



ASIA-PACIFIC FEDERATION FOR CLINICAL BIOCHEMISTRY AND LABORATORY MEDICINE

ANNUAL REPORT 2023

This is the first year of the new Executive Board and Committee Chairs, coinciding with a rebound in educational activities in the post-pandemic era.

The focus of Board activity in the first year has been improving internal processes and communication with the EB and the Chairs. Virtual Board/Chairs meetings have been held most months and two virtual Council meetings this year—a formal agreement with the AACB to provide secretariat services after expressing interest and evaluating responses. The Laboratory Management and Education committees were reinstated, and bank processes and an investment strategy were implemented.

The membership of the Executive Board and Committee chairs is given below. Dr Endang Hoyaranda formally became Past President after Dr Sunil Sethi resigned in December 2022 due to ill health.

APFCB Executive Board:

Dr Tony Badrick	President, Meeting Chair
Dr Endang Hoyaranda	Past President
Dr Sam Vasikaran	Vice President
Dr Praveen Sharma	Secretary
Dr Elina Raja	Treasurer

Chairs of APFCB Standing Committees

Dr Cui Wei	Chair, Education Committee
Dr Tian Sian Hwa	Chair, Lab Management Committee
Dr Woei Horng Fang	Chair, Congress and Conferences Committee
Dr Pradeep Dabla	Chair, Communications and Publications Cte
Dr Tze Ping Loh	Chair, Scientific Committee

Ordinary members and Affiliate members showed no difference in numbers, but members' activity decreased during the past years. Some Corporate members were delisted as a result of non-responsiveness, but we are glad to see some new ones.

1. **ORDINARY MEMBERS (in alphabetical order)**

There were minor changes to the ordinary members during the year with the loss of the TACB because of the inability to sustain the organisation during the pandemic. The pandemic may have also affected some members, causing inactivity and unresponsiveness during the year.

1. Australasian Association of Clinical Biochemists (AACB)
2. Association of Clinical Biochemists of India (ACBI)
3. Association for Clinical Biochemistry, Srilanka (ACBSL)
4. Chinese Association for Clinical Biochemistry, Taiwan (CACB)
5. Chinese Society of Laboratory Medicine (CSLM)
6. Hong Kong Society of Clinical Chemistry (HKSCC)
7. Indonesian Association of Clinical Chemistry (IACC)
8. Iranian Association of Clinical Laboratory Doctors (IACLD)
9. Japan Society of Clinical Chemistry (JSCC)
10. Korean Society of Clinical Chemistry (KSCC)
11. Malaysian Association of Clinical Biochemistry (MACB)

12. Mongolian Association of Health Laboratorians (MAHL)
13. Nepal Association for Medical Laboratory Science (NAMLS)
14. Pakistan Society of Clinical Pathologists (PSCP)
15. Philippine Association of Medical Technologists (PAMET)
16. Singapore Association of Clinical Biochemistry (SACB)
17. Thailand Association of Clinical Biochemists (TACB)
18. Vietnamese Association of Clinical Biochemistry (VACB)

2. AFFILIATE MEMBERS (in alphabetical order)

There was no change on the affiliate membership list during 2022, although there were some non-responders.

1. Association of Medical Biochemists of India (AMBI)
2. College of Chemical Pathologists of Srilanka (CCPSL)
3. Macao Laboratory Medicine Association (MLMA)
4. Nepalese Association of Clinical Chemistry (NACC)
5. Philippine Council for Quality Assurance in Clinical Laboratories (PCQACL)

3. CORPORATE MEMBERS (in alphabetical order)

1. Abbott Laboratories (Singapore) Pte Ltd.
2. Beckman Coulter Hong Kong Ltd.
3. Becton Dickinson Holdings Pte Ltd.
4. Bio-Rad Laboratories (Singapore) Pte Ltd.
5. DiaSys Diagnostic Systems GmbH
6. Greiner Bio-One Singapore Pte Ltd.
7. QuidelOrtho
8. RCPAQAP
9. Roche Diagnostics Asia Pacific Pte Ltd.
10. Sekisui Medical Co Ltd.

11. Shenzhen Mindray Bio-Medical Electronics Co, Ltd
12. Siemens Healthcare Pte Ltd.
13. Snibe Co., Ltd.
14. Sukraa Software Solution Pvt Ltd.
15. Sysmex Corporation
16. Thermo Fisher Scientific
17. Waters Pacific Pte Ltd.

