

EDUCATION & MANAGEMENT DIVISION

9.0 Minutes of the meeting of the EMD Executive Committee

Milan Jan 2015

Unconfirmed



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	1 st	2013 01 – 2015 12
Ana Leticia MASELLI (GT)	Member	1 st	2014 01 – 2016 12
Christoph EBERT – CE (DE)	Corp. Rep.	1 st	2013 01 – 2015 12

Welcome and introductions

MF introduced the new chair LL to the committee and said that he was confident that the committee to do well as LL has been associated with EMD for several years now. LL welcomed the committee members and wished everyone a pleasant stay and fruitful discussions.. He also welcomed Silvia Cardinale into the team and thanked Silvia Colli Lanzi for her excellent assistance to the EMD

1. Notification of other business and finalization of agenda

LL reviewed the agenda. He recommended that all divisions be more active and submit a work plan annually for the next three years. Emphasis was to ensure that the committees were active and would plan purposefully for the next three years and be prompt in sending their reports

ACTION ITEM: SC will send a reminder to those Committee and WG Chairs who did not submit the annual report and work plan.

2. Review of minutes of EMD-EC meeting – Istanbul 2014

The minutes were discussed and approved.

3. Report from Executive Board

The report from the EB in Rome was discussed. The EB had agreed to include a new working group on cancer genomics

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

A detailed report was received

The C-CMBC website was designed and completed where general Information about the Course can be found:<http://www.ifcc.org/ifcc-education-division/emd-committees/c-cmbc/>

The committee published a 10 years' experience of the course: Lianidou et al, Advancing the education in molecular diagnostics: The IFCC-Initiative "Clinical Molecular Biology Curriculum" (C-CMBC); A ten year experience., Clin.Chim. Acta, 2014, Sep 25; 436:5-8.

The 6th Course on "MOLECULAR DIAGNOSTICS FOR BEGINNERS" was organized and held on 14th – 19th of December 2014, in Manila, The Philippines and January 9th, 2015 in Athens, Greece.

ACTION : Create an advanced course in accordance to the committee's goal.

▪ 9.02.05 Analytical Quality (C-AQ)

Egon Amann	(DE)	Chair	2 nd	2014 01-2016 12
David Grenache	(US)	Member	1 st	2013 08-2015 12
Graciela Velazquez	(PY)	Member	2 nd	2015 01-2017 12
Annette Thomas,	(UK)	Member	1 st	2014 01- 2016 12
Alexander Haliassos,	(GR)	Member	1 st	2014 01- 2016 12

Directory of services has been set up. The Directory of EQA services will be published on the C-AQ web site and will be a resource in providing help, guidance and contacts when setting up EQA schemes by any interested party. Expected publication date of the EQA Directory is January/February 2015.

Annette Thomas provided two new documents: 1) "Procedure for the Planning of a new EQA Scheme"; and, 2) "Pilot Design" (a planning template). Annette has still to confirm permission for C-AQ website utilization. Once provided, both documents shall be placed on the C-AQ website.

The Powerpoint presentation "Principles of EQA" is currently being worked on and discussions with C-DL about recording the presentation will begin as soon as it is ready.

Potential future projects:

1. Consider to develop a "How to do" guidance paper on ISO 15189.
2. Consider developing a guidance paper on method validation.
3. "Basic eLearning tool on laboratory quality management" document useful for C-DL?
4. Develop a Powerpoint presentation on "Principles of IQC".

ACTION – LL will contact Egon to provide a formal focused program for the next 6 months, He will also ask for a time frame to complete the listed activity and when a Report on proposed action would be received

▪ 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 C-EBLM conducted a committee meeting in Istanbul, Turkey on Tuesday June 24 from 08.30 to 12.30. At the meeting, the attendees discussed several ideas dealing with the topic of how to disseminate EBLM information more broadly and effectively. The committee has been working toward initiating a distance learning program through the IFCC. The curriculum for this activity has been developed and consists of lectures on aspects of EBLM, modeled after the successful C-EBLM workshops. These sessions also include problem sets, with answers. This effort was initiated after the Croatia workshop that was conducted by the C-EBLM several years ago. Although the evaluations rated the workshop were excellent, such workshops tend to be quite expensive and, most importantly, reach a relatively small and select audience. However, the distance learning effort has not had sufficient resources to assist C-EBLM in this effort. Another idea was to publish articles in the IFCC newsletter. This was discussed at some length by the committee. It was decided that the committee would continue discussions of this topic by email. It was decided that dissemination would be the major topic at the next C-EBLM meeting (to be held at the Paris EuroMedLab Conference)

