

International Federation of Clinical Chemistry

Scientific Division

Committee on Nomenclature, Properties and Units (C-NPU)

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1999-07-13

Minutes of meeting, Seville, 1998-03-26/30

Approved in Berlin, August 9, 1999

Present:

Members: Xavier Fuentes-Arderiu (XFA, chair), René Dybkær (RD), Antonín Jabor (AJ), Wolf R. Külpmann (WK) and Pedro Soares de Araujo (PS, secretary).

Associate members: Henrik Olesen (HO), Gilbert Hill (GH) and Urban Forsum (UF).

Guests: Matthew McQueen (MQ), Anders Kallner (AK) and Ivan Bruunshuus (IB).

Regrets: Clement Mc Donald (CM).

- **0.0** The chairman called the meeting to order at 09:15, and welcomed members and guests to the meeting. The chairman provided details about a meeting with IFCC president Prof. Matthew McQueen scheduled for March 27.
- **1.0** The provisional agenda, previously circulated, was approved with minor modifications.

2.0 Minutes of C-NPU meeting, Geneva, 1997-08-24/26

The minutes of the Geneva meeting 1997-08-24/26 were approved after minor revisions. The secretary will distribute a clean copy of these minutes. The approved minutes will be sent to Carl A. Burtis, SD chair.

3.0 Member reports

- **3.1** RD informed that as the liaison person to the joint committee for Guides in Metrology (JCGM) he attended the meeting in Paris in 1997. Two workgroups were established: GUM and VIM. A new document was produced by VIM, very recently, which will be discussed in a meeting scheduled for April 30, 1998, to which RD will attend.
- 3.2 GH reported on the collaboration with LOINC and the current work to increase the number of entries related to substance based properties. He also informed about the IBM's Health Data Network (HDN) system, and one of its key components, the Medical Entities Dictionary (MED). The current version of the MED is based on SNOMED, but the version to be implemented in the Toronto project (identified as eCHN or the Electronic Child Health Network) will be based on LOINC.

- **3.3** UF reported on the approach to the International Union of Microbiology (IUM) about our bacteriology document. In this connection XFA proposed a joint venture with IUM. Both UF and XFA agree while HO proposed that we finish this document the way it is now.
- **3.4** AJ reported on contacts with suppliers of clinical information systems, namely the European Society for Clinical Microbiology and Infectious Diseases (ESCMID).
- **3.5** XFA reported on his appointment as a titular member to the Interdivisional Committee on Nomenclature and Symbols (IDCNS) and he will attend a meeting in August 1998 in the USA.

4.0 SD meeting

The main topics discussed in this meeting referred to the activities of the Vancouver group on publications and the important work that is currently being done with editors; strategies to increase the visibility of the work done by C-NPU and the preparation of a draft on requesting which will be conducted by RD and UF.

After this meeting the C-NPU was visited by Prof. Matthew McQueen. Topics discussed included the need for upgrading the current information of the Bluebook, the amount of previous work done by C-NPU, the need for coding schemes, IFFCC home page on the Internet, the activities of the Vancouver group, JCGM and the activities of the Education committee.

5.0 Status reports/ Review of projects

- **5.1** Project 18/87. Properties and Units in the Clinical Laboratory Sciences
 - VII. Properties and units in inborn errors of metabolism
 - D. Kenny, J.G. Hill and H. Olesen

GH reported that just a few days before this meeting he found that a significant number of entries were added to the inborn errors database at the CNPU website which represented a very significant progress on the project. The question posed by GH is "what happens next" on the continuation of this project.

IFCC and IUPAC: stage 1, draft 0

VIII. Properties and units in bacteriology

U. Forsum, H. Olesen, W. Frederiksen, J. Blomberg, B. Persson.

There is still need for more revision specially in the susceptibility section.

IFCC and IUPAC: stage 2

X. Properties and units in general clinical chemistry

H. Olesen, I. Ibsen, I. Bruunshuus, D. Kenny, R. Dybkaer, X, Fuentes-Arderiu, J.G. Hill, P. Soares de Araujo, C. McDonald

A series of changes were introduced. A new draft to be distributed for commenting by C-NPU. Last version is from 1998-03-02.

IFCC and IUPAC: stage 2

XII. Properties and units in clinical pharmacology

H. Olesen, D. Cowan, R. de la Torre, I. Bruunshuus, M. Rohde, D. Kenny

No progress was reported on this project

IFCC and IUPAC: stage 1

XIV. Properties and units in tumor markers.

X. Fuentes-Arderiu

More information was requested on cytokeratins. There was a discussion on adding not recommended terms at the end of the document.

IFCC and IUPAC: stage 1

- XVI. Properties and units in clinical allergology
 - I. Bruunshuus, L. Poulsen, et al.

Many corrections were suggested by the members of C-NPU

IFCC and IUPAC: stage 1

XVII. Properties and units for urinary calculi

T. Bulková, A. Jabor, M. Zámeanik, B. Friedecky
The present form does not conform to the C-NPU document

structure. Several

comments were made on the syntax.

IFCC and IUPAC: stage 1

- **5.2** Project 24/97. Basic metrological concepts and definitions in clinical laboratory sciences.
 - R. Dybkaer and X. Fuentes-Arderiu.