The following are activities conducted by the committees:

Laboratory Management

Chair : Tjan Sian Hwa

Member : dr Prasenjit Mitra (ACBI)

dr M Jamsani Mat Salleh (MACB)

dr Thyrsa Darmadi (IACC)

Douglas Chung (Abbott Diagnostic)

Vincent Chen (Snibe)

2023 Activities :

- Sustainability Webinar in collaboration with IACC @ December 2023 supported by Abbott Diagnostic, hosting the topics of Steps to Sustainability by dr Lia G Partakusuma, How can a Lab participate in sustainability efforts by dr Tony Badrick and How to measure green Activities by Mr Jay Nam
- The coming webinar is Preanalytical in collaboration with MACB

CONGRESS AND CONFERENCES COMMITTEE

Committee Chair: Dr. Woei-horng Fang (Taiwan)

Members of the Committee:

Mr. Ronaldo Puno (Philippines)

Dr. Rajiv Ranjan Sinha (India)

Dr. Mehrdad Vanaki (Iran)

Ms. Sasha Duan (Mindray - Corporate Member)

Mr. Fionn Quinlan (Waters - Corporate Member)

Activities

(1) 17th APFCB Congress, Sydney, 31st Oct-3rd Nov 2024

The C-CC worked closely with Congress Organising Committee (COC) of the 17th APFCB Congress. The C-CC Chair and APFCB President met with the COC on 30th Oct 2023 for a site inspection of the congress venue -ICC Sydney, and to discuss the progress of preparations. The meeting was attended by Helen Martin, Chair of APFCB 2024; Tony Badrick, APFCB President and also Chair of the Scientific Organizing Committee; and other colleagues of Lisa King, Fernando San Gil, Ronda Greaves, Graham Jones from the COC. Also present were representatives from the professional conference organiser (ICMSA) of Emma Bowyer, Sofia Figuera Lairet, and Rickie Xian. The meeting reviewed the preparation timeline, program update, budget plan, sponsorship, exhibition, and marketing. A report of the visit was prepared by Woei-horng Fang and submitted to the Executive Board.

(2) APFCB auspices

One of the functions of the APFCB C-CC is the award of auspices of the APFCB for various scientific events like conferences, congresses, and events organized by regional society members and corporate members. The provision of auspices is mutually beneficial: the APFCB lends its prestige to a meeting, which should help it attract greater participation, and in return, the APFCB benefits from greater name recognition among the participating laboratory scientists. All applications for APFCB auspices are evaluated by the C-CC and treated on a case-by-case basis efficiently and promptly. The C-CC is careful to award

auspices only to scientific meetings that are organized by learned bodies and vendors such as APFCB corporate members where the content is of scientific and educational value. In 2023, the committee members evaluated and granted APFCB auspices to the following scientific events.

	Conferences and Events:	Dates	City and Country	Organizer
1	IFCC Visiting Lecture 2023 : Prof. Khosrow Adeli (IFCC President)	23-25 Mar 2023	Jakarta, Indonesia	Indonesian Association for Clinical Chemistry
2	Snibe Academic Conference on Immunology	1 Apr 2023	Indore, India	Snibe Co., Ltd.
3	Maglumi X Series: The Global IVD Pioneer	19 Apr 2023	Hong Kong	Snibe Co., Ltd.
4	New Progress in Research and Application of International Laboratory Medicine	22 Apr 2023	Shenzhen, China	Snibe Co., Ltd.
5	14th International & 20th National Congress on Quality Improvement in Clinical Laboratories	16-19 May 2023	Tehran, Iran	Iranian Association of Clinical Laboratory Doctors
6	Snibe Academic Conference on Immunoassay	24 Jun 2023	Delhi, India	Snibe Co., Ltd.
7	International Conference on Immunology	9 Jul 2023	Dubai	Snibe Co., Ltd.
8	Annual Academic sessions CCPSL 2023	14-15 Jul 2023	Kandy, Sri Lanka	College of Chemical Pathologists of Sri Lanka
9	International Symposium on Laboratory Medicine	26-27Aug 2023	Shenzhen, China	Snibe Co., Ltd.

10	49th Annual Conference of Association of Clinical Biochemists of India	14-16 Sep 2023	Thiruvalla, Kerala, India	Association of Clinical Biochemists of India
11	International Symposium on Laboratory Medicine	16 Sep 2023	Negombo, Sri Lanka	Snibe Co., Ltd.
12	Re-imagining Mass Spectrometry – A Convergence of ideation, innovation and integration	5 Oct 2023	Yokohama, Japan	Roche Diagnostics Asia Pacific
13	International Symposium on Laboratory Medicine	29 Oct 2023	Shenzhen, China	Snibe Co., Ltd.
14	Roche Experience Days (RED) 2023 with virtual	8-9 Nov 2023	Seoul, South Korea	Roche Diagnostics Asia Pacific
15	International Symposium on Immunoassay	25 Nov 2023	Kathmandu, Nepal	Snibe Co., Ltd.
16	International Symposium on Immunoassay	9 Dec 2023	Colombo, Sri Lanka	Snibe Co., Ltd.
17	AMBICON 2023	13-16 Dec 2023	Navi Mumbai, India	Association of Medical Biochemists of India

The committee also worked on updating the Congresses and Conferences webpage of APFCB to include the details of the major scientific events, which have been granted APFCB auspices.

