CRITICAL ROLE OF CLINICAL LABORATORIES IN THE COVID-19 PANDEMIC

IFCC GLOBAL CONFERENCE ON COVID-19
(FINAL PROGRAMME)

FEBRUARY 15–17, 2021

TIME SCHEDULE: PROGRAMME WILL START AT 08.00 AM, US EASTERN STANDARD TIME / NEW YORK (CORRESPONDING TO: 14.00 ROME; 21.00 BEIJING)

All sessions will be recorded and fully available for registered participants.
It is my great pleasure to present this welcoming message to all attendees, speakers, and industry sponsors of the IFCC Global Conference on COVID-19. This virtual conference will bring leading experts around the world together to present the latest advances in COVID-19 diagnostics and therapeutics. The theme of this conference will be the Critical Role of Clinical Laboratories in the COVID-19 Pandemic. It will be a truly international event with presentations from all regions across the globe.

At the beginning of the pandemic, the IFCC established a Taskforce on COVID-19 to provide updates on epidemiology, pathogenesis, and diagnostics of COVID-19, as well as to develop practical recommendations for diagnostic testing and patient monitoring. Since establishment, the Taskforce has maintained an online Information Guide on COVID-19, which can be found on the IFCC website. This guide is updated biweekly, presenting the latest evidence on COVID-19. The Taskforce has now also published interim guidelines in the November 2020 issue of Clin Chem Lab Med to provide practical recommendations on the intended use, selection, evaluation, and implementation of laboratory tests used in the diagnosis of SARS-CoV-2 infection and monitoring of COVID-19 patients.

There is no doubt that the current pandemic has highlighted the critical role of clinical laboratory medicine, which until now has not been widely recognized within healthcare organizations or by the public. Clinical laboratory professionals continue to play a vital role in the diagnosis of SARS-CoV-2 infection, serological monitoring of individuals with past SARS-CoV-2 infection, and biochemical monitoring of hospitalized patients with COVID-19. Scientists, other medical professionals, industry leaders, and public health authorities have also been working diligently to understand, diagnose, treat, and prevent COVID-19, providing invaluable information and service.

Now, the IFCC feels it is more crucial than ever to virtually bring us all together on a global platform to present the most up to date evidence in the field of COVID-19, with a specific focus on innovations in diagnostics and laboratory management of hospitalized patients. This conference also provides the opportunity for us all to work towards a more collaborative clinical care model in diagnosing and treating COVID-19. Specifically, you will have access to:

- Plenary sessions delivered by leading scientists, physicians, and public health authorities.
- Ten scientific symposia, covering physiology, diagnostics, therapeutics, and technology
- Special presentations on the global response to COVID-19 in Africa, Asia-Pacific, Europe, Latin America, Arab Federation, and North America
- An industry panel with presentations from industry leaders on the latest IVD innovations
- Twelve educational industry workshops
- A young investigator forum with presentations from young scientists worldwide
- Scientific e-posters and virtual industry exhibits

I look forward to seeing many of you (virtually!) at this important and timely scientific event in February.

Professor Khosrow Adeli
IFCC President
CONFERENCE ORGANIZING COMMITTEE

Khosrow Adeli, Canada (Chair)
Sergio Bernardini, Italy
Andrea Horvath, Australia
David Koch, USA
Giuseppe Lippi, Italy
Tomris Ozben, Turkey
Cheng-Bin Wang, China

Regional Federation Representatives:
Rosa Sierra-Amor, Latin America
Ana-Maria Simundic, Europe
Ann Gronowski, North America
Rajiv Erasmus, Africa
Sunil Kumar Sethi, Asia-Pacific
Osama Najjar, Arab Federation

Corporate Representatives:
Rolf Hinzmann, Roche Diagnostics
Patricia Ravalico, Abbott Diagnostics

Conference Organizing Secretariat (MZ Congressi):
Stefano Montalbetti, Italy

SCIENTIFIC SESSION CHAIRS

Adeli, Khosrow
Bernardini, Sergio
Erasmus, Rajiv
Fares Taie, Santiago
Gouget, Bernard
Gronowski, Ann
Hedhili, Abderrazek
Horvath, Andrea
Lavie, Carl J.
Lippi, Giuseppe
Najjar, Osama
Passarelli, Joseph
Ravalico, Patricia
Sethi, Sunhil Kumar
Sierra-Amor, Rosa
Simundic, Ana-Maria
SCIENTIFIC SESSION SPEAKERS

