September – October 2012 issue

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NEWS FROM REGIONAL FEDERATIONS AND NATIONAL ASSOCIATIONS

NEWS FROM TAIWAN

Contributed by Prof. Woei-Horng Fang, National Taiwan University, President Chinese Association for Clinical Biochemistry

FOUNDING MEMBERS OF THE JOINT SOCIETY OF BIOMEDICAL SCIENCES OF TAIWAN ORGANIZED THE 27TH JOINT ANNUAL CONFERENCE OF BIOMEDICAL SCIENCE IN TAIWAN

The Founding members of the Joint Society of Biomedical Sciences of Taiwan, members of the Chinese Association for Clinical Biochemistry (CACB) have organized and participated in the 27th Joint Annual Conference of Biomedical Science that was held at the National Defense Medical University Campus on March 17 & 18, 2012. The conference keynote speaker, Professor Lihuei Tsai, elected member of Institute of Medicine of the National Academies, spoke on the "Epigenetic gene regulation in neurodegeneration and repair" and, showed that deregulation of chromatin remodelling may serve as a new avenue for treating cognitive decline caused by neurodegeneration. Also, Dr. Guor-Rong Her, from the Department of Chemistry of the National Taiwan University, invited by the CACB, delivered a talk on "An emerging technique in clinical laboratory". CACB also organized a symposium on the "Advances and Development of Stem Cells". Dr. Min-Huey Chen presented "Stem cells for dental tissue regeneration". Dr. Shih-Hwa Chiou spoke on "Investigation of anti-oxidative potential in induced pluripotent stem cell". Dr. Yen-Hua Huang addressed "Pluripotency and tumorigenesis of germline stem cells". Dr. S.-C. Hung spoke on "Silibinin suppresses the maintenance of colorectal cancer stem-like cells by inhibiting PP2A/AKT/mTOR pathways". Following the symposium, a student's research poster contest was also held. Overall, the two-day conference was very successful and truly an enjoyable academic gathering for the attending members of CACB.

THE CHINESE ASSOCIATION FOR CLINICAL BIOCHEMISTRY (CACB) CELEBRATES ITS 30TH ANNIVERSARY

The celebration on June 28th 2012, of CACB's 30th anniversary since the establishment of this academic society in 1982, was the second major event year. On that occasion, a symposium on the "Frontiers in Clinical Biochemistry" was held. Dr. Alan Wu, Chief of the Clinical Chemistry and Toxicology Laboratories at the San Francisco General Hospital, and Professor at the Department of Laboratory Medicine at the University of California at San Francisco (USA), was the invited Keynote Speaker. In his presentation on the "Biological variation for clinical laboratory tests" he emphasized the importance of biological variation studies, especially for the next generation of multivariate proteomic analyte and metabolomics testing. Dr. Mike Mohns, Dr. C.-N. Lee, and several additional speakers shared the recent advances in clinical biochemistry. Many Past-Presidents and Senior Members of CACB attended the symposium and addressed their reflections on the 30th anniversary. Presently, CACB counts nearly 200 active members, and is actively participating in diverse academic activities both at the domestic and international levels.

NEWS FROM ROMANIA Contributed by Professor Minodora Dobreanu, Past-President of the Romanian Association of Medical Laboratories (RAML)

This year's RAML Conference was held in Sinaia, in the central part of Romania, that proved to provide a friendly and stimulating professional environment. The Conference scientific program addressed the late developments in the field of laboratory medicine, and included 8 plenary and 3 posters sessions covering various topics in the field of clinical biochemistry, hematology, immunology and microbiology.

We were fortunate to welcome Professors Ian Young, from the Centre for Public Health, Queen's University Belfast, Royal Victoria Hospital, UK and Maurizio Ferrari, University Vita-Salute San Raffaele, Milan, (Italy), as the IFCC Visiting Lecturer Program (VLP) lecturers.

