

e-NewsLetter



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May - June 2012 issue

•	News from the IFCC Executive Board and Council	1
•	NEW EMD COMMITTEE ON DISTANCE LEARNING (C-DL)	3
•	NEW CPD COMMITTEE ON INTERNET AND E-LEARNING (C-IEL)	3
•	News from the WG Ibero-American Nomenclature and Translations	4
•	News from Regional Federations and Member Societies	5
	O ARAB FEDERATION OF CLINICAL BIOLOGY AND MOROCCAN SOCIETY OF CLINICAL CHEMISTRY	
	O BIOCHEMICAL SOCIETY OF I.R. IRAN	
	O PAKISTAN SOCIETY OF CHEMICAL PATHOLOGY (PSCP)	
	SPANISH SOCIETY OF CLINICAL BIOCHEMISTRY AND MOLECULAR PATHOLOGY	
	AMERICAN ASSOCIATION FOR CLINICAL CHEMISTRY (AACC)	
	ASSOCIATION FOR CLINICAL CHEMISTRY, SRI LANKA	
•	REPORT ON THE IFCC PROFESSIONAL AND MANAGEMENT EXCHANGE PROGRAM	10
•	IFCC WELCOMES A NEW CORPORATE MEMBER	12
•	FORTHCOMING MEETINGS	13

NEWS FROM THE IFCC EXECUTIVE BOARD AND COUNCIL

IFCC – IUPAC NEWS Contributed by Graham BEASTALL, IFCC President and René DEPLANQUE, IUPAC, Secretary-General



Graham Beastall, IFCC President



René Deplanque, IUPAC, Secretary-General

THE NPU TERMINOLOGY: CONTRIBUTING TO PATIENT SAFETY

Globalisation of healthcare is now a reality. At the touch of a button it is possible to learn of practices and procedures that are carried out in a wide range of countries. Few can deny that instant information is an aid to understanding and to the drive for harmonisation of practice. However, there are considerable risks in assuming that terminology, data and practices are universally understood and commutable across national boundaries.

In laboratory medicine one of the most basic, but important, challenges is to the profession is to ensure that we have a common understanding of what is being measured in what biological system and of how the results will be expressed and in what units. This area is referred to as nomenclature, properties and units (NPU). IFCC and IUPAC have a longstanding partnership to establish and maintain high standards in the field of NPU as an aid to harmonised practice and better patient safety.

At the centre of the IFCC-IUPAC project is the NPU terminology – a coding system for communication of examination results in clinical laboratory sciences.

It covers the fields of:

- Allergy
- Clinical chemistry
- Clinical immunology and blood banking
- Clinical microbiology
- Clinical pharmacology
- Molecular biology and genetics
- · Reproduction and fertility
- Thrombosis and haemostasis
- Toxicology

The NPU terminology is based on structured definitions with prescribed syntax, semantic rules and format, defining coded kinds-of-property across clinical laboratory sciences. It has been used in electronic health care communication for ten years, supporting large scale information exchange between many different laboratory information systems and electronic health care record systems.

A user guide to the NPU terminology and the NPU database has been published in both chemistry and clinical chemistry literature. This guide provides a clear explanation of the system and of its operation. Access to the NPU terminology in English is available from the Danish Release Centre (www.labterm.dk) and also from the IFCC website (www.ifcc.org).

IFCC and IUPAC encourage the widespread adoption and application of the NPU terminology.

Persons wishing to know more about the NPU terminology and its database should contact:

- Ulla Magdal Petersen, Scientific lead for the NPU database at <u>UMP@sst.dk</u>
- Robert Flatman, Chair of the IFCC-IUPAC Committee on NPU robert_flatman@snp.com.au

References:

Petersen UM, Dybkaer, R, Olesen H. Properties and units in the clinical laboratory sciences. Part XXII. The NPU terminology, principles, and implementation: A user's guide. Pure Appl Chem 2012; 84: 137-165; Clin Chem Lab Med 2012; 50: 35-50

NEW EMD COMMITTEE ON DISTANCE LEARNING (C-DL)

A new Committee inside the IFCC Education and Management Division has been established to develop an IFCC strategy for distance learning: It is the EMD Committee on Distance Learning (C-DL).