Agravatt, Ashish
Aspinall, Mara
Ben Moussa, Mohamed
Bin, Cao
Blake, William
Bohn, Mary Kathryn
Bossuyt, Patrick
Buño Soto, Antonio
Christophersen Tollånes, Mette
Ciccozzi, Massimo
Deeks, Jon
Di Natale, Corrado
Dinnes, Jac
Doust, Jenny
Erasmus, Rajiv
Farnsworth, Chris
Fattah, Miswar
Favaloro, Emmanuel J.
Freeman, Jim
García Fabiani, María Belén
Germanos, Myrna
Goldbaum, Fernando
Greaves, Ronda
Gruson, Damien
Hackett, John R.
Harenberg, Job
Henry, Brandon M.
Hope, Tom
Jester, Barbara
Krogan, Nevan
Lang, Tim
Lavie, Carl J.
Lippi, Giuseppe
Lundberg, Patric
Matthews, Susan
Mattuzzi, Camilla
Mehiri, Emna
Menezes, Maria-Elizabeth
Mitra, Prasenjit
Montagnana, Martina
Mwangala, Situmbeko
Myles, Jonathan
Najjar, Osama
Ndlovu, Ngobile
Neumaier, Michael
Nichols, James
Njau, Allan
Perrone, Marco
Pillay, Tahir
Pinsky, Benjamin
Plebani, Mario
Polevиков, Sergei
Ramge, Peter
Rampul, Ashlin
Remes-Lenicov, Federico
Russomando, Graciela
Sanchis-Gomar, Fabian
Sandberg, Sverre
Satchkov, Daniel
Schulman, Sam
Serdar, Muhittin
Sibtain, Ahmed
Steyn, Nicole
Tapia, Cecilia
Tikhonov, Aleksei
Valpassos Guimarães, André
Wenjie, Tan
Zemlin, Annalise
Zhang, Victoria
INDUSTRY WORKSHOP CHAIRS

Adeli, Khosrow
Galli, Claudio
Holden, Jeannine

Simon, Christian O.
Soreng, Katherine

INDUSTRY WORKSHOP SPEAKERS

Allibardi, Sonia
Bernardini, Sergio
Bonanni, Paolo
Buñó Soto, Antonio
Chambers, Christopher
Chiu, Charles
Dimech, Wayne
Furtado, Manohar R.
Gouvêa, Carlos Eduardo
Januzzi, James
John, Garry
Kamen, Ali
Ledeboer, Nathan
Lewis, Ian
Li, Lily