IFCC's Committee-Evidence Based Laboratory Medicine Symposium

EVIDENCE=BASED LABORATORY MEDICINE IN DECISION MAKING: A VALUE-BASED BUSINESS PERSPECTIVE

Moderator: R. Christenson (USA), Chair EBLM Committee

How Industry Should Utilize Evidence-based Laboratory Medicine

C. Price (United Kingdom)

Developing Evidence-based Business Case in Laboratory Medicine: Test-based Examples of Evidence based Effectiveness

D. Aslan (Turkey)

Should we License this Test? Use of Evidence-based Laboratory Medicine Techniques

R. Christenson (USA)

SELECTED TOPICS IN LABORATORY MEDICINE: QUID NOVI, QUO VADIS

Prof. Christenson organized the following American Association for Clinical Chemistry (AACC) Symposium. His talk at the Symposium was presented on behalf of the C-EBLM

Chair: R.H. Christenson (USA)

The Laboratory Medicine Best Practices Program: An Evidence-based Approach to Laboratory Medicine

R.H. Christenson (USA)

Cardiac Troponin I Standardization: Current Status, Future Promise

D. Bunk (USA)

Toward Patient-centered Healthcare: Improving Public Knowledge Of Laboratory Medicine

D.R. Dufour (USA)

International Harmonization Consortium: Current Status, Future Promise

G. Miller (USA)

CLINICAL LABORATORY'S ROLE IN DECISION MAKING: RISK ASSESSMENT AND INTERPRETATION OF LABORATORY TEST

Chair: C. M. Florkowski (New Zealand)

Troponins, Accelerated Diagnostic Pathways and Clinical Decision Making

C. M. Florkowski (New Zealand)

Applications of Cardiac Natriuretic Peptide Measurements in the Clinical Management of Heart Failure

A. M. Richards (New Zealand)

Genomic Prediction and Risk Stratification for Common Diseases

J. B. Whitfield (Australia)

ACTION ITEM

LL will discuss with the chair regarding proposed future activity. The activity of this committee should be translated into publications.

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

Sedef Yenice	Chair	(TR)	1 st	2014 05-2016 12
Rajiv Erasmus	Member	(ZA)	2 nd	2014 01-2016 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 01-2016 12

The report was received but was not in the required format. A lot of activity was listed however the EC felt that focus was needed in planning the programs to achieve sizeable impact. It was also decided that the monographs that were suggested should not be a repeat of the earlier monographs or reformatted documents that are already available. It was also pointed out that although the committee had said that they would do a workshop in Harahare, Zimbabwe in April 2015, no proper planning had been done. There were multiple requests for speakers for the same conference and no clarity regarding the CCLM workshop. EF was asked to send a mail regarding this matter. However, no response was received to date from Sedef.

ACTION ITEM: LL will write to the chair to have a focused approach in planning and implementaion

▪ **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

Lorelie Langman was added to the committee and will attend the meeting in Paris in June

- Janet Smith had no information on progress made in obtaining permissions of speakers at the APFCB Congress (2013) symposium on reference ranges to put their presentations onto the IFCC website. She would welcome an update from IFCC Office.
- PV and JS maintain contact with Rick Import of Whitehat Communications, who works with diagnostic companies in the preparation of distance learning materials. We anticipate further contact about specific topic areas as the e-academy is developed.
- RG continues to be involved in the Vietnam Chemical Pathology courses for which we have permission to publish content on the website.
- RG is continuing to develop the mass spectrometry area of the e-academy and has undertaken a gap analysis with a view to seeking collaborators from industry and academia to develop educational material to fill the identified 'gaps'.
- The e-academy continues to be developed led primarily by PV and JS, in conjunction with Insoft, the company which has developed the IFCC website. It is envisaged that there will be a staged launch. Hopefully, the first stage will be launched around the time of Euromedlab Congress in Paris.
- JS continues to develop the IFCC curriculum, on which the e-academy will be based. Offers for assistance with specific specialist areas, such as Immunology have been received from experts in their fields, for which we are grateful.
- The C-DL and C-leL are presenting an IFCC symposium at Euromedlab in Paris. The session will provide an update on progress in the development of the e-academy. JS will speak on the development of the curriculum and RG on the development of the mass spectrometry component.
- The C-DL is awaiting further information from the EB about the Pathskool initiative of Ortho Clinical Diagnostics, which is sanctioned by IFCC. We have had no information in recent months.