The Committee will work in partnership with the Communications and Publications Division Committee on Internet and eLearning (CPD C-leL) identifying and developing educational material that can be used for on-line learning modules on specific topic areas of value to IFCC.

The C-DL membership is as follows:

Name	Position	Country	Term	Time in Office
J. Smith	Chair	UK	1st	2012 01 - 2014 12
R. Greaves	Member	AU	1st	2012 01 - 2014 12
D. Gruson	Member	BE	1st	2012 01 - 2014 12
E. Hoyaranda	Member	ID	1st	2012 01 - 2014 12
C. Webster	Member	UK	1st	2012 01 - 2014 12

NEW CPD COMMITTEE ON INTERNET AND E-LEARNING (C-IEL)

The Committee, chaired by Peter Vervaart (AU), has as its primary goal developing and maintaining the IFCC website by working with the IFCC office, committees, working groups, task forces, National Societies and Corporate Members as well as the website host, software developers and other interested parties.

The Committee will work in partnership with the Education and Management Division Committee on Distance Learning (EMD C-DL) in identifying and developing educational material which can be used for on-line learning modules on specific topic areas of value to IFCC members.

For further information on the aims and the projects of the new C-leL, please <u>visit the C-leL page of the IFCC Website</u>

Name	Position	Country	Term	Time in Office
P. Vervaart	Chair	AU	1st	2011 1-2013 12
E. Freggiaro	Member	AR	1st	2012 1-2014 12
P. Kocna	Member	HU	1st	2012 1-2014 12
A. Lyon	Member	CA	1st	2011 1-2013 12
H. Sakamoto	Member	Jp	1st	2012 1-2014 12

NEWS FROM THE WG IBERO-AMERICAN NOMENCLATURE AND TRANSLATIONS

Contributed by M Felix Hernan FARES TAIE, Director, Laboratory FT Institute of Analysis



Felix H FARES TAIE

SUPPORTED BY THE IFCC, THE WG IANT IBERO-AMERICAN NOMENCLATURE AND TRANSLATIONS AND THE COMMITTEE OF EVIDENCE BASED LABORATORY MEDICINE (C-EBLM)

LAUNCHES EL MICROSCOPIO RADIO X INTERNET

"The Microscope" is an online radio program transmitted every Wednesday from 1.00 to 2.00 pm, Argentina (GTM -3). The programs will be stored online after their live transmissions on the website http://www.infobioquimica.com/ and anyone with only Internet connection will be able to play them anytime or download the files in mp3 format. The idea has been developed from the need of improving communication between clinical laboratories of Ibero America and the IFCC and from the need of spreading scientific, strategic and updated topics.

The programs will be covering the use and interpretation of laboratory tests, the performance and methods of technologies, laboratory management, and social, legal, political and union issues. Moreover, programs will encourage social and environmental commitment between laboratories and the community, so as to improve communication between health teams and patients.

"The Microscope" will be a tool to promote strategies and activities to increase the value of the clinical laboratory in health care's processes; to spread courses and congresses and to encourage social and cultural activities in the context of clinical laboratories, such as tourism and art.

We invite you to participate in the discussion forums to increase communication among scientist, residents and students from Ibero America.



NEWS FROM REGIONAL FEDERATIONS AND NATIONAL ASSOCIATIONS

NEWS FROM THE ARAB FEDERATION OF CLINICAL BIOLOGY AND OF THE MOROCCAN SOCIETY OF CLINICAL CHEMISTRY. Edited by Edgard DELVIN, IFCC eNews Editor

MARRAKECH HOST THE ARABMEDLAB 2012 MEETING



Marrakech Congress Center

From May 2nd to May 5th 2012, Marrakech hosted the joint meeting of the 13th Arab Congress of Clinical Biology and of the 12th Moroccan Congress of Clinical Chemistry and Laboratory Medicine, held under the auspices of the IFCC. Novel biomarkers, proficiency testing, quality management and accreditation were central subjects to the meeting having diseases and conditions of high priority in terms of public health in the Arab world, such as haemophilia; tropical diseases; haemoglobinopathies; celiac disease and the emerging bacterial resistance to antibiotics, as background. World-known scientists led the symposia.