Lindner, Nigel
Lütgehetmann, Marc
Mendez Machado, Gustavo Francisco
Möckel, Martin
Neath, Sean
Peeling, Rosanna
Plebani, Mario
Regueiro García, Benito José
Roush, Karen
Sabino, Ester
Tabb, Michelle
Tamimi, Waleed
Vance, Dwaine
Vincini, Joe
Yik-Ying, Teo
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Room 1</th>
<th>Room 2</th>
<th>Poster Area</th>
<th>Exhibition Area</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>08.00 - 09.30</td>
<td><strong>OPENING AND PLENARY SESSION</strong>&lt;br&gt;Critical Role of Laboratory Medicine in Public Health</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>09.45 - 11.45</td>
<td><strong>SYM1</strong>&lt;br&gt;Pathophysiology of COVID-19</td>
<td><strong>SYM2</strong>&lt;br&gt;Emerging Tools in Fighting COVID-19</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12.00 - 13.00</td>
<td><strong>DIASORIN EduW 1</strong>&lt;br&gt;Diagnostic approaches to manage the COVID-19 emergency</td>
<td><strong>SNIBE EduW 2</strong>&lt;br&gt;Diagnostic testing for COVID-19: not only molecular</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>13.15 - 15.15</td>
<td><strong>SYM3</strong>&lt;br&gt;Global Response to COVID-19 Pandemic (Europe)</td>
<td><strong>SYM4</strong>&lt;br&gt;Global Response to COVID-19 Pandemic (Africa)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>15.30 - 16.30</td>
<td><strong>MINDRAY EduW 3</strong>&lt;br&gt;COVID-19 Serology: Opportunities and Pitfalls</td>
<td><strong>THERMO FISHER EduW 4</strong>&lt;br&gt;Laboratory diagnostics tools aiding in Antibiotic Stewardship programs</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>16.45 - 17.45</td>
<td><strong>ABBOTT EduW 5</strong>&lt;br&gt;SARS-CoV-2 serology coming of age</td>
<td><strong>ROCHE EduW 6</strong>&lt;br&gt;Challenges and Strategies to Optimize COVID-19 Testing – Selecting the Right Test at the Right Time</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Time</td>
<td>Room 1</td>
<td>Room 2</td>
<td>Poster Area</td>
<td>Exhibition Area</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>--------------</td>
<td>--------------------------------</td>
<td>--------------------------------</td>
<td>-------------</td>
<td>-----------------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>08.00 - 09.15</td>
<td><strong>PLenary Session</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Cardio-renal Involvement in COVID-19</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>09.30 - 12.00</td>
<td><strong>Industry Panel</strong></td>
<td><strong>Young Scientist Forum</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Technological Innovations for Today and Tomorrow</td>
<td>Oral Presentations by Young Scientists from Around the World</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12.15 - 14.15</td>
<td><strong>SYM5</strong></td>
<td><strong>SYM6</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Global Response to COVID-19 Pandemic (Latin America)</td>
<td>Global Response to COVID-19 Pandemic (North America)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>14.30 - 15.30</td>
<td><strong>SNIBE EduW 9</strong></td>
<td><strong>THERMO FISHER EduW 10</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Laboratory inflammatory markers in the diagnosis and prognosis of COVID-19 patients</td>
<td>Molecular Testing, Strain Identification and Quality Control Strategies for COVID-19 Testing</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>15.45 - 16.45</td>
<td><strong>ABBOTT EduW 11</strong></td>
<td><strong>TECHNOPATH EduW 12</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>New Perspectives: SARS-CoV-2 molecular epidemiology &amp; immunity</td>
<td>Quality Control of Qualitative Testing of SARS-CoV-2 in Clinical Laboratories</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Time</td>
<td>Room 1</td>
<td>Room 2</td>
<td>Poster Area</td>
<td>Exhibition Area</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>-----------</td>
<td>------------------------------------------</td>
<td>-------------------------------------------</td>
<td>--------------</td>
<td>-----------------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>08.00 - 09.30</td>
<td><strong>PLENARY SESSION</strong>&lt;br&gt;Clinical Evaluation of Tests for SARS-CoV-2 Infection</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>ePosters Open</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>09.45 - 11.45</td>
<td><strong>SYM7</strong>&lt;br&gt;Global Response to COVID-19 Pandemic (Asia-Pacific)</td>
<td><strong>SYM8</strong>&lt;br&gt;Global Response to COVID-19 Pandemic (Middle East/Arab Federation)</td>
<td>ePosters Open</td>
<td>eExhibits Open</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12.00 - 14.00</td>
<td><strong>SYM9</strong>&lt;br&gt;Hemostasis and COVID-19</td>
<td><strong>SYM10</strong>&lt;br&gt;Emerging Technologies in Fighting COVID-19</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>15.30 - 16.30</td>
<td><strong>LUMIRADX EduW 15</strong>&lt;br&gt;The LumiraDx Platform – meeting the needs for COVID POC Testing</td>
<td><strong>RANDOX EduW 16</strong>&lt;br&gt;SARS-CoV-2 – The Full Diagnostic Circle</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>16.30 - 17.00</td>
<td><strong>CLOSING</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
SCIENTIFIC PROGRAMME

MONDAY 15 FEBRUARY (EASTERN STANDARD TIME/NEW YORK)