Professor Maurizio Ferrari introduced the role of the International Federation of Clinical Chemistry and Laboratory Medicine (IFCC) in the clinical laboratory community. As such it provide worldwide leadership in clinical chemistry and clinical laboratory medicine to national professional societies, the diagnostic industry, governmental and non-governmental organizations to serve the public interest in health care. IFCC represent the major organization linking clinical chemistry societies and federations worldwide, major body involved in development of standards in laboratory diagnostics, major venue for international exchange of scientific know-how and major facilitator of education and communications in the field. Connecting also some others international organization, IFCC keeps its leading mission to enhance the scientific level and quality of diagnosis and therapy for all patients; build on member professionalism to provide quality services to patients; communicate with members, healthcare providers and public on leading, innovative scientific and educational achievements; focus on scientific standards, publications, education and communications; organise congresses and conferences to bring the efforts of IFCC to the global community.

Professor Maurizio Ferrari, gave also two lectures on:

- 1. FROM MACRO- TO NANOTECHNOLOGY: THE FUTURE OF LABORATORY MEDICINE
- 2. Quality Assurance And Molecular Diagnosis Which Tests And In Which Patients

Professor Ian Young from the Centre for Public Health, Queen's University Belfast, Royal Victoria Hospital, UK, gave two lectures on:

1. Role Of Oxidative Stress In Atherosclerotic Cardiovascular Disease

2. ROLE OF DRUGS AND LIFESTYLE IN THE MANAGEMENT OF DYSLIPIDAEMIA

More than 350 delegates from 120 laboratories (from university and district hospitals, research centers, public and private laboratories), participated with knowledge, skill and enthusiasm to give the conference positive professional and scientific atmosphere.

The 7th Conference of the Romanian Association of Medical Laboratories with international participation represent a forum providing the opportunity to stay informed of the development of new lab technologies in compliance with regulatory requirements. Conference had a special focus on the technology development, instrumentation and quality control in clinical laboratories. The complexity of laboratory practice has had an impressive and rapid evolution. The specific issue of the event was to increase the knowledge in new molecular investigation that tends to become routine in our daily activity. A comprehensive exhibition of laboratory equipment and reagents gave an ideal opportunity for productive interaction between laboratory professionals and suppliers of laboratory products. Different industry-sponsored satellite symposia have also been organized.

In the future the aim of RAML is to focus in increasing of the quality of work in Romanian laboratories, in harmonization of the profession with international standards. The main goal of RAML in near future is to maintain and enhance high professional standards through improved laboratory policies and technology meant to support health care via laboratory research and good laboratory practice.

In the name of Executive Board of RAML I would like to thank IFCC for the contribution on improving RAML activity.



Professor Maurizio Ferrari



First from the right side: Ileana Funduc, Vice-president; Prof. Minodora Dobreanu, RAML past-president; Prof Young; Dr Zerah, Chair of the EFLM Professional Committee and of the EC4 Register Commission; speaker: Prof. Eugen Carasevic, iRAML president; Professional Committee and of the EC4 Register Commission;

NEWS FROM BRAZIL Contributed by Dr. Marcos Cataldo, Manager, BSPC/LM

THE BRAZILIAN SOCIETY OF CLINICAL PATHOLOGY LAUNCH POCT GUIDELINES

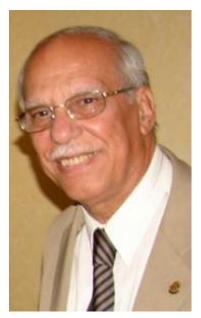
The Brazilian Society of Clinical Pathology/Laboratory Medicine (SBPC/ML) has launched the guidelines for quality assurance and management of Point of Care Testing (POCT) during its 46th Congress held from the 4th to the 7th of September in Bahia, Brazil.

The Scientific Director of SBPC/ML, Prof. Nairo Sumita, co-author and coordinator of the project explained that the book, based on a systematic review, describes the state of the art in POCT and the advantages and disadvantages its applications.

News from the Egyptian Society of Clinical Chemistry

PROFESSOR MOHAMED SHAARAWY RECEIVES THE CAIRO UNIVERSITY AWARD OF EXCELLENCE

The Egyptian Society of Clinical Chemistry and Clinical Laboratory Sciences is proud to inform you that Professor Mohamed Shaarawy, President of the Egyptian Society of Clinical Chemistry and Clinical Laboratory Sciences has received the Award of Excellence offered by Cairo University, Egypt, for his efforts in educational activities, scientific research and patients care.



