



ASIA-PACIFIC FEDERATION FOR CLINICAL BIOCHEMISTRY AND LABORATORY MEDICINE

Three year report of the APFCB October 2010 till October 2013

1. APFCB matters

Ordinary members

The following National Societies are members of the APFCB:

1. Australasian Association of Clinical Biochemists (AACB)
2. Chinese Society of Laboratory Medicine (CSLM)
3. Hong Kong Society of Clinical Chemistry (HKSCC)
4. Association of Clinical Biochemists of India (ACBI)
5. Indonesian Association of Clinical Chemistry (IACC)
6. Japan Society of Clinical Chemistry (JSCC)
7. Korean Society of Clinical Chemistry (KSCC)
8. Malaysian Association of Clinical Biochemists (MACB)
9. Nepal Association for Medical Laboratory Sciences (NAMLS)
10. Pakistan Society of Chemical Pathologists (PSCP)
11. Philippine Association of Medical Technologists (PAMET)
12. Singapore Association of Clinical Biochemists (SACB)
13. Association for Clinical Biochemistry, Sri Lanka (ACBSL)
14. Chinese Association for Clinical Biochemistry, Taiwan (CACB)
15. Thailand Association of Clinical Biochemists (TACB)
16. Vietnamese Association of Clinical Biochemistry (VACB)

Corporate Members

1. Abbott Diagnostics
2. Agappe Diagnostics Ltd
3. BD Diagnostics
4. Beckman Coulter
5. Beijing Wantai
6. Bio-Rad
7. Diasorin Ltd
8. Diasys Diagnostic Systems, GmbH
9. Kopran Laboratories Ltd
10. Ortho-Clinical Diagnostics
11. PM Separations
12. Randox Laboratories
13. Roche Diagnostics
14. Sekisui Chemical Co

15. Shenzhen Mindray Bio-Medical Electronics Co Ltd
16. Siemens
17. Sukraa Software Solution Pvt Ltd
18. Sysmex
19. Technidata Medical Software

Affiliate Members

1. Chinese Association of Clinical Laboratory Management (CACLM)
2. Association of Medical Biochemists of India (AMBI)
3. Macao Laboratory Medicine Association (MLMA)

Office Bearers

The Executive Board of the APFCB was elected at the Council Meeting in Seoul on 3rd October 2010 while the chairs were appointed in November 2010 based on nominations by APFCB member associations.

The office-bearers will serve until the 31st of December 2013.

Executive Board

President	Leslie Lai (Malaysia)
Immediate Past President	Joseph Lopez (Malaysia)
Vice-President	Sunil Sethi (Singapore)
Secretary	Endang Hoyaranda (Indonesia)
Treasurer	Elizabeth Frank (India)
Corporate Representative	Martin Fuhrer (Siemens)

Chairs of Committees

Communications (C-Comm)	Praveen Sharma (India)
Congress and conferences (C-CC)	Joseph Lopez (Malaysia)
Education (C-Edu)	Samuel Vasikaran (Australia)
Laboratory Management (C-LM)	Tony Badrick (Australia)
Scientific (C-Sci)	Kiyoshi Ichihara (Japan)

Honorary Executive Officer: Dr Johnson Wijaya (Indonesia)

Committee members and Corresponding members to the five standing committees of the APFCB were appointed in January 2011 for a three year term.

Resolutions adopted

Following resolutions adopted at the APFCB Council meeting in Seoul on 3rd October 2010, the following changes have been approved for implementation by the Registrar of Societies of Singapore:

- Name change from Asian and Pacific Federation of Clinical Biochemistry to Asia-Pacific Federation for Clinical Biochemistry and Laboratory Medicine. The abbreviation APFCB remains unchanged
- Term of office-bearers to begin on 1 January after the Council meeting for 3 years to end on 31 December after the next Council meeting.
- Collection of a tiered subscription from APFCB Ordinary members
- New 2-tiered subscription rate for corporate members, one for the multinational companies and a lower rate for the companies from the region.

New Affiliate Members

MLMA and AMBI were accepted as Affiliate members in November 2010 and June 2013, respectively.

New Corporate Members

Diasorin Ltd. (June 2012)

DiaSys Diagnostic Systems GmbH (June 2012)

Kopran Laboratories Ltd. (June 2012)

Mindray (July 2012)

Technidata Medical Software (December 2012)

Sukraa Software Solution Pvt. Ltd. (September 2013)

12th APCCB, Seoul Financial Report

The financial report from the 12th Asian-Pacific Congress of Clinical Biochemistry was received on 11th July 2011. A sum of USD 25,015.44 was received by APFCB in August 2011, this being equivalent to 20% of surplus. The IFCC received a remittance of USD 6,253.86

Golden Jubilee Celebrations

JSCC and AACB celebrated their golden jubilee in 2011 and the VACB in 2013.

Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) between APFCB and World Association of Pathology and Laboratory Medicine (WASPaLM)

An MoU between APFCB and WASPaLM was signed on 17 May 2011 during the IFCC WorldLab in Berlin by the Presidents of APFCB (Dr Leslie Lai) and WASPaLM (Prof Michael Oellerich). As an initial co-operation between APFCB and WASPaLM, WASPaLM has granted its auspices to the 13th APFCB Congress in Bali and are sponsoring speakers to participate in the 13th APFCB Congress in Bali. APFCB, in return, offered to sponsor a symposium on reference intervals at the WASPaLM World Congress, held from 8-11 June 2013 in Quebec City, Canada. A meeting

has been arranged between APFCB EB and WASPaLM EB at the APFCB Congress in Bali to discuss further areas of co-operation.

2. APFCB ACTIVITIES

1. APFCB Education Committee (C-Edu)

Chair: Prof Samuel Vasikaran (Australia)

Committee Members: Samuel Vasikaran (Chair, AACB), Sun Fei (Secretary, CSLM), Shu-Chu Shiesh (CACB), DM Vasudevan (ACBI), Leslie Lai (ex-officio).

1. APFCB Travelling Lectureships

Dr Angela Wang from Hong Kong was the APFCB TL for 2011/12 and the APFCB is grateful to Roche Diagnostics for sponsoring her travel costs. Dr Wang delivered her lecture entitled, "Inflammatory markers in chronic kidney disease" in Sydney, Australia at the AACB ASC in October 2012, in Hong Kong, to the HKSCC in November 2012, to the MACB in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia in July 2012 and in Kunming, China in August 2012.

The APFCB TL for 2013/14 is Prof Sunil Sethi of Singapore. Prof Sethi will speak on the following topics:

1. Managing Laboratory Informatics, Middleware and Process Control.
2. The Clinical and Technical Demands of Laboratory Cardiac Biomarker Resulting.
3. Developments in Laboratory Diagnosis and Monitoring of Diabetes and Related Metabolic Syndromes.

Prof Sethi delivered his lectures at the MACB Annual Scientific Meeting in June 2013 and in Vietnam in September 2013 and will deliver a plenary lecture at the APFCB Congress in Bali in October 2013. Other lectures being planned are in Thailand and Hong Kong for early 2014.

2. IFCC-Abbott Visiting Lecturer

Dr Gary Myers of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention in the US was the IFCC-Abbott VL for the APFCB region during 2012. The title of his lecture was "Current Markers of cardiovascular disease". Dr Myers visited China and Hong Kong in May 2012 and presented a plenary lecture in Nanjing at the 7th National Youth Congress of Laboratory Medicine and in Hong Kong to a meeting of the HKSCC. He presented a plenary lecture at the AACB ASC in Melbourne on the 15th of November 2012 followed by further lectures at the MACB conference in Kuala Lumpur on November 21st, IACC conference in Jakarta on the 24th of

November, and the PAMET conference in Manila on the 28th of November in 2012.

Prof Howard Morris, (Vice President of IFCC) of the University of South Australia and South Australia Pathology has been nominated to be the IFCC-Abbott VL for 2013/2014. Those interested to host Prof Morris should contact the Chair of the Education Committee.

3. APFCB Webinars

The APFCB Webinar for 2011 was delivered by Dr Ian Goodall of Australia on June the 24th. The topic was "HbA1c standardisation". The APFCB Webinar for 2012 was delivered by Dr Elizabeth Frank of India on April 4th. The topic was "How to prepare your laboratory for accreditation". Both webinars were sponsored by Siemens Diagnostics. It was decided not to hold a webinar in 2013; technical issues and poor participation rate need to be investigated before further webinars are planned.

4. Interpretative Comments Educational Programme

The above programme was started in 2008 by the Laboratory Management Committee but from 2011 was administered by the Education Committee. Participation was free. Expressions of interest were invited from individuals and laboratories from the APFCB region via the Council representatives and the Education Committee representatives of each country in 2011 and 2012. A set of laboratory results with clinical background and patient details were distributed to registered participants by e-mail five times each year. Participants were invited to assume that the requesting doctor had requested an interpretation of the results and were asked to attach an interpretative comment and return it to the organisers by e-mail. Participants' replies were reviewed by the Commenting Educational Programme Committee coordinated by Dr Gordon Challand of UK in 2011 and 2012, and an example of a good interpretative comment and an overview and discussion of the case were returned to participants by e-mail within a few weeks of the closing date for replies. There were 52 registrants in 2011; participation rate was around 50%. There were 43 registrants in 2012; participation rate was well below 50%. The APFCB funded the administrative cost of running the programme in terms of clerical assistance. A review of the programme will be held during the APFCB Congress in Bali in view of the poor participation rate.

