



ASIA-PACIFIC FEDERATION FOR CLINICAL BIOCHEMISTRY AND LABORATORY MEDICINE

Annual Report 2011

Happy New Year.

I present here the annual report of the APFCB for the Year 2011

1. APFCB MATTERS

Membership

Ordinary members

The following Area or 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 for 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. BD Diagnostics
3. Beckman Coulter
4. Beijing Wantai, (China)
5. Bio-Rad
6. Ortho-Clinical Diagnostics
7. Piramal Healthcare (India)
8. PM Separations (Australia)
9. Randox Laboratories
10. Roche Diagnostics
11. Sekisui Chemical Co (Japan)

- 12. Siemens
- 13. Sysmex

Affiliate Members

- 1. Chinese Association of Clinical Laboratory Management (CACLM)
- 2. 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 early 2011.

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 Jan 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.

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 should receive a remittance of USD 6,253.86

Golden Jubilee Celebrations

Heartiest congratulations to JSCC and AACB on their golden jubilee in 2011.

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 will sponsor speakers to participate in the 13th APFCB Congress in Bali. APFCB, in return, will sponsor a symposium on reference intervals at the WASPaLM World Congress to be held from 8-11 June 2013 in Quebec City, Canada. Other areas of co-operation include laboratory accreditation.

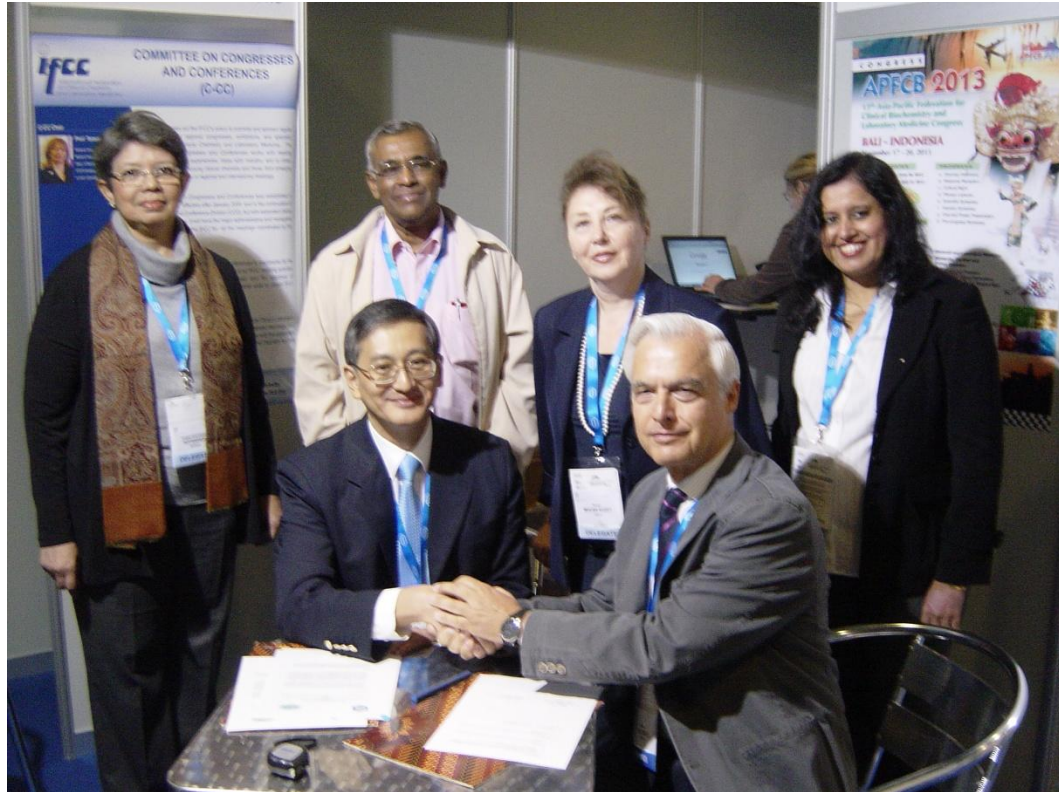


Figure 1. Signing of MoU between APFCB and WASPaLM. Seated from left to right: Dr Leslie Lai, President of APFCB and Prof Michael Oellerich, President of WASPaLM. Back row from left to right: Dra Endang Hoyaranda, Secretary of APFCB, Mr Joseph Lopez, Immediate Past President of APFCB, Prof Gamze Mocan Kuzey, President-elect of WASPaLM, and Dr Elizabeth Frank, Treasurer of APFCB.