8:00–9:30
OPENING & PLENARY SESSION
Critical Role of Laboratory Medicine in Public Health
IFCC President & Executive Board
IFCC Taskforce on COVID-19
Barbara Jester, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, Atlanta, Georgia, USA – Spanish Flu Pandemic: a Lesson in History (15 min)
Jonathan Myles, College of American Pathologists, Cleveland, Ohio, USA – Importance of the Laboratory during a Pandemic: Critical Role in Response to COVID-19 (15 min)
Mario Plebani, Padova, Italy – Laboratory Medicine in the COVID-19 era: lessons for the future (15 min)
Brandon M. Henry, Cincinnati, Ohio, USA / Mara Aspinall, Phoenix, Arizona, USA – The Global State of SARS-COV-2 Diagnostic Testing: an update from the COVID-19 Diagnostic Commons (15 min)
Break (15 min)

9:45–11:45 ROOM 1
Symposium 1: Pathophysiology of COVID-19
Chair: Khosrow Adeli, Canada
• Giuseppe Lippi, Verona, Italy
  Pathophysiology of COVID-19 (30 min)
• Camilla Mattiuzzi, Trento, Italy
  Demographical, environmental and social predictors (30 min)
• Martina Montagnana, Verona, Italy
  Clinical risk factors for severe COVID-19 illness (30 min)
• Q&A (30 min)

9:45–11:45 ROOM 2
Symposium 2: Emerging Tools in Fighting COVID-19
Chair: Bernard Gouget, France
• William Blake, Boston, USA
  CRISPR and synthetic biology-based solutions applied to COVID-19 diagnosis (20 min)
• Corrado Di Natale, Rome, Italy
  Sensor arrays for the detection of volatolomic signature of COVID-19 (20 min)
• Sergei Poleviovk / Daniel Satchkov, Sheridan, USA
  Comprehending Hundreds of Thousands of COVID-19 Studies using Mathematical Models of Language and AI (20 min)
• Tom Hope, Seattle, USA
  Accelerating scientific search and exploration by mining and visualizing COVID-19 literature (20 min)
• Damien Gruson, Brussels, Belgium
  Data integration for prevention and risk estimation of Covid-19 (20 min)
• Q&A (20 min)
Break (15 min)
12:00 – 13:00 ROOM 1 EDUW 1 – DIASORIN
Diagnostic approaches to manage the COVID-19 emergency

- Sonia Allibardi, Brescia, Italy
  LIAISON® immunology panel to fight COVID-19 Pandemic (10 min)
- Benito José Regueiro García, Vigo, Spain
  Impactful diagnostic solutions in managing COVID-19 suspected individuals: the experience of Hospital Álvaro Cunqueiro, Vigo, Spain (20 min)
- Michelle Tabb, Santa Ana, USA
  Overview of the Simplexa COVID-19 Direct molecular assay (30 min)

Break (15 min)

13:15 – 15:15 ROOM 1
Symposium 3: Global Response to COVID-19 Pandemic (Europe)
Chair: Ana-Maria Simundic, Croatia

- Antonio Buño Soto, Madrid, Spain
  Experience of the organization of laboratory medicine in Madrid’s IFEMA field hospital during the first wave of the pandemic (20 min)
- Sverre Sandberg, Bergen, Norway
  How the government and the national quality improvement organisation of laboratory examinations (Noklus) cooperate in the pandemic (20 min)
- Muhittin Serdar, Istanbul, Turkey
  COVID-19 challenges and laboratory perspective from Turkey: Limitations and competences (20 min)
- Tim Lang, Darlington, UK
  The effect of COVID on presentations of common paediatric diseases (20 min)
- Q&A (20 min)

Break (15 min)

12:00 – 13:00 ROOM 2 EDUW 2 – SNIBE
Diagnostic testing for COVID-19: not only molecular

- Mario Plebani, Padova, Italy
  Full Professor of Clinical Chemistry and Clinical Molecular Biology
  Dean of Medicine and Surgery School, University of Padova
  Director of Department of Laboratory Medicine, University Hospital of Padova
  Director of Biomedical Research Center, Veneto Region, Italy
  Adjunct Professor, University of Texas, Texas, USA
  Honorary Professor, University of Buenos Aires
  Editor in Chief of Journal CCLM and Diagnosis (Dx)

13:15 – 15:15 ROOM 2
Symposium 4: Global Response to COVID-19 Pandemic (Africa)
Chair: Rajiv Erasmus, South Africa