5. APFCB Scholarships

Two scholarships of up to SGD 3,500 each were awarded for attendance at the IFCC WorldLab in Berlin in May 2011. The recipients were Uditkumar Agrawal of India and Rojeet Shrestha of Nepal. Two scholarships of up to SGD 3,500 each were awarded for attendance at the

AACB ASM in Sydney in October 2011. The recipients were Le Thi Thuy Nhu of Vietnam and Ming Li, of China.

Two scholarships of up to SGD 3500.00 each were awarded for attendance at the AACB ASM in Melbourne in November 2012. The recipients were Prabin Gyawali of Nepal and Deepani Siriwardena of Sri Lanka.

Two APFCB scholarships of up to SGD 3,500 each were awarded for attendance at the APFCB Congress in Bali, October 2013. The recipients were Chi Mai of Vietnam and Surupa Basu of India. In addition, Saswati Das of India was awarded the APFCB-Abbott Travel Scholarship to the value of up to SGD 5000, and Apilak Worachartcheewan, Wanvisa Treebuphachatsakul and Walanphorn Ungsawat of Thailand, Kisundeo Mehta of Nepal and Mu Yu of China were awarded APFCB-Siemens Travel Scholarships each to the value of up to SGD 3500 to attend the APFCB Congress in Bali in October 2013.

6. Conference symposia and workshops

The Education Committee organised the APFCB-sponsored symposium “Osteoporosis: Investigations, fracture risk assessment and monitoring of treatment” at the EFLM-UEMS Conference, in Dubrovnik, 10-13 October 2012. Speakers were:

1. Prof Vladimir Palicka: Diagnostics of osteoporosis and fracture risk assessment
2. Dr Devika Thomas: Bone turnover markers in management of osteoporosis
3. Prof Howard Morris: Vitamin D status and osteoporosis: evidence for a role in hip and non-vertebral fractures, optimal levels and treatment targets

The Education Committee has also organised the APFCB-sponsored workshop “Interpretation and commenting on laboratory results” at the APFCB Congress in Bali in October 2013. The speakers are Drs Gordon Challand, Ken Sikaris and Sam Vasikaran.

II. Scientific Committee (C-Sc)

Chair: Prof Kiyoshi Ichihara (Japan)

Committee members: Kiyoshi Ichihara (Chair, JSCC), Sucheta Dandekar (Secretary, ACBI), Ronda Greaves (AACB), Chen Wen Xiang (CSLM), Leslie Lai (Ex-Officio)

1. Publication of papers on the 2009 Asian study for collaborative derivation of reference intervals.

The Asian study conducted as a collaborative work of APFCB and the IFCC Committee on the Reference Intervals and Decision Limits (C-RIDL) was completed in 2009. The publication of two papers reporting the study results took a long time because of controversies over the new approaches employed in the study (The use of parametric method, latent abnormal value exclusion method, transference of centrally derived RIs by cross-comparison of common specimens, etc). With acceptance of a review supporting the study methodologies (Ichiara K, Boyd J. An appraisal of statistical procedures used in derivation of reference intervals. Clin Chem Lab Med 2010;48(11):1537–1551), the papers were finally accepted in 2013 as listed below. The Asian study in fact revealed evidence regarding the regional, age-, sex-, BMI related differences in a very conclusive way. The study also predicted the feasibility of expanding the study on a global scale by use of a panel of sera. The Asian study then led to the launch of the IFCC global study using the same methodologies coordinated by the C-RIDL.

1) Ichiara K, Ceriotti F, Tam TH, Sueyoshi S, Poon PM, Thong ML, et al. The Asian project for collaborative derivation of reference intervals: (1) strategy and major results of standardized analytes. Clin Chem Lab Med 2013; 51(7):1429–42

2) Ichiara K, Ceriotti F, Mori K, Huang YY, Shimizu Y, et al. The Asian project for collaborative derivation of reference intervals: (2) results of non-standardized analytes and transference of reference intervals to the participating laboratories on the basis of cross-comparison of test results. Clin Chem Lab Med 2013; 51(7):1443–57

2. Collaboration on the global study on reference values

The study, planned and coordinated by C-RIDL (IFCC) was launched in December of 2011 after nearly two years of discussion by the committee, and a pilot study conducted in April of 2011. The objectives of the global study are 1) to establish country specific RIs in a harmonised way using the common C-RIDL protocol, and 2) to explore sources of variations of major analytes across the countries after alignment of test results through common measurement of a panel of sera prepared by C-RIDL. A total of 14 countries in five continents collaborate in the study. The following four Asian countries (members of the APFCB) are taking part in the global study.