Professor establishment has also seen to the establishment of two clinical centers, the first is oriented toward endocrinology and maternal biochemistry laboratories within the Department of Obstetrics-Gynecology. The second is aiming at genomic medicine at the Faculty of Medicine, Cairo University.

The award is the highest offered by Cairo University, the oldest and eminent scientific university in Egypt.

In 1999, Professor Shaarawy had received the IFCC Henry Wishinsky given to an individual who has made unique contributions to the promotion and understanding of Clinical Chemistry and Laboratory Medicine throughout the world.

Professor Mohamed Shaarawy

NEWS FROM THE CHILEAN SOCIETY OF CLINICAL CHEMISTRY Contributed by Eduardo Aranda, national representative to the SChQC

CHILEAN SOCIETY OF CLINICAL CHEMISTRY ACCEPTED AS A MEMBER OF IACC

The Chilean Society of Clinical Chemistry (SChQC) has been accepted, through the *Instituto Nacional de Normalizacion* (INN), as a Full Member of the Inter-American Accreditation Cooperation (IAAC) during 17th General Assembly of the IAAC, held last August in Cartagena de Indias, Colombia. We are particularly proud for this acceptance, as the SChQC is the first scientific society, representing the professional opinion of the clinical laboratories of our country, in the Inter-American body.

The General Assembly is the highest authority of IACC involving all accreditation bodies outside the region, that meet annually to discuss and approve policies and procedures governing the activities of the member organizations. The IAAC is part of the International Accreditation Cooperation (ILAC) and International Accreditation Forum (IAF), as also are APLAC, PAC and SADCA.

The SChQC, a scientific, nonprofit Society, founded in 1980 is composed of professionals related to clinical laboratory areas that include Biochemistry, Pharmacy, Physicians and Medical Technologists. In addition, the SChQC is a member of the Latin American Confederation of Clinical Biochemistry (COLABIOCLI) and of the International Federation of Clinical Chemistry and Laboratory Medicine (IFCC).

As a new IAAC member, we plan to contribute our viewpoint to the issues of competence, and to actively participate to the IAAC subcommittees.

The current executive board of SChQC is composed of: Dr. Angelica Lagos, President; Mrs. Maria Elena Arredondo, Vice-President; Dr. Ximena Lobos, Treasurer and Dr. Rene Gomez, Secretary.



From left to right: Dr Eduardo Aranda, Dra. Angelica Lagos, Ms Maria Elena Arredondo and Dr. Rene Gomez.

NEWS FROM ARGENTINA Contributed by Alejandra Arias, IFCC eNewsletter Liaison

CUBRA TREASURER AND CHAIR OF THE COMMUNICATION COMMITTEE

The Executive Committee of the Confederación Unificada Bioquímica de la República Argentina (CUBRA) for 2012-2014 has recently been elected.

The holders of the various executive positions are:

Chair: Dr. Jorge Ricardo Alegre (Río Negro)
Vice- Chair: Dr. Alberto Eduardo Pintado (Jujuy)
Secretary Dr. Antonio Alberto Casado (Buenos Aires)

Pro-Secretary: Dr. Félix Carlos Acuña (Santiago del Estero)
Treasurer: Dra. María Alejandra Arias (San Luis)

Deputy-Treasurer: Dr. Dante Spizzo (Chaco)

Vocal Holder 1° Dr. Carlos Atilio Longo (CABA) Vocal Holder 2° Dr. José Assa (Tucumán)

Vocal Holder 3° Dr. Juan José Somoza (La Pampa)
Vocal Holder 4° Dr. Manuel Arca (Entre Ríos)
Vocal Alternate 1° Dr. Enrique Bardi (Salta)

Vocal Alternate 2° Dr. Ernesto Dahinten (Chubut)
Vocal Alternate 3° Dr. Enrique Ocampos (Catamarca)
Vocal Alternate 4° Dr. Hugo Castro (San Juan)