- Annalise Zemlin, Cape Town, South Africa
  Biochemical changes in COVID-19: Experience from Africa (20 min)
- Tahir Pillay, Durban, South Africa
  The promise of single domain antibodies (nanobodies) in COVID-19: Applications in diagnosis and therapy (20 min)
- Rajiv Erasmus, Cape Town, South Africa
  Unfolding the reasons and the theories for COVID-19 being less deadly in Africa (20 min)
- Ngobile Ndlovu, Zimbabwe
  COVID-19 diagnostic response: The Africa experience (15 min)
- Situmbeko Mwangala, Zambia
  Investigation of Severe Acute Respiratory Syndrome Coronavirus 2 (SARS-CoV-2) Infections among Health Care Workers- Lusaka District, Zambia, April – June 2020 (15 min)
- Allan Njau, Kenya
  Quality management for SARS-CoV-2 testing: Key indicators for starting small and medium size molecular laboratories in Kenya (15 min)
- Q&A (15 min)
15:30-16:30 ROOM 1 EDUW3
MINDRAY
COVID-19 Serology: Opportunities and Pitfalls

• Sergio Bernardini, Italy
  President EMT IFCC

Break (15 min)

15:30-16:30 ROOM 2 EDUW 4
THERMO FISHER
Laboratory diagnostics tools aiding in Antibiotic Stewardship programs

• Ian Lewis, Calgary, Canada
  Harnessing High Resolution Mass Spectrometry as a Rapid Diagnostic Tool for Characterizing Infectious Diseases
• Sean Neath, San Diego, USA
  How to overcome antibiotic overuse in COVID-19 patients? Antibiotic stewardship programs with PCT.

16.45-17.45 ROOM 1 EDUW5 – ABBOTT
SARS-CoV-2 serology coming of age
Chair: Jeannine Holden, USA
Divisional Vice President, Diagnostics Medical Affairs, Abbott

• Ester Sabino, Sao Paulo, Brazil
  - Looking back on the development of the SARS epidemic
  - Understanding seroprevalence in 8 cities using blood donation data
  - Exploring national viral diversity

• Garry John, Norwich, UK
  - Exploration of COVID-19 in across diabetics, healthcare workers and other cohorts
  - Assessing quantitative immune response

Break (15 min)

16.45-17.45 ROOM 2 EDUW 6 – ROCHE
Challenges and Strategies to Optimize COVID-19 Testing – Selecting the Right Test at the Right Time

• Christian O. Simon, San Francisco, USA
  Introduction (5 min)
• Marc Lütgethnatmann, Hamburg, Germany
  Current Challenges for Laboratories to Cope with increased Testing Demand for SARS-CoV-2 – A Real World Perspective (20 min)
• Martin Möckel, Berlin, Germany
  COVID-19 Testing Strategies in the Emergency Department (20 min)
• Christian O. Simon, San Francisco, USA
  Moderated Q&A and discussion (15 min)

- Rosanna Peeling, London, UK
  - Policy and decision-making for COVID-19 testing: a proposed framework (10 min)
- Yik-Ying Teo, Singapore
  - Learning the lessons from COVID-19 testing strategies in Singapore: sharing best practice (10 min)
- Carlos Eduardo Gouvêa, Sao Paulo, Brazil
  - Bringing COVID-19 diagnostics to Brazil: a model for expedited decision making (10 min)
- Rosanna Peeling, London, UK
  - Panel Discussion
  - Preparing for the future: COVID-19 testing in 2021 (25 min)

Summary and close (5 min)

Using cardiovascular biomarkers to inform COVID-19 treatment

- James Januzzi, Boston, USA
- Gustavo Francisco Mendez Machado, Xalapa, Mexico
  - Examine the causes of cardiac injury in COVID-19 and identify biomarkers with potential utility
  - Develop a strategy to utilize cardiovascular biomarkers to facilitate clinical care in COVID-19
  - Explain the utility of cardiovascular biomarkers in a COVID-19 algorithm and discuss the improvements in patient care
8:00–9:15
PLENARY SESSION
Cardio-renal Involvement in COVID-19
Chair: Carl J. Lavie, USA
Carl J. Lavie, New Orleans, USA
Pathophysiology of cardio-renal involvement in COVID-19 (25 min)
Brandon M. Henry, Cincinnati, USA
The renin-angiotensin system in COVID-19 (25 min)
Fabian Sanchis-Gomar, Valencia, Spain
Cardiac biomarkers in COVID-19 (25 min)
Panel discussion (15 min)