The activity of each collaborating country from Asia as of August 2013 is as follows:

Japan: Leading the study with provision of data analytical service. 760 volunteers were recruited between 2012 and 2013 from Yamaguchi,

Hiroshima and Osaka Universities. The measurement of 55 analytes was supported by Beckman-Coulter (BC) Japan.

China: In the first phase of the study, 480 volunteers were recruited in 2012 from Beijing National Hospital, coordinated by Dr. Jian Guo. The measurement of 35 analytes was supported by BC China. The second phase of the study was launched in March 2013, led by Dr. Ling Qiu of the Beijing Union Hospital, involving 7 provinces throughout mainland China. Recruitment of 2,800 (400x7) volunteers are to be completed by September 2013. The target analytes for the second phase were increased to 56.

India: Recruitment from 500 volunteers and the measurement will be completed by September of 2013 in P.D.Hinduja National Hospital and Medical Research Center, Mumbai, headed by Dr. Tester Ashavaid. BC, Abbott and Johnson & Johnson support the assay reagents for total of 55 analytes.

Philippines: 1,200 volunteers are being recruited by a team of 9 medical technologists in Iloilo city. The study is conducted under the auspices of the Philippine Association of Medical Technologists (PAMET), San Agustin University and the city municipal government. Siemens analysers are to be adopted for the measurement of 22 major biochemical analytes.

Meetings regarding the global study, including the Asian collaborators, were held over the past three years as listed below:

- 1) 15-16 May 2011 during the WorldMedLab in Berlin, Germany as the IFCC C-RIDL meeting
- 2) 26 July 2011 during the 2011 AACC in Atlanta, USA as the IFCC C-RIDL meeting
- 3) 4- 6 December 2011 in Beijing National Hospital in Beijing, China
- 4) 16 to 17 July 2012 during the 2012 AACC in Los Angeles as the IFCC C-RIDL meeting
- 5) 20-21 August 2012 in Hinduja National Hospital in Mumbai, India
- 6) 21-22 October 2012 in Iloilo city of the Philippines with a team of laboratory technicians
- 7) 25-26 February 2013 in Beijing with the team from the Beijing Union Hospital,
- 8) 19-20 May 2013 in Milan, Italy, as the IFCC C-RIDL meeting.
- 9) 28 July 2013 in Houston, USA, during the 2013 AACC as the IFCC C-RIDL meeting.

The results will be combined with those from the 2009 Asia study comprising test results of 72 analytes from 3,500 volunteers. The objective of the combined analysis is to obtain a comprehensive picture of evidence on sources of variations for commonly tested analytes (such as regionality, ethnicity, age, sex, BMI, smoking, alcohol, blood type related changes). An interactive web site viewing the study results is being built. The entire results from the last Asia study and the global study are to be

presented and discussed during the 2013 Bali APFCB Congress scheduled on 29 October 2013.

Papers published as keynote papers on the global study are as follow:

1) Ichihara K, Ozarda Y, Klee G, Straseski J, Baumann N, Ishikura K. Utility of a panel of sera for the alignment of test results in the worldwide multicenter study on reference values. Clin Chem Lab Med 2013; 51(5):1007–25. 10.1515/cclm-2013-0248

2) Ozarda Y, Ichihara K, Barth J, Klee G. Protocol and standard operating procedures for common use in the worldwide multicenter study on reference values. Clin Chem Lab Med 2013; 51(5):1027–40.

3. Project on reference values (Project Lead: Dr Ronda Greaves)

1) A joint project is under way on the standardisation of assays for testosterone and related analytes by use of mass spectrometry among the researchers in the APFCB region. In the RCPA Chemical Pathology QAP survey conducted in 2012 with participation of 130 labs, laboratories in the harmonisation working group attained very good results, all within the target ranges, thanks to the use of common calibrators and assay procedures.

2) A project on establishment of a mass-spectrometry based assay system for paediatric screening of neuroblastoma in Vietnam is also under way using the support fund provided by the APFCB in 2012. The results of both projects are expected to be presented during the APFCB Congress in Bali.

III. Laboratory Management Committee (C-LM)

Chair: Associate Prof Tony Badrick (Australia)

Committee Members: Tony Badrick (Chair, AACB) Atienza (Secretary, PAMET), Tran Huu Tam (VACB); and July Kumalawati (IACC), Leslie Lai (ex-officio)

1. Quality Assurance/Quality Control Workshops

The major activity of the C-LM is the organisation and delivery of the QA/QC workshops. There were two workshops in 2011. The first workshop was conducted in Manila in March under the auspices of the IFCC and funded by the IFCC-Abbott Visiting Lecturer Programme together with the local support of PAMET. Approximately 130 registrants attended the meeting which was deemed to be successful (please see Appendix 1).