Account Holder Reviser 1° Dra. Hilda Alegre (Corrientes)
Account Holder Reviser 2° Dra. María Perez (San Luis)
Account Holder Reviser 3° Dra. Nora Pierángeli (Neuquén)
Account Alternate Reviser 1° Dr. Lisandro Travaglino (Río Negro)
Account Alternate Reviser 2° Dr Luis Alberto Pozzi (La Rioja)
Account Alternate Reviser 3° Dr. Luis García (Buenos Aires)



From left to right: Dr. Antonio Alberto Casado (Secretary); Dr. Félix Carlos Acuña (Pro-Secretary); Dr. Jorge Ricardo Alegre (Chair); Dra. Maria Alejandra Arias (Treasurer); Dr. Alberto Eduardo Pintado (Vice-Chair) and Dr. Dante Spizzo (pro-Treasurer).

NEWS FROM CLINICAL LABORATORY STANDARDS INSTITUTE (CLSI)

CLSI TO HOST WORKSHOPS IN HOUSTON AND BOSTON ON HOW TO IMPLEMENT EP23

Contributed by Megan Scanlon, Marketing Communication Specialist

Wayne, Pennsylvania, USA-August 2012-Clinical and Laboratory Standards Institute (CLSI) is set to host a workshop based on CLSI document EP23-Laboratory Quality Control Based on Risk Management; Approved Guideline. The workshop that has been held on September 29, 2012 will be repeated on November 3, 2012 from 8:30 AM-4:00 PM Eastern (US) Time at the Hilton Boston Back Bav. Boston. Massachusetts. USA.

EP23 delivers guidance and examples to ensure optimal quality control (QC) within laboratories-from checking refrigerator temperatures to conducting proficiency testing and training. These workshops will

demonstrate methods to best apply the EP23 document and its companion products to ensure "the right QC" in any laboratory.

The Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) enforce the Clinical Laboratory Improvement Amendments, which ensure quality in all laboratory testing performed on humans in the United States. The publication of EP23 has prompted CMS to recognize its QC concepts and they will be eliminating the original equivalent QC options. This workshop will allow participants to determine the best QC tools to create a custom QC plan (QCP) for each test and help them develop a QCP that will reduce the risk of error and help ensure good patient test results. Other focuses of the workshop will include using risk assessment, the use of popular risk assessment tools, and how to implement the quality features that the manufacturer has created to ensure correct test results.

Speakers at the workshop will include James H. Nichols, PhD, DABCC, FACB, Medical Director, Clinical Chemistry, Baystate Medical Center, Springfield, Massachusetts, USA; Ann E. Snyder, MT(ASCP), Medical Technologist, and Sarah F. Bennett, MT(ASCP), Medical Technologist, both from CMS in Baltimore, Maryland, USA; Luann Ochs, MS, Senior Vice President - Operations, CLSI; and Marcy Anderson, MS, MT(ASCP), Director of Education, CLSI.

The first of these experts is Dr. Nichols, the Chair-holder of the EP23 document development committee, whose perspective is invaluable to those learning to implement the document and its QC tools. "EP23 provides guidance for laboratories to better understand the weaknesses in their testing process and be proactive in developing strategies to detect and prevent errors before they reach the patient," Dr. Nichols explains. "By following EP23, laboratories will learn to assess their risks and create individualized control plans for their instrumentation and medical application of the test result in their setting, finding the right balance of manufacturer-engineered and liquid quality control processes."

This workshop is planned for clinical and laboratory professionals of all levels, related health care professionals, manufacturers and representatives from regulatory and accrediting organizations, and educators and students in clinical laboratory sciences. Online registration is now available at www.clsi.org. Participants will be awarded five contact hours of continuing education credits.