Among the highlights of the meeting was the inaugural lecture delivered by Professor Gérard Siest who gave an enlightened account of the development of pharmacogenetics in the course of the past 20 years. He also gave a glimpse of the future input of theranostics in the follow-up of pharmacologically treated patients. Professor Nouzha Guessous also gave a lucid and vivid account of the status of bioethics in laboratory medicine in the world, referring to the seminal document published by the UNESCO under her leadership as Chair of the Committee.

The poster session allowed young scientists to present and discuss their results with authorities in their respective fields. Exhibitors had ample opportunity to meet conference attendees in a very friendly atmosphere within the Marrakech Convention Center.

Several committees (IFCC-EB, IFCC-CPD, IFCC-SD, AFCB and FIFBCML) held their business meetings before and during the meeting. Members of the Executive of the IFCC Communication and

Publication Division, in the scope of a symposium, addressed the theme of Public relations and the value of laboratory medicine.

Awards and Nominations received during the ArabMedLab 2012 Meeting

Professor Mohammed Lahrichi and Doctor Halima Elalamy received a well-deserved recognition for their lifelong services to the Société Marocaine de Chimie Clinique, and Professor Layachi Chabraoui, President of the Moroccan Society of Clinical Chemistry and Chair of the International Scientific Committee of the ArabMedLab 2012, was nominated President of the Arab Federation of Clinical Biology.

NEWS FROM THE BIOCHEMICAL SOCIETY OF I.R. IRAN M.J. RASAEE, National representative for Biochemical Society of Iran

REPORT ON THE 12TH IRANIAN CONGRESS OF BIOCHEMISTRY & 4TH INTERNATIONAL CONGRESS OF BIOCHEMISTRY AND MOLECULAR BIOLOGY

The 12th Iranian Congress of Biochemistry (ICB) and the 4th International Congress of Biochemistry and Molecular Biology (ICBMB) were held from 6-9th of September 2011 in Mashhad, Iran. The Department of Medical Biochemistry, Mashhad University of Medical Sciences (MUMS) and the Biochemical Society of I.R. Iran organized the congress that was supported by the International Union of Biochemistry and Molecular Biology (IUBMB), the Federation of Asian and Oceanian Biochemists and Molecular Biologists (FAOBMB) and the International Federation of Clinical Chemistry and Laboratory Medicine (IFCC).

The conference covered the recent advances in biochemistry and molecular biology, and included as examples themes that ranged from bioinformatics, herbal medicine, and nanotechnologies to inborn metabolic diseases and nutritional biochemistry. Importantly, 12th ICB & 4th ICBMB also served the purpose of training young scientists and integrating them into the broader scientific community along with providing a forum for them to interact with peers in the field. In cooperation with the congress executive committee, 18 different workshops were offered to participants and researchers to enhance their scientific and technical skills.

Of the 1200 abstracts received from 30 different countries covering all continents, 1113 were accepted for presentation after peer reviewing, 154 for oral presentations, 284 as electronic posters and 675 as hard copy posters. The abstract book was published as a supplementary issue of Clinical Biochemistry that is available at: http://www.sciencedirect.com/science/journal/00099120/44/13/supp/S.

Professor. Angelo Azzi (the President of the IUBMB), Professor. Susan Hamilton (Chair of Education Committee of IUBMB) and Professor Khosrow Adeli (Vice-Chair of Publications and Communications Division of IFCC) were among the high profile invited guests to this congress.