This project depends on the activities going on VIM. Discussion postponed.

IUPAC and IFCC: stage 0

- **5.3** Project 25/97. Properties and units in molecular biology
 - P.S. de Araujo, B. Zingales, P. Alía-Ramos, A. Blanco-Font, X. Fuentes-Arderiu A few suggestions were presented to improve the current version. The last draft is to be commented by members of the Committee on Molecular Biology Techniques.

IFCC and IUPAC: stage 2

5.4 Project 26/97. Properties and units in flow cytometry

No activity is reported for this project. It was suggested that this project should be dropped

- 5.5 Project 27/95. Ongoing activity. Maintenance and update of the C-NPU www site.
 - H. Olesen et al.

With the imminent retirement of HO the databases should be transferred to Sweden if funds are made available for this purpose. The activities on this project are pending the developments on the transfer.

- **5.6** Project 28/97. Intensional definitions of basic concepts in human health.
 - R. Dybkaer, W. R. Külpmann, D. Kenny

This project was proposed as collaboration with WHO, presented by Claus Heuck in the Geneva meeting. No activity was reported. WK was to write a letter to Claus Heuck inquiring on the continuation of this project.

IFCC and IUPAC: stage 0

5.7 Project 29/97. Compilation and clarification of quality assurance related nomenclature.

R. Dybkaer

No activity was reported for this project. An inquiry should be directed to AK.

IFCC and IUPAC: stage 0

- **5.8** Project 30/97. Inclusion of mass-based properties in the NPU database.
 - H. Olesen, W.R. Külpmann

No activity was reported for this project. Many of the members felt that the CNPU / LOINC collaboration should be "bidirectional" - with LOINC increasing the number of entries relating to substance based properties in its database, and CNPU doing the same with mass-based properties. Members of the CNPU discussed a suggestion that this project should be dropped.

IFCC and IUPAC: stage 0

5.9 Project 31/97. Transformation facilities between mass- and amount of substance-based properties.

A. Jabor, H. Olesen

The same comments apply for this project as in 5.8.

IFCC and IUPAC: stage 0

5.10 Project 32/97. Properties and units for dynamic function tests.

A. Jaboi

No activity was reported for this project. It will be postponed until the next meeting.

IFCC and IUPAC: stage 0

5.11 Project 33/97. Petition to Comité Consultatif des Unités about the unit name katal.

R. Dybkaer.

RD presented this petition to CCU.

- **5.12** Project 34/97. Metrological concepts and terms in toxicology.
 - X. Fuentes-Arderiu

This project is on hold. No activity reported.

IFCC and IUPAC: stage 0

- **5.13** Project 35/97. Harmonisation of coding schemes between IUPAC and LOINC.
 - C. McDonald, H. Olesen

There is no longer interest in this project. It was recognised that it was not feasible due to important differences between the two systems. It was accepted that this project should be dropped.

GH raised the comment that "as a minimum, there is interest in maintaining links between the two, with a view to enriching each with the experiences of the other. Perhaps what needs to be considered is how best to make this happen."

6.0 Organisations: contacts and meetings

A meeting was proposed to be held in Prague between 16/18 October. Further considerations are needed on this topic.

7.0 New Projects

7.1 Concepts for requests in clinical laboratories

Recommendation: U. Forsum, A. Jabor

7.2 Properties and units in clinical virology

Recommendation: U. Forsum

8.0 Recent Publications

- F. Antoja-Ribó, N. Gascón-Roche, X. Fuentes-Arderiu. Terminología bioquímico-clínica: vocabulário de interferencias. Química Clínica 1997, 16: 207-209
- X. Fuentes-Arderiu, P. Alía Ramos, O. Diez Gibert et al. Diccionario ingles-cstellano-catalán-euskera-gallego de biologia y patologia moleculares. Barcelona: SEQC, 1997
- X. Fuentes-Arderiu. Principios de metodologia. En: X. Fuentes-Arderiu, M.J. Castineiras Lacambra, J.M. Queraltó Companó, dirs. Bioqímica Clínica y Patolgia Molecular. Barcelona: Reverté, 1998; 5-17
- X. Fuentes-Arderiu. Nomenclatura de les magnituds biologiques. En: J. Miró Balagué, X. Fuentes-Arderiu, dirs. Documents del Comité d'Homologació de Dades I Procediments. Barcelona: Associació Catalana de Ciéncies de Laboratori Clinic, 1998: 85-127

9.0 Strategic plan/ Terms of reference

Discussion deferred.

10.0 Budget

The budget arrangements for the current year appear to be satisfactory.

11.0 Membership

Titular members:

Xavier Fuentes-Arderiu (ES, chairman)

Pedro Soares de Araujo (BR, secretary)

Clement McDonald (US) René Dybkaer (DK)
Antonín Jabor (CZ) Wolf R. Külpmann (DE)

Associate members:

Urban Forsum (SE) Henrik Olesen (DK)
Desmond Kenny (IE) Gilbert Hill (CA)
Gunnar Nordin (SE) Eugeny Yurtov (RU)

12.0 Future meetings

The next meeting will be at the IUPAC General Assembly in Berlin, August 1999

13.0 Other Business

Not discussed

14.0 Closing

The meeting closed at 15:30 on 1998-03-30