The second workshop was held in Nepal during November 2011. The workshop was prepared with local input from the NAMLS, together with

the IFCC-EMD and Becton Dickinson. The IFCC-Abbott Visiting Lecturer Programme funded the airfares of three visiting lecturers. The Chair of the APFCB C-LM negotiated with Becton Dickinson for sponsorship of the workshop. The APFCB is very grateful to Becton Dickinson for generously sponsoring the workshop as well as funding an additional speaker for the workshop. The workshop was held over 2 days at the Park Village Hotel Resort, Budhanilkantha, Kathmandu which was a very suitable venue. The workshop consisted of lectures and small group exercises (see Appendix 2). The programme was arranged in consultation with NAMLS. The theme was the need for quality in laboratory results and the emphasis was on internal quality control, external quality assurance and pre-analytical factors. The workshop programme was tightly scheduled, but had to be adapted each day due to a different cultural emphasis on time. Despite this, all topics were covered. There were approximately 165 participants and they were very enthusiastic. They participated fully in the small group exercises and the group discussions.

A third workshop on pre-analytical errors was held in Hanoi (Appendix 3), Vietnam in March 2013. This was a day and a half workshop which attracted some 100 attendees from Vietnam, Thailand, the Philippines and Indonesia. The Workshop was planned and prepared by the APFCB and Becton Dickinson and was also very generously supported by Becton Dickinson.

2. Environmental Initiative

One of the goals of the C-LM was to begin raising awareness amongst members of the APFCB of the importance of lessening the environmental impact of clinical laboratories. The aim would be to produce some detailed content for the new APFCB website and some planning has begun on this project.

Joseph Lopez and Tony Badrick have written a document “**PROPOSALS FOR THE MITIGATION OF THE ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT OF CLINICAL LABORATORIES**” which will be the basis for further educational activities in the area of Environmental Awareness. This will be followed by a seminar at the Bali Congress in 2013.

3. Needs Survey of Members for Quality/Accreditation Activities

This activity involved a Survey of the APFCB membership to determine their needs. The key findings are below.

APFCB Member Survey

What educational activities would you like to see the APFCB provide?		
Answer Options	Response Percent	Response Count
Webinar	71.4%	5
Workshop	42.9%	3
Travelling Lecturer	57.1%	4
Specialty meeting	28.6%	2
Online activity	85.7%	6
Other (please specify)		0
<i>answered question</i>		7
<i>skipped question</i>		0

APFCB Member Survey

What are the major topics you would to see covered in these activities?		
Answer Options	Response Percent	Response Count
QA/QC	71.4%	5
Management	71.4%	5
Pre-analytical processes	28.6%	2
Laboratory Workflow	42.9%	3
Result interpretation and commenting	85.7%	6
Troponin	14.3%	1
HbA1c	42.9%	3
Quality management/ISO 15189	57.1%	4
Measurement of Uncertainty	71.4%	5
Accreditation and Certification	28.6%	2
Resource management	28.6%	2
Quality improvement	85.7%	6
Training and competence	42.9%	3
Quality indicators	85.7%	6
Safety	0.0%	0
Environmental impact	0.0%	0
Renal markers	57.1%	4
eGFR equations	42.9%	3
Other (please specify)		1
<i>answered question</i>		7
<i>skipped question</i>		0

4. QA/QC Self-directed learning material for the APFCB Website

The committee is anxious to further develop the website and we are seeking material for the Committee website pages.

1. Quality management systems and ISO 15189
2. Leadership roles
3. Accreditation and certification issues
4. Resource management
5. Quality Improvement
6. Training and Competence
7. QC and QAP
8. Quality Indicators
9. Safety

IV. Communications Committee (C-Comm)

Chair: Prof Praveen Sharma (India)

Committee members: Praveen Sharma (Chair, ACBI), MVR Reddy (Secretary, ACBI), Hwan Sub Lim (KSCC), H Weerawarna (ACBSL), Leslie Lai (ex-officio)

1. APFCB e-News

The Chair of the Communications Committee is also the Editor of the APFCB e-News. As it was agreed by the Council, the committee started publishing the APFCB News as an online pdf copy from the 2010 issue. This has ensured wide reach of the APFCB e-News to all the members at no additional cost. The APFCB e-News 2010, 2011 and 2012 issues are available on the APFCB website.

2. APFCB Website

The Chair of the Communications Committee was charged with the responsibility of launching the APFCB website and its coordination, maintenance and improvement (www.apfcb.org). Dr MVR Reddy (India) has been assigned the responsibility of being the web editor. The site was successfully launched on 1 Nov 2011. Since then, it is regularly updated with comprehensive information on the organisation and activities of APFCB and its member societies. Access is made available through the website to the ongoing Scientific, Education and Laboratory Management Committee programmes of APFCB as well as the activities of the Communications and Congress Committee. There is also a photo gallery of relevant events. The website is also a source of information on the APFCB Congress and regional meetings as well as the APFCB Travelling Lecturer programme as well as future events. The APFCB e-News and annual reports are conveniently published online on this platform, making

them readily available to all members. It also gives access to the APFCB webinars.

