



**ASIA-PACIFIC FEDERATION FOR CLINICAL BIOCHEMISTRY
AND LABORATORY MEDICINE**

Annual Report 2012

The APFCB has 16 Member Societies, 18 Corporate members and 2 Affiliate members.

Ordinary members

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
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. Mindray Bio-Medical Electronics Co Ltd
11. Ortho-Clinical Diagnostics
12. PM Separations
13. Randox Laboratories
14. Roche Diagnostics
15. Sekisui Chemical Co (Japan)
16. Siemens Healthcare Diagnostics

- 17. Sysmex
- 18. Technidata Medical Software

We would like to welcome Diasorin Ltd, DiaSys Diagnostics Systems GmbH, Kopran Laboratories Ltd, Mindray Bio-Medical Electronics Co. Ltd and Technidata Medical Software, our new APFCB Corporate members admitted in 2012.

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)

Executive Board meetings

The Executive Board has held three meetings since taking office. These were held on:

16 May 2011 during the EuroMedLab meeting in Berlin

7 February 2012 in Singapore

17 November 2012 in Kuala Lumpur prior to the IFCC General Conference.2012

Only the meeting on 7 February 2012 in Singapore was funded by the APFCB (travel and accommodation).

APFCB EB members' participation in National Society meetings

1. Dr Elizabeth Frank, Treasurer of the APFCB, represented the APFCB at the Annual Scientific Meeting of the South African Association for Clinical Biochemistry on 29th September 2012. The title of her talk was "A new paradigm shift in the direction of HDL research, Are we ready for it?"
2. Dr Endang Hoyaranda was the Keynote Speaker at the ACBICON in December 2012, Ranchi, India, where she represented the President of the APFCB who was unable to attend the ACBICON 2012 due to a prior engagement. The title of her talk was "Managing Risk Beyond Patient Safety".

APFCB Rule Book

The APFCB Rule Book has been completed and will be available on the APFCB website. With this rulebook finalised, all items in the Strategic Plan have been completed.

Report from the Education Committee (C-Edu)

(Chaired by Professor Samuel Vasikaran, Australia)

1. APFCB Travelling Lecturer

Dr Angela Wang from Hong Kong delivered her lecture "Inflammatory markers in renal disease" to the MACB in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia in July 2012 and in Kunming, China in August 2012. The APFCB Travelling Lecturer for 2013/14 is Prof Sunil Sethi of Singapore.

2. IFCC-Abbott Visiting Lecturer

Dr Gary Myers was the IFCC-Abbott Visiting Lecturer to the APFCB region in 2012. His topic was "Current Markers of Cardiovascular Disease". Dr Myers visited China and Hong Kong in May 2012. In China he presented a plenary lecture in Nanjing at the 7th National Youth Congress of Laboratory Medicine that was attended by nearly 1000 scientists and in Hong Kong to a meeting of the Hong Kong Society of Clinical Chemistry attended by about 190 members. 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 KL on November 21st, IACC special seminar in Jakarta on the 24th of November, and the PAMET conference in Manila on the 28th of November.

3. An APFCB Webinar that was sponsored by Siemens Diagnostics was delivered on April 4th 2012 by Dr Elizabeth Frank of India. The topic was "How to prepare your lab for accreditation".
4. The APFCB Interpretative Comments Education Program for 2012 continued to be coordinated by Dr Gordon Challand of UK. There were 43 registrants. Four cases were sent to participants in 2012. However, the participation rate is well below 50%.
5. Two scholarships of up to SGD 3500.00 each have been 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. Prabin gave an oral presentation "Evaluation of Using Interpretative Cut-off Value as Decision Limit Amongst Practising Clinicians in Nepal" and Deepani presented a poster entitled "Is there Harmony in Reporting Units of Biochemistry and Haematology in Accredited Laboratories of Sri Lanka?".
6. 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. The 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.*

Report from the Scientific Committee (C-Sci)

(Chaired by Professor Kiyoshi Ichihara, Japan)

- 1 Collaboration by countries in the APFCB region in the worldwide study on reference values

The study, planned and coordinated by the Committee on Reference Intervals and Decision Limits (C-RIDL), IFCC, was launched in December 2011. Its objectives 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 12 countries worldwide are collaborating in the study. The following four countries are from the APFCB.

Japan: 760 volunteers were recruited from Yamaguchi, Hiroshima and Osaka Universities. The measurement of 55 analytes was supported by Beckman-Coulter (BC) Japan.

China: 480 volunteers were recruited from Beijing National Hospital, coordinated by Dr. Jian Guo and Dr. Luyan Xiao. The measurement of 35 analytes is being supported by BC China. Additional recruitment of 800 from other cities is being planned.