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IFCC ROCHE TRAVEL SCHOLARSHIP

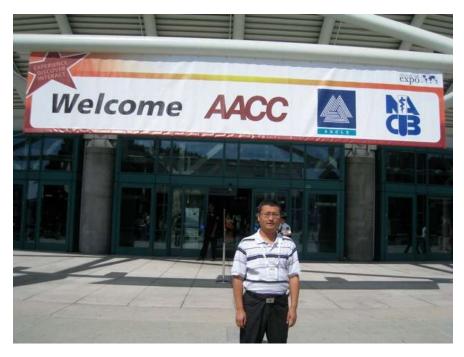
AN IMPRESSIVE EXPERIENCE AT THE AACC ANNUAL MEETING

Contributed by Dr. Jiancheng Xu, Jilin University, China.

Last July, I was honoured by receiving the IFCC-Roche Travel Scholarship to attend, in Los Angeles, the 2012 AACC Annual Meeting that allows attendees to keep up with the latest trends and advances in Clinical Chemistry. Well informed beforehand through numerous e-mails and the website I could follow, almost in real-time, the developments related to meeting content and events. The high-quality lectures given by world-known scientists provided an exceptional learning experience. The Clinical Lab Expo afforded a wealth of information on state-of-the-art analytical platforms in the different fields of laboratory medicine that can be introduced in China to improve clinical laboratory services. The AACC bookstore offered a wide array of books in different fields from which I could choose. Accommodation

and conference service were outstanding, and Los Angeles proved to be a beautiful and modern city, ideal to hold a high-caliber international meeting such as that of the AACC Annual meeting.

As China is connecting to the world, an increasing number of Chinese colleagues can attend this International Conference to benefit of information on advanced theory and technology in the field of medical laboratory sciences and thus improve their professional skills.



I sincerely thank the IFCC-Roche Travel Scholarship Committee and AACC, for having given me the opportunity of attending the AACC 2012.



Contributed by Dr. Santosh Timalsina, Department of Biochemistry, Institute of Medicine, Kathmandu, Nepal

From left to right Prof. Helen Martin, Ms Paola Bramati, Dr. Santosh Timalsina, Prof. Howard Morris at the IFCC Booth

The news of my selection as a grantee of the IFCC Roche travel Scholarship to attend the American Association for Clinical Chemistry Annual Meeting in Los Angeles filled me with joy and excitement. It was my dream becoming true to see the largest clinical laboratory medicine expo in the world.

The theme of this year's conference was "Experiencing educational opportunities, discovering new technologies and interacting with colleagues and peers." On the first day of the conference I attended a session on Quality Management System (QMS) sponsored by CLSI. It was followed by an International Travel Grant luncheon that gave me the opportunity to meet my fellow AACC travel grant winners as well as many distinguished people among which was Prof. Jocelyn Hicks, past-president of IFCC and Dr. Bob Dufour. The conference began formally with a speech from Dr. Greg Miller, AACC President, which was followed by a plenary lecture on genomic medicine given by Dr. Eric Green from the NIH. The educational sessions on gestational DM, thyroid diseases and other chronic diseases that I attended, were very useful in enhancing my knowledge.

A Lab tour of a variety of services ranging from hemato-pathology to molecular pathology at the Cedar Sinai Medical Center in company of other AACC travel grant winners allowed us to see the degree of sophistication and automation of the instruments available on which I had read.

The Clinical Lab Expo, the largest I have seen up today made me realize how important is the international market in laboratory medicine, and gave me the opportunity to appreciate the advancements in instrumentation and in biomarker development. I had the opportunity to meet and chat with IFCC representatives attending the IFCC booth.

The poster session was highly rewarding and pleasant as I was given the opportunity to share my research project with many participants that commented my results and that gave me precious advice. This session also enabled me to gain knowledge of the research being conducted in several countries and helped me in furthering my research career. I really appreciated the atmosphere of camaraderie and the contacts I have established with these colleagues.

It was my first visit to United States and everything was interesting. Aside of the scientific world, I took a guided bus tour of Los Angeles visiting some of the highlight places such as Hollywood Hill, Beverley Hills and beaches. The people around were very kind and helpful. All in all, it was a memorable event for me that I'll cherish forever.

I believe is the IFCC Roche travel Scholarship has served its purpose. Without it, a young clinical biochemist from a developing country like Nepal would never had attended such a grand event. I would like to offer my sincere gratitude to the IFCC-Roche Scholarship Committee.



