

Foreword of the editor

Editor in Chief: Gábor L. Kovács, MD, PhD, DSc

Professor Ellis Jacobs is the chief of pathology, Henry J Carter and Coler-Goldwater Specialty Hospitals, New York and the associate professor of pathology at the New York University School of Medicine. He obtained his BSc in chemistry and natural science and defended his PhD in biochemistry in 1979. In those days he conducted research in the enzymology of oxidative phosphorylation. Professor Ellis Jacobs has a longstanding interest in point of care testing, laboratory consolidation and automation, computerization and automatic result reporting, and the impact on laboratory quality management systems and error reduction. His current research interests include immunodiagnostic assays, laboratory diagnosis of cardiac injury, laboratory management and automation, point of care testing systems, critical care medicine, toxicology and the application of informatics to improve laboratory efficiency. His current responsibilities include provision of management, leadership and vision for the Department of Pathology, Henry J Carter and Coler Goldwater Hospitals, directing all laboratory services, including point of care testing (POCT), overseeing quality assurance and quality improvement

activities, teaching clinical pathology residents, and liaison with attending physicians, residents and house staff. Since 2011 Dr. Jacobs is also the director of Enzo Stat Lab, New York. He was elected to the chair of several task forces and committees in the American Association of Clinical Chemistry (AACC), Clinical and Laboratory Standards Institute, Clinical Ligand Assay Society, and the International Federation of Clinical Chemistry and Laboratory Medicine (IFCC). Within IFCC Dr. Jacobs chaired the Communication and Publication Division. Currently he is the liaison of IFCC and the representative on board to the Labs Are Vital program. He is editorial board member at eJIFCC and Pont of Care testing. Professor Jacobs published 62 scientific publications, many of them dealing with the role of laboratory medicine in acute care and POCT.

Professor Jacobs, the guest editor of the current themed issue of eJIFCC, has asked a number of renowned experts on the field of POCT to discuss current problems of this rapidly changing and increasingly important laboratory subdiscipline.