India: 500 volunteers are being recruited 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: 1200 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. Dysis' autoanalyser will be used for the measurement of 22 biochemical analytes.

The results will be combined with those from the 2009 Asia study consisting of test results of 72 analytes from 3500 volunteers. The objective of combined analysis is to obtain the comprehensible picture of evidence on sources of variations for commonly tested analytes (such as regionality, ethnicity, age, sex, BMI, smoking, alcohol, blood type related changes). A web site showing the results is being built. The entire results from Asia are to be presented and discussed during the 2013 APFCB Congress in Bali.

2. A joint project is under way on the standardisation of testosterone and related analytes assays by use of mass spectrometry among researchers in the APFCB region, coordinated by Dr Ronda Greaves. In the RCPA

Chemical Pathology QAP survey conducted in 2012 with participation of 130 laboratories, the laboratories in the harmonisation working group attained very good results, all within the allowable limits of performance. Participants are currently involved in assessing the utility of a traceable matrix matched common secondary calibrator. It is anticipated that the initial results of this project will be presented at the APFCB Congress in Bali in October 2013.

3. A project on establishment of a mass spectrometry-based assay system or paediatric screening of neuroblastoma in Vietnam is also under way, coordinated by Dr Ronda Greaves. This project was awarded a research grant from the APFCB. It is anticipated that the results of this project will be presented at the APFCB Congress in Bali in October 2013.

Report from the Laboratory Management Committee (C-LM)

(Chaired by Associate Professor Tony Badrick, Australia)

1. The major activity of the CLM is the organisation and delivery of the QA/QC Workshops. Planning is well underway for a workshop in Hanoi to be conducted in March 2013. The Workshop has been prepared with the generous support of Becton Dickinson.
2. A needs survey amongst member societies has been undertaken. We are waiting feedback from member societies/associations to inform the Executive Committee on the preferred future activities of the APFCB.
3. One of the goals of the CLM was to begin raising awareness amongst members of the APFCB of the importance of lessening the environmental impact of clinical laboratories. This continues with relevant material on the website.
4. 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*

Report from Communications Committee (C-Comm)

(Chaired by Professor Praveen Sharma, India)

I. APFCB Website

Our APFCB website (www.apfcb.org) was launched on 1st Nov 2011 and 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 Communications Committee and to the photo gallery of these events. The website is also a source of information on the APFCB Congress and regional meetings 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 the members. It also gives access to the APFCB webinars.

2. APFCB e-News:

The APFCB e-News 2010 and 2011 were published online on the APFCB website. This has ensured wide reach of the APFCB News to all the members at no additional cost. The APFCB News 2012 is being compiled and will be published by the end of February 2013

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.

Report from the Congress and Conferences Committee (C-CC)

(Chaired by Mr Joseph B. Lopez, Malaysia)

1. 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 report of the visit may be found in Appendix 1 below. The C-CC and President also received a Progress Report from the Chair of the Organising Committee on 7th October 2012.

2. Speciality Meeting

Following a joint letter dated 28 February 2012 to Corporate Members by the President and C-CC Chair inviting expressions of interest to sponsor

an APFCB speciality meeting only one response was received and it was from BD Diagnostics to sponsor a meeting on Pre-Analytical issues. This offer of sponsorship resulted in a telephone conference among 3 representatives from BD and the Chair on 18th September 2012. Essentially, it was decided that the meeting will be held in Vietnam (as requested by BD). Sunil Sethi and Tony Badrick will be the APFCB main speakers while BD will also provide speakers. The C-CC Chair will also be present at the meeting as speaker and to ensure the smooth running of the meeting.

Corporate Members Report (Mr Martin Fuhrer, Corporate Representative)

At the end of 2012 the APFCB has 18 Corporate members. This is an increase of three (3) from 2011. Five (5) new members joined in 2012:

- Diasorin Ltd.
- DiaSys Diagnostic Systems GmbH
- Kopran Laboratories Ltd.
- Mindray Bio-Medical Electronics Co. Ltd.
- Technidata Medical Software

Piramal Healthcare Limited and Osmetech decided to discontinue their APFCB Corporate membership in 2011.

APFCB Corporate members are eligible to apply for APFCB auspices from the Congress 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>.

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 program, the venue and sponsorship opportunities. Most up-to-date information about this important congress is available under <http://www.apfcbcongress2013.org/home>.

The APFCB EB wishes to thank all Corporate members for their ongoing collaboration and continuous support of the APFCB.

Report prepared by Dr Leslie Lai with contributions from Samuel Vasikaran, Kiyoshi Ichihara, Ronda Greaves, Tony Badrick, Praveen Sharma, Joseph Lopez, Martin Fuhrer and Endang Hoyaranda.