Contributed by Dr Yingyu Jin, Department of Laboratory Diagnosis, The First Clinical College, Harbin Medical University China.

Dr Yingyu Jin

The IFCC Roche Travel Scholarship, which I have been awarded as a young Chinese scientist, has given me the possibility to attend, last July, the AACC Annual Meeting in Los Angeles. This meeting, due to its stature and breadth, is a unique opportunity for Clinical Chemists in training such

as I to benefit of the knowledge of world-known experts. The topics covered many fields, including cardiology, endocrinology, nephrology, hematology, <u>oncology</u> and gastroenterology, to name only these ones. Dr. Roberts presented his research on the heart molecular genetics that lead him to discover several genes involved in heart diseases, a subject closely related to my own research work. His lecture on "9p21 DNA Variants Associated with Coronary Artery Disease Risk" has definitively left me with a lasting impression. The meeting also allowed me to keep up with the latest advances in the profession by interacting with colleagues and experts from around the world. The 2012 AACC Annual Meeting and the Clinical Lab Expo have informed me on the continuing changes in the health care environment that directly affect me. I sincerely thank the IFCC Roche Travel Scholarship Committee for having given me the occasion to participate to this outstanding convention in the field of medical laboratory sciences.

Contributed by Dr. Min Zhao, The First Hospital of China Medical University, Shenyang, China



Dr Min Zhao

The IFCC Roche Travel Scholarship has given me the opportunity to attend the AACC annual meeting held in Los Angeles last July. I have thus been able to attend several lectures addressing topics in which I am strongly interested such as reference intervals, personalized medicine and metabolic syndrome.

The recent impressive development of molecular genetics technologies, and the decreasing cost and time have opened the field to clinical laboratories and have allowed the identification of several new loci and genetic markers directly related to certain diseases and treatments.

Immediately following the meeting, I have been given the occasion to visit laboratories of three local hospitals in Los Angeles, including the Children's Hospital LA, UCLA-Reagan Medical Center and Cedars Sinai Medical Center. During the visits, I sensed the increasing impact of Molecular Diagnoses and Personalized Medicine Technologies on the routine clinical pathology work of the hospitals in the process of diagnosis and treatment of diseases. It is clear that with time, as more automatic laboratory instruments and more advanced technologies will be developed, an increasing number of patients will be offered personalized treatments thereby improving people's health status.

I believe that this year AACC meeting reflected well its theme "Experiencing educational opportunities, discovering new technologies and interacting with colleagues and peers." It clearly showed that we are entering the era of Genomic Medicine, and that while we have much more research opportunities and we also have to face more challenges.

I greatly appreciated the IFCC Roche Travel Scholarship that gave me the privilege to participate to this exceptional meeting, and I would like to offer my sincere gratefulness to the IFCC-Roche Scholarship Committee.

IFCC WELCOMES ONEWORLD ACCURACY COLLABORATION AS A CORPORATE MEMBER

OneWorld Accuracy Collaboration offers world-scientists to imbed their science in programs that assess, improve and standardize their test results that are added to OASYS - Oneworld Accuracy System, an online system that can connect anyone in the world that has Internet access. Laboratories, doctors, clinics and pharmacies are invited to participate in their EQA and Standardization programs.

Oneworld Accuracy currently has 30 Collaboration Members who provide 25,000 program subscriptions every year to 5,000 participants in 55 countries. To learn more about OneWorld Accuracy Collaboration go to the Website: oneworldaccuracy.com

OneWorld Accuracy Collaboration is the 48th Corporate member to join the IFCC.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE 13TH BERGMEYER CONFERENCE AVAILABLE ON THE IFCC WEBSITE

The proceedings of the 13th Bergmeyer Conference held in March 2012 and dedicated to "Vitamin D in Health and Disease", have been published in the "Scandinavian Journal of Clinical and Laboratory Investigation" (Vol. 72), and are now available for download via the IFCC website at the following address: http://www.ifcc.org/ifcc-communications-publications-division-(cpd)/conferenceproceedings/.