3. Public Relations

A power point presentation on the APFCB, its members and its activities has been developed by Mr Martin Fuhrer, Corporate Representative to the EB and is ready for use at member society conferences and at regional and international meetings to promote the APFCB. This presentation is being regularly updated by Mr Martin Fuhrer.

V. Congress and Conferences Committee (C-CC)

Chair: Joseph Lopez (Malaysia)

Committee members: Joseph Lopez (Chair, MACB), Marion Tangingco (Secretary, PAMET), Eric Martoyo (IACC), Leslie Lai (ex-officio)

1. 13th APFCB Congress

The C-CC Chair and APFCB EB have been in close communication on the preparations leading to the 13th APFCB Congress. The APFCB President, Dr Leslie Lai and the C-CC Chair paid a visit to Bali from 14-16 October 2012. The Chair of the Organising Committee, Dr July K Widyaharsana and committee members presented a detailed progress report on the preparations for the congress.

The Congress Organising Committee also provided a report for presentation to the meeting of the IFCC Congresses and Conferences Committee (IFCC C-CC) that was held in Milan on 19 May 2013 in Milan. This report was presented to the meeting by Joseph Lopez who is also a member of this IFCC committee

2. APFCB Speciality meeting

In conjunction with the APFCB Committee for Laboratory Management and BD Diagnostics, the first APFCB Speciality Meeting was held in Hanoi from 18-19 March at the Melia Hotel in Hanoi. The theme of the meeting was "Quality Improvement in Laboratory Medicine through Pre-analytical Process Control". There were approximately 80 participants in all with representation from Indonesia, the Philippines and Thailand, besides Vietnam. Despite the language difficulties faced by local participants, the real-time translation services organised by the sponsor appeared to have worked well. We thank BD for its sponsorship and excellent organisation of this meeting. They brought in participants from Thailand, the Philippines and Indonesia, besides the participants from Vietnam who formed the majority.

3. APFCB Auspices

3.1. *Guidelines for auspices*

A set of guidelines for the provision of APFCB auspices was prepared in January 2011. These guidelines are based, with permission, on the IFCC guidelines for the provision of auspices.

3.2 *APFCB auspices provided*

APFCB auspices were provided for the following meetings

- i. International Conference on Free Radicals, Antioxidants and Nutraceuticals in Health Disease & Radiation Biology & 11th Annual Meeting of the Society for Free Radical Research-India (SFRR-India) held at Swabhumi, The Heritage Plaza, Kolkata, India, on January 12-14, 2012.
- ii. Research Workshop on “Inborn Errors of Metabolism & Metabolic Disorders” organised by the Department of Biochemistry, College of Medicine & JNM Hospital, India, March 7-8, 2013
- iii. EUROMEDLAB 2013, Milano, 19-23, May, 2013
- iv. 5th Vietnam Chemical Pathology Course. 2nd July 2013 (Melia Hotel, Hanoi) and 6th July 2013 (Intercontinental Hotel, Ho Chi Minh City)

4. Turning Science into Caring (TSIC)

Abbott Laboratories has held TSIC meetings in the Asia-Pacific region over the past few years in conjunction with the IFCC. The purpose of these meetings is to bring laboratory and other healthcare professionals together to exchange information on trends in laboratory medicine. Following a discussion with a representative from Abbott at the EuroMedLab in Milan in May 2013, the APFCB was invited to become a partner of these meetings. An agreement to this effect was signed between the APFCB and Abbott on 22 July 2013 which will enable the APFCB to contribute to the planning of the scientific programme future TSIC meetings.

A TSIC meeting was held in Taipei, Taiwan on 23 and 24 September 2013. The APFCB Immediate Past President represented the APFCB at the opening of this meeting.

5. Plans for 2014

A proposal will be tabled before the APFCB Executive Board meeting in Bali for a meeting on recent developments in clinical biochemistry to be held in Cochin, India in October 2014. Dr D Vasudevan, a Past President of the ACBI, has been working closely with the Chairs of C-CC and of C-LM in the drafting of a preliminary programme for this meeting.

VI. Corporate Members Report

1. Number of APFCB Corporate Members

By October 2013, the APFCB has 19 Corporate members. Six (6) new Corporate members joined in 2012:

- Diasorin Ltd. (June 2012)
- DiaSys Diagnostic Systems GmbH (June 2012)
- Kopran Laboratories Ltd. (June 2012)
- Mindray (July 2012)
- Technidata Medical Software (December 2012)
- Sukraa Software Solution Pvt. Ltd. (September 2013)

Piramal Healthcare Limited (March 2012) and Osmetech (June 2012) discontinued their APFCB corporate membership due to a company merger or acquisition.