In the opening ceremony, held in the Great Hall of the Faculty of Science, Ferdowsi University of Mashhad, Dr. Mahmoud Shabestary, the Mashhad University of Medical Sciences Chancellor, and the Congress Presidents all underlined the efforts of the Scientific and Local Organizing Committees to provide a forum favouring the transmission of new knowledge through interdisciplinary educational courses and research projects. The Medical Science Chancellor also highlighted the steep progression of the Mashhad University in the international ranking of world top universities.

The Biochemical Society also held its 2nd meeting on September 9th 2011 during which Yazd University of Medical University was officially named as the host for the upcoming National Biochemistry Congress on 2012. Isfahan University of Medical Sciences, Isfahan, Iran and Shahid Beheshti University of

Medical Sciences, Tehran, Iran were nominated for hosting the 5th International Congress on Biochemistry and Molecular Biology to be held on 2013.

During the closing ceremony, the Congress President gave 3 research excellence awards to Dr. Majid Ghayour-Mobarhan, Dr. Saman Hoseinkhani, Dr. Aadeleh Divsalar based on their publications. Also, 5 overseas participants received travel grants awards from the University Chancellor. Three best speakers, as well as electronic and hard copy poster presenters also received awards for the quality of their work. Finally Prof. Angelo Azzi , IUBMB President, granted IUBMB medals to Dr. M. Shabestari, Dr. M. Taghikhani and Dr. M. Ghayour-Mobarhan in appreciation of their success in organizing the Congress.

NEWS FROM PAKISTAN SOCIETY OF CHEMICAL PATHOLOGY (PSCP) Contributed by Dr Aysha Habib KHAN, member of the Executive council of PSCP

REPORT ON 4TH BIENNIAL COURSE IN CHEMICAL PATHOLOGY HELD IN RAWALPINDI

The Pakistan Society of Chemical Pathologist (PSCP) organized the 4th Biennial Course in Chemical Pathology and Endocrinology at Armed Forces Institute of Pathology, Rawalpindi on 16th-17th March 2012.

Pathologists and their trainees from all over Pakistan attended the inaugural session. In his inaugural welcome address, Commandant AFIP, Major General Farooq Ahmed Khan, patron PSCP, updated the audience with the recent advances and trends in the field of Chemical Pathology. Chief Guest Lt General Azhar Rasheed (Director General Medical Services, Pakistan Army) underlined the efforts of the Society in educating and training the specialists as well as other medical practitioners.

The course comprised of four teaching sessions followed by a workshop on ethical practices in profession. The speakers from abroad included Dr Shahzad Ahmed, Clinical Endocrinologist (USA), Dr Jawaid Malick, Rheumatologist Fauji Foundation Hospital, Brigadier Tahir Aziz, Immunologist from AFIP, Lt Col Shakil Mirza, Hepatologist, Army Medical Services.

The presentations in the course covered broad clinical areas like diabetes, thyroid, osteoporosis, vitamin D deficiency, role of auto-antibodies, insulin resistance in liver disease, placenta and foetal wellbeing, cystatin C as a marker of renal function, biochemical investigations in liver diseases, a view of novel cardiac biomarkers in heart failure. A wide range of topics related to laboratory science were also covered including metabolomic vs clinical chemistry, improving efficiency in clinical lab, the impact of STAT laboratory services in the management of patients, selection of a clinical chemistry instrument and a contrast approach and now lines of investigation including genomics and metabolomics.

The post-course workshop was well attended by postgraduate trainees. It covered instrument handling, scenarios related to lab management and data interpretations.

Dr Imran Siddiqui; Secretary of PSCP chaired the Executive Council and general assembly meeting held on 16th March. The committee discussed the IFCC scholarship award for enhancing the skills of trainees below 40 years of age, and the increasing the membership. The committee decided to hold the 5th Annual conference of the society in February 2013 in Karachi.

The Executive Council thanked Brigadier Dilshad, the Organizing Secretary of the Biennial course for his dedication in organizing the course.