The Bergmeyer Conferences, founded in 1987, are a collaborative effort of IFCC and Roche Diagnostics, focused on issues of standardisation.

The objectives of these biennial Conferences are:

- o Improving the Comparability and Compatibility of Laboratory Assay results in life sciences;
- o Improving the Clinical Value of Laboratory Data;
- o Discussion of Standardisation Issues and suggesting solutions in order to achieve the first two objectives:
- o Master Discussion of Experts and a Brain Storming Forum for projects to be executed by Scientific Division's Committees or Working Groups.

Each Conference is devoted to a rapid developing new area relevant for laboratory science and clinical medicine.

The 2012 edition of the Bergmeyer Conference focused on "Vitamin D in Health and Disease" and more than 20 speakers gave their contribution to the discussion".

FORTHCOMING MEETINGS

 MEETING 2nd European Joint Congress of EFCC and UEMS, under the auspices of the IFCC 	DATE October 10- 13 2012	VENUE Dubrovnik, Croatia	INFORMATION www.dubrovnik2012.com	
 5th Annual Asia Pacific and Japan Scientific Symposium "Turning Science into Caring" 	October 15- 16, 2012	Shanghai, China	Contact: peng.yin@abbott.com	
 Vitamin D: minimum, maximum, optimum XI Ecuadorian and VII International Congress of Clinical Biochemistry 	October 19- 20, 2012 October 23- 27, 2012	Warsaw, Poland Cuenca, Ecuador	www.ifcc.org/media/145727/Progr amme.pdf Contact: mariapasquelc@yahoo.com	
 International Conference on Laboratory Medicine "Diagnostic Errors and Quality Indicators in Laboratory Medicine" 	October 25, 2012	Padova, Italy	Click <u>here</u> to download the programme.	
 New perspectives in molecular sciences education Journées Internationales de Biologie (JIB) 	November 5 - 6, 2012 November 7 - 9, 2012	Istanbul, Turkey Paris, France	<u>Click here</u> to download the programme. www.jib-sdbio.fr	
12 th EFCC Continuous Postgraduate Course in Clinical Chemistry: New trends in Classification, Diagnosis and Management of Gastrointestinal Diseases	November 10-11, 2012	Dubrovnik, Croatia	www.dubrovnik-course.org/	
 6th International Scientific CIRME Meeting "New biological and analytical issues on Hemoglobin A₂ and other minor Hemoglobins" 	November 27, 2012	Milano, Italy	http://www.ifcc.org	
 Second European Forum on Diabetes: "More tools, more challenges" 	November 30, 2012	Amsterdam, The Netherlands	Contact: Maria_Cacchiotti@bio-rad.com	
 2nd EFLM-BD European Conference on Preanalytical Phase 	March 1-2, 2013	Zagreb, Croatia	Scientific Programme and Abstract Submission available at: www.preanalytical-phase.org	
 Metabolic and Infectious Mediterranean Endemia 	May 16-18, 2013	Marseille, France	http://www.ifcc.org	

•	EuroMedLab 2013 - 20th IFCC-EFCC European Congress of Clinical Chemistry and Laboratory Medicine	May 19-23, 2013	Milano, Italy	www.milan2013.org
•	The 2 nd European Conference of National Strategies for Chlamydia Trachomatis and Human Papillomavirus	May 23-24, 2013	Berlin, Germany	www.iecclm.com
•	5 th International Congress of Biochemistry and Molecular Biology and 14th Iranian Congress of Biochemistry	September 8-12, 2013	Tehran, Iran	Contact: salami.si@gmail.com
•	COLABIOCLI 2013 - XXI Congreso Latinoamericano de Bioquímica Clinica	October 29 November 1, 2013	Lima, Perù	
•	APCCB 2013 - 13th Asian Pacific Congress of Clinical Biochemistry	November 17-20, 2013	Bali, Indonesia	www.apccb2013.org
•	WorldLab 2014 - 21st International Congress of Clinical Chemistry and Laboratory Medicine	June 22-26, 2014	Istanbul, Turkey.	www.istanbul2014.org