Break (15 min)

9:30–12:00 ROOM 1
COVID-19 Industry Panel: Technological Innovations for Today and Tomorrow
Co-Chairs:
• Patricia Ravalico, Abbott
  Director, Scientific Leadership and Education, Corporate Representative, IFCC CPD, Chair, IFCC Task Force of Corporate Members
• Joseph Passarelli, Roche
  Senior Director, Scientific Relations Corporate Representative, IFCC Executive Board, Secretary, IFCC Scientific Division
• John R. Hackett - Abbott
  Divisional Vice President
  Applied Research & Technology (25 min)
• Jim Freeman - Siemens Healthineers
  VP of Immunoassay Development (25 min)
• Peter Ramge-Roche Diagnostics
  Senior International Medical Affairs Manager CPS (25 min)
• Patric Lundberg - Ortho Ortho Clinical Diagnostics
  Senior Scientist R&D (25 min)
• Panel discussion (30 min)

Break (15 min)

9:30–12:00 ROOM 2
Young Scientist Forum: Oral Presentations by Young Scientists from around the World
Chair: Santiago Fares Taie, Argentina
• Ashish Agrawatt, India
  Rapid Antigen and Antibody detection tests for COVID-19 (15 min)
• María Belén García Fabiani, Argentina
  CRISPR & diagnostics: Disrupting technology (15 min)
• Sibtain Ahmed, Pakistan
  Utility of prognostic biomarkers in COVID-19 patients (15 min)
• Marco Perrone, Italy
  Cardiovascular complications in COVID-19 patients (15 min)
• Nicolene Steyn, South Africa
  COVID in children (15 min)
• Ashlin Rampul, South Africa
  Nanobodies for COVID (15 min)
• Aleksei Tikhonov, Russia
  Antibody test development (15 min)
• Mary Kathryn Bohn, Canada
  Pediatric evaluation of SARS-CoV-2 IgG and IgM serology assays (15 min)
12:15-14:15 ROOM 1
Symposium 5: Global Response to COVID-19 Pandemic (Latin America)
Chair: Rosa Sierra-Amor, Mexico
• Graciela Russomando, Asuncion, Paraguay
  COVID-19 infection and community transmission: Lessons learned from a public molecular Dx laboratory (20 min)
• Fernando Goldbaum, Buenos Aires, Argentina
  RBD-specific polyclonal F(ab’)2 fragments of equine antibodies in patients with moderate to severe COVID-19 disease: a randomized, double-blind, placebo-controlled, adaptive phase 2/3 clinical trial. (20 min)
• Cecilia Tapia, Santiago, Chile
  Diagnostic approach in networked laboratories, Chilean experience (20 min)
• Federico Remes-Lenicov, Buenos Aires, Argentina
  Emergency establishment of a SARS-CoV-2 test center at an academic lab in the University of Buenos Aires, Argentina (20 min)
• Maria-Elizabeth Menezes / André Valpassos Guimarães, Rio de Janeiro, Brazil
  The coronavirus storm: The pandemic situation at the bench (20 min)
• Q&A (20 min)

Break (15 min)

12:15-14:15 ROOM 2
Symposium 6: Global Response to COVID-19 Pandemic (North America)
Chair: Ann Gronowski, USA
• Benjamin Pinsky, Stanford, USA
  Method validation for COVID-19 testing (20 min)
• Victoria Zhang, Rochester, USA
  AACC Taskforce COVID-19 Serology Guidelines (20 min)
• Chris Farnsworth, St. Louis, USA
  SARS-CoV-2 serology: Utilization and outstanding questions (20 min)
• Nevan Krogan, San Francisco, USA
  Multi-omics/systems approach to COVID investigation (20 min)
• Q&A (20 min)

Break (15 min)

14:30–15:30 ROOM 1
EDUW 9 – SNIBE
Laboratory inflammatory markers in the diagnosis and prognosis of COVID-19 patients
• Waleed Tamimi, Riyadh, Saudi Arabia
  Head of Clinical Chemistry at King Abdulaziz Medical city National Guard
  Associate professor at College of Medicine, King Saud bin Abdulaziz University for Health Sciences
  Consultant Smart Lab, Riyadh, Saudi Arabia