Participants of the course at Armed Force Institute of Pathology



Members of the Executive Council of the Pakistan Society of Chemical Pathologist

NEWS FROM THE SPANISH SOCIETY OF CLINICAL BIOCHEMISTRY AND MOLECULAR PATHOLOGY From Felip Antoja RIBÓ, Liaison to the IFCC eNewsletter (written by Ester Mena)

HOW DO RESIDENTS IN SPAIN SEE THEIR SCIENTIFIC AND PROFESSIONAL FUTURE?

On March 23rd, 2012 the Second Conference for Laboratory Residents, organized by the Group of Residents of the Spanish Society of Clinical Biochemistry and Molecular Pathology (SEQC), was held in Barcelona, under the name "Future lab specialist: Are we heading the right way?"

Following a similar format to the first meeting held in Madrid in 2011, we tried to solve the main concerns of Spanish residents at all stages of their training. Am I receiving good training? How can I go beyond my basic training so as to be better prepared? What are the specialties in the rest of Europe? All these questions and many more were addressed during the seminar and during the final discussion. Regarding the last question, the interest of our future specialists about their chances to work and learn outside of Spain became clear.

Specialists and residents presented the various topics, helping participants obtain a clear picture of the minimal requirements to become a professional laboratory specialist and discover what can be done to enhance their training over the four-year residency programme.



From left to right: Paloma Salas (resident in Guadalajara), Ana Argudo (post-resident in l'Hospitalet de Llobregat, Barcelona), Manuel Otero (former resident and now fellow in Valladolid and Santiago de Compostela) and Pep Miquel (resident in Palma de Mallorca).

NEWS FROM THE AMERICAN ASSOCIATION FOR CLINICAL CHEMISTRY (AACC)

The AACC offers the Clinical Chemistry Trainee Council. It is your source for free educational materials for residents and fellows in laboratory medicine. The material is now also fully translated into Spanish. Register today for free at www.traineecouncil.org/spanish

Excerpted from the AACC eNewsletter.

NEWS FROM THE ASSOCIATION FOR CLINICAL CHEMISTRY, SRI LANKA Contributed by M. H WEERAWARNA, President,

NEW OFFICERS OF THE SRI LANKAN ASSOCIATION FOR CLINICAL CHEMISTRY

New Officers of the Sri Lankan Association for Clinical Chemistry were appointed for the year 2011/2012 at the Annual General Meeting held on the 19th November 2011. They are: Mr. H. Weerawarna, President; Dr. B. K. T. P. Dayanath, Secretary; Ms Sriyani Amarasinghe, Treasurer; The Executive committee consists of: Prof. Sumedha Wijerathne, Dr. Saroja Siriwardane, Dr. M. Gunathikake, Dr. Gaya Katulanda, Dr. Chandrika Meegama, Dr. Saman Peduruhewa, Dr. Rajitha Nandasena. Ms Nadie Perera.

The address of the Association is the following: 100, Elvitigala Mawatha, Colombo 8, Sri Lanka, Email : chandraw@sltnet.lk

REPORT ON THE IFCC PROFESSIONAL AND MANAGEMENT EXCHANGE PROGRAMME

Kenneth K KIMENGECH, Quality Manager, Biochemistry Section, Department of Laboratory Medicine, Kenyatta National Hospital, Nairobi, Kenya

MY EXPERIENCE AT THE CHEMICAL PATHOLOGY DIVISION OF THE TYGERBERG HOSPITAL, FACULTY OF HEALTH SCIENCES, UNIVERSITY OF STELLENBOSCH, CAPETOWN, SOUTH AFRICA

Introduction

Quality in Laboratory Medicine Globally is transforming daily, in terms of ISO 15189 accreditation, sophisticated technology, Point of Care Testing (POCT) and Quality Laboratory Management at large.

My 3-month training in the Chemical Pathology Division of the Tygerberg Hospital, affiliated to the University of Stellenbosch, Cape Town, South Africa, supervised by Professor Rajiv Erasmus, Head of the Division, aimed to focus on Quality Laboratory Management, Quality Control, Quality Assurance and Accreditation (ISO 15189).