Overall this development reflects the growing value APFCB is delivering to IVD companies in the region. Corporate members have become more involved with the APFCB either through sponsorship or active participation in webinars or scientific meetings.

2. APFCB Specialty Meetings Opportunity

APFCB Corporate members have become eligible to apply for APFCB auspices with the Congresses and Conferences Committee to promote meetings and attract a large professional participation. The guidelines and procedures for application can be accessed on the APFCB website under <http://apfcb.org/apfcb-guidelines.pdf>. The first Specialty meeting in this programme has been organised by Becton Dickinson on 18-19 March 2013 in Hanoi, Vietnam covering the area of pre-analytical sample treatment.

3. APFCB Webinar Series

APFCB has hosted 3 webinars sponsored by Siemens Healthcare Diagnostics:

24 July 2010	Dr. Ken Sikaris on “Measurement Uncertainty”
24 June 2011	Dr. Ian Goodall on “IFCC Standardisation for HbA1c
4 April 2012	Dr. Elizabeth Frank on “How to prepare your lab for accreditation”

4. APFCB Travelling Lectureship

The 2011/2012 APFCB travelling lectureship by Dr Angela Wang on “Inflammatory markers in chronic kidney disease” was sponsored by Roche Diagnostics.

5. Corporate Members Meetings

The first APFCB Corporate Members meeting was held at the 12th Asian-Pacific Congress of Clinical Biochemistry in Seoul, October 2010.

As part of the preparation for the 13th APFCB Congress the corporate sponsors meeting was held on 7 February 2012 at the National University Hospital in Singapore. Almost all Corporate members sent their representatives and the Organising Committee presented the scientific programme, the venue and sponsorship opportunities.

The next APFCB Corporate Members Meeting is scheduled for 29 October 2013 at the Nusa Dua Convention Centre, Bali.

6. IVD industry Management Information System

EDMA (European Diagnostics Manufacturers Association) is cooperating with the APFCB to expand their very successful Management Information System (MIS) from Europe to Asia Pacific. This system will provide IVD companies with market data from the region. A first introduction of this system is scheduled during the next Corporate members meeting on 29 October 2013.

7. Corporate Members on international Advisory Boards

Martin Fuhrer is a member of the International Advisory Committee for the 13th APFCB Congress, Bali.

Report prepared by Dr Leslie Lai (President) together with Dr Endang Hoyaranda (Secretary), Associate Prof Joseph Lopez (Immediate Past President and Chair of C-CC), Mr Martin Fuhrer (Corporate Representative), Prof Samuel Vasikaran (Chair of C-Edu), Prof Kiyoshi Ichihara (Chair of C-Sci), Associate Prof Tony Badrick (Chair of C-LM) and Prof Praveen Sharma (Chair of C-Comm).

9 September 2013

Appendix 1. IFCC-APFCB-PAMET workshop in Manila, Philippines, 24 – 25 March 2011

DAY 1 PROGRAM	9:15	Accreditation	JS
	Pre-analytical Workshop		
	9:45	Sample Integrity	JS
	10:45	Instruments & Reagents	EF
	11.:30	Staff Procedures & Training	EF
	Analytical workshop		
	13:30	Internal QC Principles	TB
	14:30	Internal QC Application	TB
	Post Analytical Workshop		
	15:30	Laboratory Reporting	LL
	16:30	Reference Intervals	LL
DAY 2 PROGRAM			
	Advanced Quality Control Workshop		
	9:00	Checking Results	JS
	10:00	Impact of Errors of Patients	LL
	EAQ Workshop		
	10:30	External Quality Assurance	TB
	Audit Workshop		
	13:30	Internal Audits and Complaints	EF
	14:30	External Assessments	EF
	Laboratory Quality Workshop		
	15:30	Improving the Laboratory	EF
	16:30	Panel Discussion	All
DAY 3 PROGRAM			
	8:30	Registration	
	8:45	Inauguration of the Seminar	
	8:50	Address by President PAMET	
	9:00	Address by Miss Janet Smith (Chair of IFCC-EMD)	
	Morning Session		
	09:10 – 10:00	WHO Diagnosis of Diabetes	JS
	10:00 – 10:30	Global Standardisation of HbA1c	LL
	10:30 – 11:10	Morning Tea	
	11:10 – 11:50	Lipid Disorders	EF

	11:50 – 12:30	Renal Disease	TB
	LUNCH		
	Afternoon Session		
	13:30 – 14:10	Thyroid Disease	JS
	14:10 – 14:50	Common Tumour Markers	TB
	14:50 – 15:30	Electrolyte and Fluid Disorders	LL
	15:30 – 15:45	Afternoon Tea	
	15:45 – 16:15	Adrenal Disease	LL
	16:15 – 16:45	Questions & discussion	All