2. APFCB ACTIVITIES

APFCB Education Committee (C-Edu)

Chair: Prof Samuel Vasikaran (Australia)

I. APFCB Travelling Lecturer 2011/2012

Dr Angela Wang from Hong Kong the APFCB TL for 2011/12 delivered her lecture titled, "Inflammatory markers in chronic kidney disease" in Sydney, Australia at the AACB Annual Scientific Conference and Golden Jubilee celebrations in October 2011, and in Hong Kong, to the HKSCC in November 2011. Dr Wang hopes to deliver lectures in Malaysia, Indonesia and China in 2012.

II. IFCC-Abbott Visiting Lecturer 2011/2012

Dr Gary Myers of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention in the US will be the next IFCC-Abbott Visiting Lecturer. This visiting lectureship was to have commenced in 2011 and to be completed in 2012. However,

due to Dr Gary Myers' work commitments it will now take place in 2012. He will speak on "Current Markers of Cardiovascular Disease". AACB, CSLM, HKCC, IACC, MACB, MLMA and PAMET have expressed interest in hosting Dr Gary Myers in 2012.

III. APFCB Webinar

The Webinar in 2011, sponsored by Siemens Diagnostics, was delivered on June the 24th by Dr Ian Goodall of Australia. The topic was "HbA1c standardisation".

IV. APFCB Interpretative Comments Education Program

The Interpretative Comments Education Programme in 2011 was coordinated by Dr Gordon Challand of the UK. There were 52 registrants. Five cases were circulated in 2011 and the participation rate was around 50%.

V. 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 Dr Uditkumar Agrawal of India and Dr Rojeet Shrestha of Nepal.

Two scholarships of SGD 3,500 each were awarded for attendance at the AACB 49th Annual Scientific Conference and Golden Jubilee celebrations in Sydney in October 2011. The recipients were Le Thi Thuy Nhu of Vietnam and Ming Li of China.

Scientific Committee (C-Sci)

Chair: Prof Kiyoshi Ichihara (Japan)

I. Reference interval projects

a. Publication of results from the 2009 Asian study

The Asian project for collaborative derivation of reference intervals: the main papers consist of three parts:

- Part 1: strategy and major results
- Part 2: transference of reference intervals to the participating laboratories based on cross-comparison of test results.
- Part 3: exploration of variation sources for evidence-based medicine,

Part 1 and Part 2 are to be submitted together to CCLM. Prof Kiyoshi is awaiting approval from IFCC Scientific Division to submit them and hopes both will be accepted in 2012.

Other colleagues have been asked to write on other aspects of the study.

- Dr Xuejing Wang of Beijing University has written on the renal aspect, entitled "GFR estimating equations in multiethnic Asian population and the bias source" to be submitted to CCLM.
- Dr Shimizu (of Prof Ichihara's laboratory) is now writing on isoenzyme results from the Asian study.
- Dr Ihara of Toho University has already written on the results of vitamin B₁₂ and folic acid. He is waiting for the preliminary paper to be published first before submitting this paper.

b. Web pages

Professor Ichihara has been working on the development of web pages offering evidence acquired through the Asian reference value study. It will provide user-friendly interfaces for dynamic graphics to be drawn interactively on request by the users. It is currently 70% built and will be available from the JSLM, APFCB and IFCC websites from around the middle of 2012.

c. Worldwide study on reference values (extension of the Asian study)

As an IFCC C-RIDL work, the common protocol for the study was finalised on 5th September 2011.