Experience

My reception in the Division of Chemical Pathology was warm and the support provided by Prof. Erasmus and his staff enabled me to feel at home quickly. Ms. Debra Loubser, Chempath Laboratory Manager, familiarized me to other Divisions (Hematology, Microbiology, Immunology, Virology, Anatomy and the Reception area). As part of the National Health Laboratories Services (NHLS) the Division is closely linked with other NHLS Laboratories that are in close proximity to Tygerberg Hospital. These include the Department of Pathology at Groot-Schuur Hospital at the University of Cape Town, Green Point Laboratories and Red Cross Children's Hospital.

The Division is staffed by several skilled personnel consisting of consultant personnel, registrars / resident pathologists, medical scientists and medical technologists. My first rotation was in the reception area to gain knowledge in the Pre-analytical Phase, where samples are logged in automatically by use of Laboratory Information System that manages the Pre-analytical, analytical and post analytical processes.

Most of the Divisions are accredited by South African National Accreditation Services (SANAS). The Department of Chemical Pathology is accredited for providing training to candidates seeking fellowships of both the National Postgraduate Medical college of South Africa and the MMed Degree of the University of Stellenbosch. The Divisions also train for Bachelor (B.Sc.) Honors, Master (M.Sc.) and Doctoral (Ph.D) Students.

In terms of research and accreditation, the Division is extensively involved in Chemical and Laboratory Research and Chemical Audits. The Division is involved in setting Board Exams for the College of Pathologists of S. Africa, and its Faculty regularly present at local and international meetings. I had the opportunity to participate to a clinical audit project on the "Cost of Non- conformances to the Laboratory at a tertiary Hospital in Cape Town, South Africa."

Achievement

My experience in the Tygerberg Pathology Department was intensive, rigorous and successful. I acquired new knowledge and skills in quality laboratory management, operational management and ability to plan, develop, implement and maintain quality management system and evaluate management principles. The Laboratory management exchange program converted me from a test provider to a qualified Quality Laboratory Manager with an ability to execute quality audit familiarized with ISO 15189 and other relevant standards. I also gained core competencies in Project Management, Research skills, leadership skills, investigation, problem solving and conflict resolution skills including corrective action and preventive action, plan development of non-conformances in the laboratory.

Conclusion and recommendation

I will use the knowledge and skills acquired to inspire others and implement the same in my Country Kenya and my Institution in preparation for the application to laboratory accreditation in line with ISO Standard. 15189.

I highly recommend this IFCC exchange program to young laboratory managers and young scientists who are focused on the acquisition of new skills in Laboratory Medicine. I highly encourage other countries that are not members to join IFCC, so that they can benefit from these wonderful and educative programs, and develop their laboratory personnel. Personally I am indeed enriched with a wealth of knowledge and skills through the PSEP.

Acknowledgement

I am grateful and indebted to IFCC for approving and supporting my application, especially to the Current President Dr. Graham Beastall, Past-President Prof. Jocelyn M.B. Hicks and Prof. Donald Young without whom, this exchange program would have been impossible. I extend my heartfelt gratitude to my mentor, Prof. Rajiv T. Erasmus, for hosting me and allowing me to access his Chemical Pathology Division, and for also planning the Quality Management System training in Pathcare laboratories and Pathcare Reference Laboratory. I am also grateful to the coordinator of my training Dr. A. Zemlin, and the following people: the laboratory manager Ms Debra Loubser, Dr.M. Hoffman, the quality manager Ms Janet scholtz and Quality coordinator Ms Estelle Kleinsmidt, the business manager Jeanette Spencer, the safety manager for their training assistance and my success, I would also like to thank the International students representative of Stellenbosch University Ms Rachel Pullen and the Division Secretary Ms Sonja Krige for her assistance throughout my registration process and all other staff who contributed to my training success and stay in Tygerberg.

Finally, I am also grateful to the Clinical Chemistry Association of Kenya (CCAK) for supporting my application, and to Dr. Elizabeth Odera, Treasurer Africa Federation of Clinical Chemistry (AFCC) and Secretary Clinical Chemists Association of Kenya (CCAK) for her encouragement and support. I also acknowledge my Employer Kenyatta National Hospital (KNH), for supporting my training while in Tygerberg Hospital, Cape Town- South Africa.