Appendix 1

Report to APFBC EB on the visit to Bali to meet the Organising Committee of 13 APFCB Congress

Present

Organising Committee:

Dr July Kumalawati, Chair

Dr Dewi Muliaty, (President, IACC; Chair of Scientific Committee)

Dra Endang Hoyaranda

Mr Eric Martoyo,

Mr Aferza Reviansha, PACTO (Conference organiser)

APFCB:

Dr Leslie Lai, APFCB President

Mr Joseph Lopez, Past President and Chair APFCB C-CC

REPORT

Friday, 14 September 2012: visit to site of Gala dinner

Saturday, 15 September 2012: visit to and meeting at Bali Nusa Dua Convention Centre (BNDCC)

General

Dates of the congress have been changed to **27-30 October 2013**. This change has been necessitated due to the annual APEC summit of Heads of States which will be held in early October 2013 at the same convention centre. The OC was reminded that the full name of the APFCB included Laboratory Medicine following the decision at the last Council meeting.

Congress Venue and Hotel

1. The venue is the BNDCC. It is the location where the next APEC summit will be held. Main lectures have good acoustics and seating space. The meeting rooms are also very good. All in all this is a modern convention centre and should serve us well. It is located within a 5 minutes' walking distance from the main congress hotel
2. The main congress hotel will cost about USD230 per room per night. Nusa Dua is an expensive area and the hotels in the vicinity are all 4 or 5 stars.

Scientific

A large portion of the scientific programme appears to be ready. However, the following observations were made:

1. Most of the main programme symposia will be sponsored by national or international societies. The OC was reminded that we need to provide

- good science. Some of APFCB member societies who had offered to sponsor symposia have not as yet submitted their titles or speakers' names.
2. The organisations outside of the region which will sponsor symposia are the IFCC (3), EFLM, WASPaLM and NACCCA (1 each). It was suggested that the OC also invite the AACCC and ACB (UK) to sponsor symposia.
 3. It was suggested that a symposium on biomarkers be considered by the Scientific OC.
 4. Some overlap in symposium topics (e.g. osteoporosis) were identified and suggestions to rectify this overlap were made
 5. Corporate workshops/symposia: these will be held during lunch breaks and to date two have been taken up.
 6. There will be 5 pre-congress workshops that will be held on the morning of 27 October 2013. It was noted that these would overlap with the Council meeting that would be held the same morning.
 7. Posters:
 - a) About 400 posters are expected to be presented.
 - b) They will be on display on 28 and 29 October 2013.
 - c) It was decided that presenters had to provide a 5 minute oral presentation of their posters at times that would be scheduled.
 - d) The best posters will be chosen for an oral presentation. It would be mandatory for all holders of travel awards/scholarships to present their posters. Otherwise they will not be given their award.
 - e) All posters will have to be original and not previously presented (although it was agreed that this provision would be difficult to enforce)

Finances

1. The OC was urged to budget for and appoint a public auditor who will audit the congress accounts, as mentioned in the APFCB Strategic Plan.
2. Most of the main booth areas (diamond and platinum) have been sold. There are still 2 booth areas that have yet to be sold. A number of booths along the sides (Gold) have yet to be taken. OC was urged to work closely with Martin Fuhrer to secure greater support of our Corporate members.
3. Siemens has agreed to sponsor congress badges. However, a sponsor has yet to be found for the congress bags.

Social

1. Opening: In keeping with tradition, the opening will be held on the evening of 27 October 2013. Speeches will be the following sequence:
 - Welcome by the Chair, OC
 - APFCB President
 - IFCC president
 - Speech by Minister of Health and official opening
 - Distinguished Service Award presentation:
 - Citation by Chair of DSA Committee
 - Presentation by APFCB President

The Opening ceremony reception will be held after these events. There will be an open-air cocktail with cultural shows as entertainment. Should it rain the venue will be moved inside the convention centre
2. **Gala Dinner:** The gala dinner will be an open air event at GWK, a location some 30 minutes away from the conference centre. The OC was advised to provide contingency plans in the event of rain. There will be cultural dances and performances show-casing Balinese and Indonesian culture.
3. **Accompanying persons and tours:**
 - The OC was urged to have pre and post-congress tours
 - A social programme for accompanying person will be arranged

Congress Promotions

1. There have been promotions at various meetings and OC was urged to ramp up promotions with about 12 months to go. It was suggested that the OC focus on APFCB member associations in their promotions. It was suggested that some kind of promotion be done at the IFCC General Conference in Kuala Lumpur.
2. The OC promised to get the congress website up and running as soon as possible. Website will enable payments to be made online.

Prepared by Joe Lopez, 17 September 2012