- A pilot study on the panel of sera based transference of reference values was undertaken. As multiple testing centres are to be set up in the worldwide study, test results have to be aligned based on this panel of sera. It was conducted in April – May 2011 with the collaboration of four labs in USA, Turkey and Japan. This strategy worked nicely and it would be adopted in the main study as well.
- Currently five (seven labs) countries are expected to take part in the first phase of the study: USA, UK, Turkey, China and Japan.
- Total of 3,100 volunteers are to be recruited starting from November 2011. The study is being well managed financially.
- Interest in collaborating in the second phase of the study has been expressed by India, Pakistan, Saudi Arabia, Indonesia and Vietnam, as well as nations outside Asia (African nations and other European countries). For launching of the second phase, funds will be needed to support each domestic study. Although the matter has been discussed with the IFCC Corporate Members, no commitment is expected until results are obtained from the first phase. In any case, active discussions will be made regarding the funding include other sources toward the expanded regional collaboration in Asia.

II. Project on standardisation of testosterone and related analytes assays by mass spectrometry (Coordinator: Dr Ronda Greaves)

Dr Ronda Greaves (Australia) is a member of C-Sci. Dr Greaves is coordinating a joint project on the standardisation of testosterone and

related analytes assays by use of mass spectrometry in the APFCB region. This project was approved by APFCB C-Sci during the APFCB Congress in 2010, in Seoul. The results are to be reported soon.

III. Project on development of a new biochemical test to diagnose and monitor neuroblastoma in Vietnam (Coordinator: Dr Ronda Greaves)

Dr Ronda Greaves is also collaborating with VACB to establish gas chromatography - mass spectrometry (GC-MS) based paediatric screening for neuroblastoma in Vietnam. The APFCB EB has approved a project grant of AUD 5,000 to Ronda Greaves to undertake a project entitled "Development of a new biochemical test to diagnose and monitor neuroblastoma in Vietnam".

Laboratory Management Committee (C-LM) Chair: Associate Prof Tony Badrick (Australia)

I. Quality Assurance/Quality Control Workshops

The major activity of the C-LM is the organisation and delivery of the QA/QC Workshops. The first workshop in 2011 was conducted in Manila on 24 – 25 March together with the IFCC and with the local support of PAMET. There were approximately 130 registrants at the workshop which was deemed to have been successful. The IFCC-Abbott Visiting Lecturers were Miss Janet Smith (UK), Dr Leslie Lai (Malaysia), Associate Prof Tony Badrick (Australia) and Dr Elizabeth Frank (India). The workshop programme is shown in Appendix 1.

The second successful workshop was held in Nepal from 22 – 24 November 2011 in conjunction with the IFCC and NAMLS (IFCC-APFCB-NAMLS workshop). The return air tickets were funded by the IFCC-Abbott Visiting Lecturer Programme. Generous sponsorship was also provided by Becton Dickinson for the workshop, sourced by the APFCB. The IFCC-Abbott Visiting Lecturers were Miss Janice Gill (Australia), Dr Clare Murphy (New Zealand) and Dr Elizabeth Frank (India). The workshop programme is shown in Appendix 2.

II. Environmental Initiative

One of the goals of the C-LM is to begin raising awareness amongst members of the APFCB of the importance of lessening the environmental impact of clinical laboratories. The aim is 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

Communications Committee (C-Comm)
Chair: Prof Praveen Sharma (India)

I. APFCB e-News:

As has been decided by the APFCB EB, the APFCB News, henceforth, will be published online as a section on the web-site. The PDF file of the APFCB e-News 2010 has been sent to all Council Members and is available on the APFCB website, *www.apfcb.org*.

II. APFCB Website

The Communications Committee has taken up the work related to launching, coordination, maintenance and improvement of the APFCB website. Dr MVR Reddy (India) has been assigned the responsibility of being the web editor. The site was successfully launched on 1 Nov 2011. The website provides comprehensive information about the APFCB which includes:

- Membership information
- Details of Member societies (organisations and individuals)
- Details of Corporate members (companies and individuals)
- Members of the EB and Committees
- Congresses, meetings, symposia, APFCB Travelling Lecturer, etc
- APFCB e-News

III. 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. It will be updated as and when necessary.

Congress and Conferences Committee (C-CC)
Chair: J Lopez (Malaysia)

I. Guidelines for auspices

A set of guidelines for obtaining APFCB auspices has been prepared, based on the IFCC guidelines. A copy was extended to Prof Tomris Ozben, Chair of the IFCC Congresses and Conferences Committee, who has said that his committee will allow APFCB and IFCC “to collaborate very closely and award IFCC auspices almost automatically to the meetings in the Asia-Pacific Region organised under APFCB auspices”.