Kenneth K Kimengech with Dr. Zemlin

Kenneth K Kimengech with Prof. Rajiv Erasmus

IFCC WELCOMES A NEW CORPORATE MEMBER

C.P.M. Diagnostic Research sas. Since 1986 we have been involved in hospital sanitation projects both in Italy and abroad promoted by the Cooperazione Italiana, the European Union and the Vatican Foreign Mission. Our teamwork attitude has gained us loyal customers in the construction industry, oil industry (Agip Recherches) and ONG, the Italian Red Cross, in the construction of hospital and medical centers, like the hospital in Quelimane in Mozambique, the hospital in Sidone Lebanon, the hospital in Thaoua and Zinder in Niger, the San Juan de Dios hospital in Colombia and pharmaceutical products, diagnostic material, medical supplies and hospital facilities to Bosnia, Sierra Leone, New Guinea, Haiti, the Ukraine, Angola, Guatemala, Tanzania and other countries as part of programs operated by the E.C.H.O and EU program.

On behalf of the United Nations and in collaboration with LIFE Rome, we built a totally solar powered mobile health-care unit wich was been to Salvador. To K.P.O - Karachaganak Petroleum Operating - B.V. have been supplied emergency and intensive care ambulances where these vehicles were able to offer their service above where the climatic conditions and temperature are exesperated (+50°C / - 38°C). Moreover, since 15 years, C.P.M. SAS have a branch office in the Rupublic of Cuba recognized by the local government and where we are one of the most important distributor in Chemical Chemisty and Microbiology sector with a wide range of products registred near the local Health Authority.

C.P.M. SAS thanks to its efficiency in quality and manufacturing process have obtained the ISO 9001:2008 and ISO 13485:2004 certifications. For more information please visit the Website: http://www.cpmsas.it/

FORTHCOMING MEETINGS

NFKK Pre-congress Course in Evidence Based Laboratory Medicine June 11-12, 2012 - Raykjavik, Island. For more information please visit: www.nfkk2012.is/PreCongress.html

XXXIII Nordic Congress in Clinical Chemistry. June 12-15, 2012 – Reykjavik, Iceland. For more information please visit: www.nfkk2012.is

Primer Congreso Bioquímico del Nea. June 13-16, 2012 – Resistencia Chaco, Argentina For more information please visit: www.congresobioquimiconea.com/

Joint Conference of the Canadian Society of Clinical Chemists & Société Québécoise de Biochimie Clinique June 17-20, 2012 – Quebec City, Canada, http://www.cscc.ca

RAML 2012 - 7th Conference of the Romanian Association of Medical Laboratories. June 20-23, 2012 – Sinaia, Romania, http://www.raml-conference.ro/

AACC Annual Meeting and Clinical Lab Expo, July 15 – July 19, 2012 Los Angeles, California. For more information please visit: http://www.aacc.org/events/2012am

Journals of Clinical Laboratory update. June 23-24, 2012 - Guayaquil, Ecuador. For more information please contact: mariapasquelc@yahoo.com

30th World Congress of Biomedical Laboratory Science. August 18-22, 2012 – Berlin, Germany, For more information please visit: http://www.ifbls-dvta2012.com/

XIX Jornadas Bioquímicas del Noa. September 13-15, 2012 – Catamarca, Argentina. For more information please contact: cubraa@yahoo.com.ar

20th Meeting of the Balkan Clinical Laboratory Federation, 8th EFCC Symposium for Balkan Region, 18th Congress of Medical Biochemists of Serbia. September 17-22, 2012 - Belgrade, Serbia, For more information please visit: http://www.bclf2012.org/

EQAS 2012 - a 3-day Conference organised by the UK National External Quality Assessment Services (UK NEQAS) for Endocrinology and Cardiac Markers. September 24-26, 2012 – Edinburgh, UK, For more information please visit: http://www.egas2012.org.uk/6430.html