Break (15 min)

14:30–15:30 ROOM 2
EDUW 10 – THERMO FISHER
Molecular Testing, Strain Identification and Quality Control Strategies for COVID-19 Testing
• Manohar R. Furtado, San Ramon, USA
  Molecular Testing for the Detection, Surveillance, and Strain Identification of SARS-CoV-2
• Nathan Ledeboer, Milwaukee, USA
  The Need for Speed, Strategies to assess the right QC for COVID-19 and Infectious Diseases Assays
**15:45-16:45 ROOM 1 EDUW 11 – ABBOTT**

**New Perspectives: SARS-CoV-2 molecular epidemiology & immunity**

*Chair: Claudio Galli, Core Diagnostics, Associate Medical Director, Infectious Diseases, Abbott, Italy*

- Charles Chiu, San Francisco, USA
  - Understanding seroprevalence of SARS-CoV-2-specific antibodies in different populations
  - Taking a closer look at the longitudinal dynamics of PCR, immunoglobulin-G, immunoglobulin-M, and in vitro neutralizing antibody titers in COVID-19 patients.
- Paolo Bonanni, Florence, Italy
  SARS-CoV-2 vaccination: a public health perspective

---

**15:45-16:45 ROOM 2 EDUW 12**

**TECHNOPATH**

**Quality Control of Qualitative Testing of SARS-CoV-2 in Clinical Laboratories**

*Chair: Khosrow Adeli, Canada*

- Wayne Dimech, Melbourne, Australia
  The Context of Internal Quality Control for Qualitative Testing (e.g. SARS-CoV-2) (20 min)
- Joe Vincini, Melbourne, Australia
  The Practice of Internal Quality Control for Qualitative Testing (e.g. SARS-CoV-2)
- Discussion and Q&A (15 min)
8:00–9:30  
**PLENARY SESSION**  
Clinical Evaluation of Tests for SARS-CoV-2 Infection  
*Chair: Andrea Horvath, Australia*

Patrick Bossuyt, Amsterdam, Netherlands  
When disaster strikes: How to balance unmet needs with imperfect tests in an emergency situation of a pandemic? (20 min)

Jac Dinnes and Jon Deeks, Birmingham, UK  
State-of-the-art of diagnostic tests: What did we learn from the Cochrane systematic reviews of existing test evaluations? (20 min)

Jenny Doust, Brisbane, Australia  
Can we do better? Framework for the evaluation of SARS-CoV-2 tests (20 min)

Q&A (30 min)

9:45–11:45 ROOM 1  
**Symposium 7: Global Response to COVID-19 Pandemic (Asia-Pacific)**  
*Chair: Sunil Kumar Sethi, Singapore*

- Tan Wenjie, China  
  Identification and detection of Covid-19 on China (20 min)
- Miswar Fattah, Indonesia  
  Variability of molecular testing for SARS CoV-2 (20 min)
- Prasenjit Mitra, India  
  COVID-19 pandemic: Perspectives from India (20 min)
- Susan Matthews, Australia  
  SARS-CoV-2 molecular-based testing – experience from the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander COVID-19 point-of-care testing program in rural and remote Australia (20 min)
- Cao Bin, China  
  Atypical pneumonia to COVID-19 (20 min)
- Q&A (20 min)

Break (15 min)

9:45–11:45 ROOM 2  
**Symposium 8: Global Response to COVID-19 Pandemic (Middle East/Arab Federation)**  
*Co-Chairs: Osama Najjar, Palestine  Abderrazek Hedhili, Tunisia*

- Mehiri Emna, Tunisia  
  Impact of COVID-19 in the Middle East (25 min)
- Myrna Germanos, Lebanon  
  Impact of COVID-19 (25 min)
- Osama Najjar, Palestine  
  AFCB Response to COVID-19 crisis (25 min)
- Mohamed Ben Moussa, Tunisia  
  Tunisian Mobile Military Laboratory and COVID-19 management (25 min)
- Q&A (20 min)

12:00–14:00 ROOM 1  
**Symposium 9: Hemostasis and COVID-19**  
*Chair: Giuseppe Lippi, Italy*