IFCC-Abbott Visiting Lecturers: Janet Smith (JS), Elizabeth Frank (EF), Leslie Lai (LL) and Tony Badrick (TB)

Appendix 2. IFCC-APFCB-NAMLS workshop in Katmandu, Nepal 22-24 November 2011

22 November 2011		
VLP to visit 2-3 laboratories		
23 November 2011		Who
10:00	Welcome	Binod
	VLP team introduce themselves and the program	
	Participants introduce themselves	
10:20 – 10:40	The Need for Quality	JG
10:40 – 11:00	Laboratory Errors	EF
	Internal Quality Control	
11:00 – 11:10	The Current Practice of Using IQC in Nepal	From Nepal
11:10 – 12:00	The Principles of Internal Quality Control	CM
12:00 – 12:15	IQC Products Available	BioRad
12:15 – 13:15	Lunch	
13:15 – 13:45	Setting IQC Acceptance Limits	CM
13:45 – 15:00	IQC Small Group Exercises	CM
15:00 – 15:15	Break	
	Pre-Analytical Errors	
15:15 – 15:45	Sample Collection – Artefacts & Improving Quality	Adarshpal Singh (BD)
15:45 – 16:15	Pre-analytical Errors Small Group Exercises - cases	Adarshpal Singh
16:15 – 16:30	Questions	Panel
16:30	Close	
24 November 2011		
10:00 – 10:20	Recap from Day 2	
	External Quality Assurance	
10:20 – 10:30	The Current Practice of EQA in Nepal	From Nepal
10:30 – 11:15	The Principles of External Quality Assurance	JG
11:15 – 11:30	Break	
11:30 – 12:00	How to Run EQA & Interpret Reports	JG
12:00 – 13:00	EQA Small Group Exercise – report interpretation	JG
13:00 – 14:00	Lunch	
	Post-analytical Factors	
14:00 – 14:20	Reference Intervals	JG
14:20 – 14:40	Critical Limits and Patient Report Comments	JG
14:40 – 15:10	Discussion - Reporting Results – Current Practice in Nepal & How to Improve	Chair: EF
15:10 – 15:30	Laboratory Documentation	EF
15:00 – 16:00	Discussion – Implementation of QC/EQA in Nepal	
16:00	Close	

IFCC-Abbott Visiting Lecturers: Janice Gill (JG), Clare Murphy (CM) and Elizabeth Frank (EF)

Appendix 3. APFCB Speciality Meeting, Hanoi, Vietnam, 18-19 Mar 2013

Scientific Programme

Day/Time	Item	Speaker
<u>DAY 1</u>		
<u>18 Mar 2013</u>		
8.00-9.30	Registration	
9.00-9.30	Opening – brief speeches by APFCB Vice-President, BD, VACB representative, Ministry of Health representative	
9.30-10.00	Introduction – laboratory errors and their impact on overall healthcare delivery system – new perspectives	Adarshpal Singh
10.00-10.30	Choosing the right test and ordering tests: electronic versus paper	Sunil Sethi
10.30-11.00	Coffee break	
11.00-11.30	Laboratory errors in the preanalytical phase – where and when do they occur?	BD speaker
11.30-12.00	Informatics and automation in the preanalytical phase of clinical testing	Sunil Sethi
12.00 – 12.45	Pre-analytical issues affecting clinical chemistry	Joseph Lopez
12.45-2.00	Lunch	
2.00-2.30	Pre-analytical issues affecting: <ul style="list-style-type: none">○ microbiology○ haematology○ transfusion medicine	BD Speaker
2.30-3.30	The ISO standard for the pre-analytical phase of testing	Tony Badrick
3.30-4.00	Coffee break	
4.00-5.00	Standardization and new trends in preanalytical error prevention, detection, reporting and management – An interactive session	BD Speaker
<u>DAY 2</u>		
<u>19 Mar 2013</u>		
9.00-9.30	Quality Improvement in pre-analytical processes and measurement of QI improvements	Tony Badrick
9.30-10.00	Key Incident Management and Monitoring (KIMM) in the pre-analytical phase	Tony Badrick
10.00-10.30	Coffee break	
10.30-12.30	Interactive Workshop: Case studies of QI (using QI where participants work through some QI exercises)	Facilitators: T Badrick, J Lopez, S Sethi
12.30-2.00	Lunch break	
2.00-2.30	Special lecture: Laboratory waste management	Tony Badrick

2.30-3.30	Capability building opportunities in Vietnam and launch of new initiatives	BD and local facilitator
3.30	Closing followed by coffee	