II. Progress Report of 13th APFCB Congress

The C-CC has been in close contact with the Organising Committee of the 13th APFCB Congress. The following is a brief progress report of the preparations for the congress:

- **Dates:** Feedback was received from some diagnostic manufacturers stating that the original scheduled dates for the APFCB Congress, 17 – 20 November 2013 clashed with the Medica Düsseldorf Trade Show. The dates of the APFCB Congress 2013 were, therefore, changed to **6 – 9 October 2013**.
- **APFCB, IFCC, WASPaLM:** The APFCB will be the co-organiser of the APFCB Congress and the IFCC, co-sponsor. Auspices for the congress has been provided by WASPaLM.
- **Venue:** The congress venue has been moved from Bali International Convention Centre (BICC) to the new convention centre named Bali Nusa Dua Convention Centre (BNDCC) because BNDCC has better value for money and facilities than BICC
- **Flyer:** The flyer and poster of the 13th APFCB Congress have been modified accordingly.
- **Promotion:** The event has, thus far, been promoted by the distribution of flyers and posters at the following conferences:
 - “12th APCCB Congress” in Seoul, South Korea, 3 – 7 October 2011
 - “AACB 49th Annual Scientific Conference & Golden Jubilee in Sydney, Australia, 10 – 13 October 2011.
 - The national meeting of the Japan Society of Clinical Chemistry (JSCC) in Sapporo, Japan, 26 – 28 August 2011.
- **Event organiser:** The Organising Committee has issued a letter to appoint Pactoconvex as the event organiser of the 13th APFCB Congress and the final agreement between the both parties will be signed in the near future. Both parties have agreed to a 50:50 sharing of the surplus generated by the congress.
- **Programme:** a preliminary programme has been sent to the APFCB EB and Chair of the Scientific Committee for comment and feedback has been given. This programme is being gradually filled. IFCC, EFCC and WASPaLM have agreed to sponsor symposia and speakers.
- **Corporate sponsorship:** A meeting with the major APFCB Corporate members will be held in Singapore on 7th February 2012 to discuss corporate sponsorship of the congress.

APFCB Membership

Japan Society of Clinical Chemistry (JSCC)

The JSCC celebrated its 50th Anniversary in 2011. The APFCB presented the JSCC with a pewter plaque at the IFCC WorldLab in Berlin this year.



Figure 2. From left to right: Dr Elizabeth Frank, Treasurer of APFCB, Mr Martin Fuhrer, Corporate Representative to the APFCB EB, Mr Joseph Lopez, Immediate Past President of APFCB, Prof Hamasaki, JSCC representative, Dr Leslie Lai, President of APFCB, Dra Endang Hoyaranda, Secretary of APFCB, Prof Kiyoshi Ichihara, Chair of APFCB C-Sci.

Australasian Association of Clinical Biochemists (AACB)

The AACB was formed on the 21st May 1961, thus attaining its 50th Anniversary in 2011. The Golden Jubilee celebrations were held in conjunction with the 49th Annual Scientific Conference from 10 – 13 October in Sydney. The APFCB, represented by Dr Leslie Lai, presented a pewter plate to the AACB to commemorate the Golden Jubilee of the AACB.



Figure 3. Dr Leslie Lai presenting pewter plate to Prof Leslie Burnett, President of AACB

This report has been prepared by Dr Leslie Lai with contributions from Mr Joseph Lopez (Chair, C-CC), Associate Prof Tony Badrick (Chair, C-LM), Prof. Kiyoshi Ichihara (Chair, C-Sci), Dr Samuel Vasikaran (Chair, C-Edu), Prof Praveen Sharma (Chair, C-Comm).

1 January 2012

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 –	Renal Disease	TB

	12:30		
	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)