- Emmanuel J. Favaloro, Sydney, Australia  
  ADAMTS13 and Von Willebrand Factor testing in COVID-19 and beyond (30 min)

12:00–14:00 ROOM 2  
**Symposium 10: Emerging Technologies in Fighting COVID-19**  
*Chair: Sergio Bernardini, Italy*

- Mette Christophersen Tollânes, Bergen, Norway  
  Quality and clinical use of rapid tests for COVID-19 (20 min)
• Job Harenberg, Heidelberg, Germany
Laboratory diagnostics of COVID-19 related thromboembolism (30 min)
• Sam Schulman, Hamilton, Canada
Anticoagulation and laboratory monitoring in COVID-19 (30 min)
• Q&A (30 min)

• James Nichols, Nashville, USA
The CLSI COVID-19 Resources for Validation, Implementation and Management of New Tests (20 min)
• Ronda Greaves, Sydney, Australia
Managing rapid changes in LC/MS service delivery during the COVID pandemic: State-of-art (20 min)
• Michael Neumaier, Heidelberg, Germany
Innate and adaptive immunological response to SARS-CoV-2: Implications for vaccine (20 min)
• Massimo Ciccozzi, Rome, Italy
COVID-19 phylogenesis and mutations: Implications for vaccine (20 min)
• Q&A (20 min)

Break (15 min)

14.15–15.15 ROOM 1 EDUW 13 - SIEMENS
The role of predictive algorithms in managing COVID-19 disease severity
Chair: Katherine Soreng, Atlanta, USA

• Antonio Buño Soto, Madrid, Spain
Using core laboratory tests and uncovering an opportunity for development of predictive algorithms to manage COVID-19 a Spanish perspective
• Ali Kamen, Princeton, USA
Applying artificial intelligence models in the time of COVID-19

14.15–15.15 ROOM 2 EDUW 14 - ORTHO
CLINICAL DIAGNOSTICS
Role of Antigen Tests in the COVID-19 pandemic

• Lily Li, China
• Karen Roush, Dallas, USA
- Challenges with RT-PCR testing for SARS-CoV-2
- SARS-CoV-2 and infectiousness – what do we know today?
- Performance data of a high throughput SARS-CoV-2 antigen test
- Implementing a high throughput SARS-CoV-2 test at a large metropolitan medical center
- Algorithms used to determine when to order which SARS-CoV-2 test
- Workflow and clinical performance with the VITROS SARS-CoV-2 Antigen test

Break (15 min)
15.30-16.30 ROOM 1 EDUW 15 – LUMIRADX
The LumiraDx Platform – meeting the needs for COVID POC Testing

• Nigel Lindner, London, UK
Chief Innovation Officer at LumiraDx

15.30-16.30 ROOM 2 EDUW 16 – RANDOX
SARS-CoV-2 – The Full Diagnostic Circle

• Dwaine Vance, Belfast, UK
• Christopher Chambers, Belfast, UK
How the modern laboratory adapts to the SARS-CoV-2 (COVID-19) pandemic.

16:30-17:00 CLOSING

IFCC Executive Board
IFCC Taskforce on COVID-19
REGISTRATIONS

IFCC NATIONAL SOCIETY MEMBERS AND NON-MEMBERS €150
CORPORATE/INDUSTRY REPRESENTATIVES €150
YOUNG SCIENTISTS/TRAINEES (=/< 40 YEARS) €50

Registration will allow you to:
- enter all sessions of the programme (both plenary and parallel)
- ask “live” questions and interact with the speakers
- visit industry virtual booths and attend educational workshops
- get a Certificate of Attendance
- access the recorded sessions for 12 months after the conference date

PLEASE CLICK HERE TO REGISTER

VIRTUAL INDUSTRY EXHIBITS AND WORKSHOPS

Every registered attendee will be able to:
> Visit the Virtual Booths in the Exhibition Area.
> Follow the Educational Industry Workshops presented by 16 companies
> Take part in the Meet the Sponsor events

E-POSTERS

E-posters will be available for viewing in the Virtual Platform.

Every registered attendee will be able to:
> Search a poster using few keywords, such as topic, authors, title, ID, etc.
> View the poster on his/her device
> Zoom in/out to see the details