XXIV National Congress of the Turkish Biochemical Society (TBS). September 25-28, 2012 – Konya, Turkey, For more information please visit: www.turkbiyokimyadernegi.org.tr

9th Annual Congress of the German Joint Society for Clinical Chemistry and Laboratory Medicine. September 26-29, 2012 - Mannheim, Germany, For more information please visit: www.dgkl2012.de

IX National Congress of the Bulgarian Society of Clinical Laboratory. September 27-29, 2012 – Sofia, Bulgaria, For more information please contact: ktzatchev@gmail.com

6th Santorini Conference Biologie Prospective "Systems Biology and Personalized Health - Science and Translation", September 30 - October 2, 2012 – Santorini, Greece. For more information please visit<u>:</u> www.santorini2012.org

Clinical Chemistry Conference on "Impact of Biomarkers on Cardiovascular Disease". October 1-2, 2012 – Singapore, Republic of Singapore, For more information please visit: http://www.aacc.org/events

Promoting a Culture of Quality and Consistency in Critical and Point-of-Care Testing. 24th International Symposium. October 3-6, 2012 - Prague, Czech Republic. For more information please visit:

www.aacc.org/events/meetings/Pages/6752.aspx#

2nd EFCC-UEMS European Joint Congress - Laboratory Medicine at the Clinical Interface. October 10-13, 2012 - Dubrovnik, Croatia, For more information please visit: www.dubrovnik2012.com

Vitamin D: minimum, maximum, optimum. October 19-20, 2012, Warsaw, Poland. For more information please visit:

www.ifcc.org/media/145727/Programme.pdf

XI Ecuadorian and VII International Congress of Clinical Biochemistry. October 23-27, 2012 - Cuenca, Ecuador. For more information please contact: mariapasquelc@yahoo.com

International Conference of National Strategies for TORCH complex, Chlamydia Trachomatis, and Human Papillomavirus. November 15-16, 2012 - Kiev, Ukraine, For more information please visit: http://www.iecclm.org

EuroMedLab 2013 - 20th IFCC-EFCC European Congress of Clinical Chemistry and Laboratory Medicine. *May* 19-23, 2013 – *Milano*, *Italy*.

For more information please visit: www.milan2013.org

2nd EUROPEAN JOINT CONGRESS OF EFCC AND UEMS 10-13 October 2012, Dubrovnik, Croatia Under the auspices of the International Federation of Clinical Chemistry and Laboratory Medicine. For more information please visit:: www.dubrovnik2012.com

12th EFCC Continuous Postgraduate Course in Clinical Chemistry: New trends in Classification, Diagnosis and Management of Gastrointestinal Diseases. November 10-11, 2012 – Dubrovnik, Croatia. For more information please visit: www.dubrovnik-course.org/

International Conference of National Strategies for TORCH complex, Chlamydia Trachomatis, and Human Papillomavirus. November 15-16, 2012 - Kiev, Ukraine. For more information please visit: www.iecclm.org

2nd EFLM-BD European Conference on Preanalytical Phase, Zagreb (Croatia) - 1-2 March 2013 The Scientific Programme and Abstract Submission are available at www.preanalytical-phase.org

EuroMedLab 2013 - 21th IFCC-EFCC European Congress of Clinical Chemistry and Laboratory Medicine – 45th Congress of the Italian Society of Clinical Biochemistry and Clinical Molecular Biology. May 19-23, 2013, Milano, Italy. For more information please visit: www.milan2013.org

APCCB 2013 - 13th Asian Pacific Congress of Clinical BiochemistryNovember 17-20, 2013 –Bali, Indonesia. For more information please visit: www.apccb2013.org

COLABIOCLI 2013 - XXI Congreso Latinoamericano de Bioquímica Clinica. October 29 - November 1, 2013 - Lima, Perù

WorldLab 2014 - 21st International Congress of Clinical Chemistry and Laboratory Medicine. June 22-26, 2014 – Istanbul, Turkey. For more information please visit: www.istanbul2014.org