The EB commended the continuous efforts of this committee

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

Laura Sciacovelli	(IT)	Chair	1 st	2014 01-2015 12
Mario Plebani	(IT)	Past Chair		

The committee has been active

A specific website (www-ifcc-mqi.com) has been developed to make available to laboratorians a handy tool to input data, view reports with results post processing, find reference documents concerning the specific topic, communicate with the chair and other members of the WG. The access to the reserved area of website is guaranteed through the assignment of a personal and confidential username and password that can be required linked to the website. A data entry screen has been designed on the website and the web-entering results are automatically stored in a corresponding database table. For each indicator, in relation to scheduled time, the data are required in a clear, unequivocal and uncluttered way to make it easy for the user to enter data. Moreover, operative instructions describing all steps to follow are provided to participating laboratories

ACTION ITEM:

▪ 9.03.09 Cancer Genomics (WG-CG)

Jason Park	(US)	Chair	1 st	2015 01-2017 12
Paolo Fortina	(US)	Co-Chair	1 st	2015 01-2017 12
Eric Londin	(US)	Member	1 st	2015 01-2017 12
Peter Clark	(US)	Member	1 st	2015 01-2017 12
Stephen Master	(US)	Member	1 st	2015 01-2017 12

Allen Chan	(US)	Member	1 st	2015 01-2017 12
Michael Neumaier	(DE)	Member	1 st	2015 01-2017 12
Evi Lianidou	(GR)	Member	1 st	2015 01-2017 12

AIMS OF PROJECT

Novel genomic methods are being used, or proposed for near-term use, in clinical laboratories for oncology

Laboratory guidelines specific to genomic testing are heterogeneous amongst countries and professional societies

Genomic lab methods are becoming common place in oncology

OBJECTIVES

Survey the currently used and emerging technologies in oncology genomics

Survey current standards and guidelines in quality assurance and regulation of clinical genomic laboratories

Establish a framework to guide clinical laboratories in implementing genomics in oncology

BACKGROUND OF PROBLEM

Inherited cancer syndrome next-generation sequencing panels (NGS)

Targeted mutational analysis by NGS to guide oncologic therapy

Circulating tumor cells and cell-free DNA oncologic biomarkers

PROPOSED PLAN OF ACTION

Year 1: Assemble comprehensive surveys of (i) technologies and (ii) standards/regulations

Year 2: Create a framework to guide clinical laboratories in genomic test implementation

Year 3: Publish and present framework to stakeholders

It was decided that the Cancer Genomics working group will provide a symposium for the APFCB congress in Taiwan in 2016

ACTION ITEM: Paolo Fortina and Jason Park to send a preliminary program for this symposium

▪ 9.04.01 IFCC Abbott Visiting Lecturer Program (VLP)

Analysis and discussion on the already approved VLPs was done by the committee. The real support offered by the VLP to the hosting country remains the real asset of the programme. A wider communication on these programmes could widen its audience. The single Evaluation Questionnaire for Participants must be compiled by the National Representative of the hosting society which some societies have not been doing. The funding aspect remains one of the issues, also because the Abbott support has to be re-negotiated by Graham Beastall and the Abbott Representative, Dr Norm Wald.

The Mentoring Programme that is being finalized by Prof. D. Young was also discussed.

ACTION ITEM: VLP information to post on the website together with the reports received from the society as well as the speakers. SC to send communication to the societies stating that the evaluation questionnaire should be compiled and sent and not the response from the participants. SC to follow up to ensure that the reports of the the VLPs are published in the IFCC news

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

Ulrich Sack	(DE)	Chair	2 nd	2014 01-2016 12
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Flow cytometry working group focuses on promoting recent developments in clinical flow cytometry. This is done in co-operation with national scientific organizations and by organizing courses. The scientific organizer is Ulrich Sack, supported by local scientists.

The third course was locally organized by Andreas Spittler (Vienna, A). From April 24-26 2014, 40 participants could attend the meeting in Vienna, Austria. Program focused on regulatory T cells and microparticles. Edward Geissler (Regensburg, D), Birgit Sawitzki (Berlin, D), and Matthias Streitz (Berlin, D) presented the ONE Study Concept of monitoring Cell Therapy. Gerald Webersinke (Linz, A) introduced the participants to the challenges of WHO classification today and tomorrow and how far more genes means more entities. Philippe Poncelet (Marseille, F) explained definition and clinical impact of measuring biological microparticles. Gertraud Tschurtschenthaler (Linz, A) gave a presentation and practical exercises in flow cytometric assessment of myelodysplastic syndromes. Andreas Spittler (Vienna, A) taught correct sorting of microparticles. Marie Christine Bene (Nantes, F) explained approaches for the harmonization in flow cytometry for hematological malignancies, and Philippe Poncelet (Marseille, F) introduced the standardization of cellular microparticle enumeration by flow cytometry. Next, Andreas Spittler (Vienna, A) and Mathias Streitz (Berlin, D) sorted Tregs at high speed. Michael Kapinsky (Krefeld, D: 7 rules applied to ONE: panel design for the ONE study) and Massimo Geuna (Turin, I) and Frank Preijers (Nijmegen, NL: The orientation tube: standardized or harmonized) gave a comprehensive overview in quality assurance in flow cytometry. Participants enjoyed the closed contact with experienced flow cytometrists and the intense hands-on training.

