates. The plans are 1) to expand working relationship with CLSI beyond Kenya; 2) to continue efforts to contact Latin American potential mentors and associates who have not followed up and match appropriately mentors and associates from the region who have responded; and 3) to conduct another SurveyMonkey survey of both mentors and associates.

6. EMD input for EB strategic plan

The EB discussed the EB strategic plan and was agreeable to that which was listed

7. EMD strategic plan

The EMD three-year strategic plan had been agreed in Paris, June 2015. Emphasis was placed on committees being proactive as well as increasing the number of IFCC publications.

8. Corresponding Members

None

9. EMD contributions to IFCC eNews

IFCC eNews, Nov - Dec 2015, page 3
IFCC Committee of Analytical Quality (C-AQ) aims and projects
Egon Amann

IFCC eNews, Nov - Dec 2015, page 4
IFCC Committee Clinical Laboratory Management (C-CLM) aims and projects
Sedef Yenice

IFCC eNews, March-April 2016, page 5
The IFCC committee of Evidence Based Laboratory Medicine (C-EBLM)
Chris Florkowski

IFCC eNews, March-April 2016, page 6
Committee on Education in the Use of Biomarkers in Diabetes (C-EUBD)
Garry John

ACTION ITEM: LL will continue to solicit articles from Chairs of Committees, Working Groups and Special Projects. VLP reports may also be published in the IFCC eNews.

10. EMD sessions at IFCC congresses

Taipei, Taiwan, Nov 2017 and Athens EuroMedlab 2017 symposia have been confirmed:

- **APFCB Congress, Taipei, Taiwan, Nov 2016:**

Clinical Cancer Genomics

Chair: Paolo Fortina

Speaker 1: Paolo Fortina
Title: Emerging technologies for Clinical Cancer Genomics

Speaker 2: Massimo Cristofanilli
Title: Therapeutic opportunities in genome-based diagnosis and management of solid tumors

Speaker 3: Jason Park
Title: Standards for cancer genomic clinical laboratories

- **EuroMedLab Congress, Athens, June 2017:**

The Liquid Biopsy approach: following the tumor in peripheral blood

Chair: Evi Lianidou

Speaker 1: Evi Lianidou

Title: The Liquid biopsy approach: following the tumor in peripheral blood (introduction)

Speaker 2: Klaus Pantel

Title: Biology and clinical implications of circulating Tumor cells(CTCs)

Speaker 3: Evi Lianidou

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

Speaker 4: Dave Hoon

Title: Circulating tumor DNA(ctDNA): Detection systems and clinical significance in cancer

Speaker 5: Massimo Cristofanili

Title: Clinical significance of CTC detection and molecular characterization in breast cancer

- **ICCCLM (WorldLab) Congress 2017, Durban, October 2017**

The proposal submitted by the Cancer Genomics Working Group has been submitted to the Congress Organizers: Title:

Implementing Cancer Genomics in Low Resource Settings

Chair: Jason Y. Park

11. Links with other Divisions

Link with the CPD Division chaired by Khosrow Adeli through the e-Academy.

12. Any other business

None

13. Date and location of future meetings

Munich, September 16-17 2016