In 2015, it has been planned to offer this course again. The established principle will be continued:

- intense interaction between participants and trainers;
- 3 topics a day with short introduction and extensive practical exercises;
- 3 day duration;
- personalized information folders with all presentations and material for practice at home;
- emerging and relevant scientific topics with clinical impact for daily practice.

Additionally, the working group is preparing organization of international flow cytometry courses outside Europe. Contacts with colleagues from Rio de Janeiro (BR), and Sao Paulo (BR), and Cordoba (ARG) ended up with the option of a first Latin American Course 2015. Planning of courses for Asia will be intensified.

ACTION ITEM: SC will contact US for 2015 detailed WG's program.

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

Michael Thomas (UK) Chair 2nd 2012 01-2014 12

List 2014 accomplishments for this Term of Reference

- A meeting of the DQCML Project Board was held during WorldLab 2014 in Istanbul on 23rd June 2014.
- A Drop In Session was held during WorldLab 2014 in Istanbul and was attended by approximately twenty National Members and their representatives to discuss possible opportunities for support of Quality Initiatives under the auspices of the DQCML Project.
- A Powerpoint Presentation has been developed by IFCC President, Graham Beastall and DQCML Chair, Michael Thomas, which considers how DQCML and EMD may align with WHO-Afro stepwise approach to laboratory accreditation.
- As part of the 8th Conference of the Romanian Association of Medical Laboratories in Sibiu, Romania in May 2014, the DQCML sponsored two lectures given by Janet Smith on:
 - Clinical Governance And Its Relevance To Accreditation And ISO15189
 - Laboratory Errors And Patient Safety
- At the request of the Sociedad Ecuatoriana de Bioquímica Clínica (SEBIOCLI), DQCML has supported the delivery of a two-day Quality Workshop in Spanish in Guayaquil, Ecuador in November 2014. The course was delivered by Juan Antonio Rodriguez-Camacho

List planned activities in 2015 for this Term of Reference

- At the request of the Sociedad Ecuatoriana de Bioquímica Clínica (SEBIOCLI), a repeat two-day Quality Workshop is to be held in Quito, Ecuador in February 2015. This will be the second of two workshops delivered in Spanish.
- Collaborative work continues to be being undertaken on distance education by engaging with initiatives such as the eAcademy with both C-DL (Janet Smith), and C-IeL (Peter Vervaart). All local organisers of programs delivered under the auspices of DQCML are now requested to provide some form of electronic record that can be used in distance education.
- Requests for assistance by the following National Societies will be pursued during 2015 following previous expressions of interest:
 - Association for Clinical Biochemistry Sri-Lanka
 - Clinical Chemists Association of Kenya
 - Ukrainian Society of Clinical Laboratory Diagnostics
- Whilst having no formal responsibility for sub-Saharan activities, DQCML will also continue to provide support where requested to the following:
 - A Mentoring Programme under the direction of IFCC Past President, Donald Young
 - The EQA Project established in Zambia under the direction of Dr. Renze Bais.
 - Logistics and support for an educational seminar to be scheduled for 2015This project still has considerable overlap and is still being discussed regarding overlapping projects.

ACTION ITEM: LL will contact MT for more clarity of the working of this committee to avoid overlaps and duplication of activity

6. EMD strategic plan

A three-year strategic plan was prepared by the EMD-EC. This strategic plan will be discussed with the Chairs of Committees, Working Groups and Special Projects before finalising the three-year strategic plan.

ACTION ITEM: MF will contact GB to evaluate the possibility of a partnership with Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation for an education program on the Laboratory Medicine field in Africa.

7. Corresponding members

None.

8. EMD contributions to IFCC News

The EMD-EC focused the attention on the need to improve the publication of reports in the IFCC e-news. EF suggested that every C/WG chair will be invited to send a short article outlining the activities and the results for his/her WG/C for publication of the IFCC eNewsletter.

ACTION ITEM: LL will contact Committee/WG Chairs to expedite the submission of activity reports for publication in the IFCC e-news.

9. EMD sessions at IFCC congresses

EuroMedLab 2015, Paris – Symposium organised by the C-DL

The newly formed working group on cancer genomics has been asked to propose a workshop for the APFCB congress in Taipei in 2016.

10. Links with other Divisions

EF will be available to act as the EMD-liaison to the Task Force on CKD

LL will act as EMD-liaison to the Task Force on Implementation of HbA1c Standardisation

11. Any other business

None

12. Date and location of future meetings

- 20th - 21st June 2015, in Paris, on occasion of the IFCC EuroMedLab