SCIENTIFIC COMMITTEE ACTIVITIES

Committee Chair: Dr Samuel Vasikaran

Members:

1. Tze Ping Loh, Chair of Harmonization of Reference Intervals WG
2. Ronda Greaves, Chair of Mass Spectrometry Harmonisation WG
3. Mohamed Saleem, Chair of Laboratory Data for Improving Diagnostics WG
4. Mithu Banerjee, Chair of Diabetes Testing Harmonisation WG
5. Pavai Sthaneswar, Chair of APFCB / WASPaLM Task Force on CKD

1. Reference Intervals WG

The Harmonization of Reference Intervals WG has examined and compared indirect methods for the derivation of reference intervals using data from laboratories within the Asia-Pacific region. The results of these studies have resulted in three publications.

Publications:

- a. Comparison of two (data mining) indirect approaches for between-subject biological variation determination. Tan RZ, et al; APFCB Harmonization of Reference Intervals Working Group. *Clin Biochem* 2022 Apr 27:S0009-9120(22)00118-7. doi: 10.1016/j.clinbiochem.2022.04.015. Online ahead of print.
- b. Comparison of 8 methods for univariate statistical exclusion of pathological subpopulations for indirect reference intervals and biological variation studies. Tan RZ, et al; APFCB Harmonization of Reference Intervals Working Group. *Clin Biochem* 2022;103:16-24.
- c. Comparison of four indirect (data mining) approaches to derive within-subject biological variation. Tan RZ, et al; APFCB Harmonization of Reference Intervals Working Group. *Clin Chem Lab Med* 2022;60(4):636-44.

2. Mass Spectrometry Harmonisation WG

A multicenter study of the influence of internal standards on the analysis of 17-hydroxyprogesterone by LCMSMS was completed in association with RCPAQAP – AACB and IFCC ETD Pediatric Hormonics Working Group.

A study of patients presenting to the National Children’s Hospital in Vietnam with 5 α -reductase type 2 deficiency detected by GC-MS analysis of the urinary steroid metabolome was conducted. The additional aim of this study was to determine the sensitivity and specificity of urinary steroid metabolite ratios in the diagnosis of 5 α -reductase type 2 deficiency

Publications:

- a. Validation of steroid ratios for random urine by mass spectrometry to detect 5 α -reductase deficiency in Vietnamese children. Tran TCM, et al. *Clin Chem Lab Med* 2022 May 24. doi: 10.1515/cclm-2022-0272. Online ahead of print.
- b. Influence of isotopically labeled internal standards on quantification of serum/plasma 17 α -hydroxyprogesterone (17OHP) by liquid chromatography mass spectrometry. Loh TP, et al. *Clin Chem Lab Med* 2020 Sep 25;58(10):1731-1739.

3. Laboratory data for improving Diagnostics WG

The WG has Analysed Laboratory Data for Improving Diagnostics and produced data on reporting critical results in Asian laboratories and Quality indicators in Chinese Laboratories. These survey reports will support healthcare goals for improved disease management in the region. The support of Roche Diagnostics for this activity is acknowledged.

Publications:

- a. A current analysis of quality indicators in Chinese clinical Laboratories. Saleem M, et al. *J Lab Precis Med* 2021;6:16
- b. Turnaround times and modes of reporting critical results in Asian laboratories. Badrick T, et al. *Annals of Clinical Biochemistry* 2021:58(3):247-50

4. Diabetes Testing Harmonisation WG

The WG conducting surveys of diabetes testing and reporting practices in the region. Results of surveys conducted in the Philippines, India and Sri Lanka have been presented at the PAMET conference in 2018, the APFCB Congress in 2019 and the CCPSL Congress in 2020 respectively. Survey has also been concluded in Singapore and the results are being analysed for publication. Whilst most laboratories follow recommended practices, there is some lag in laboratory practices in some areas which could benefit from activities to harmonize and update practice. Ideally, this would be locally driven, led by each national professional body, but APFCB would support these activities going forward.

Publication:

- a. Trends in laboratory testing practice for diabetes mellitus. Banerjee M, Vasikaran S. *eJIFCC* 2020;31:(3):231-41.

5. APFCB-WASPaLM TF-CKD

The WG has undertaken a survey of testing and reporting practices for CKD related laboratory indices in India to ascertain concordance of reporting practices with current guidelines and industry standards. The results are being analysed, and it is hoped that the data will help harmonize practice according to current recommendations throughout the region.

6. Masterclass webinars: Interpretative commenting on clinical chemistry reports.

Webinars to discuss and analyse interpretative comments and to educate laboratory professionals on the addition of interpretative commenting commenced in August 2020. Numerous webinars on various clinical biochemistry topics have concluded with wide participation from the region. The resource material and the recordings of these webinars are available on the APFCB YouTube channel:

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCoicTsnVX-COjklgZHQ54Q/videos>

Future webinars are planned every month. The support and the excellent organisation of the webinars by Dr Pearline Teo, Siemens Healthcare Pte Ltd is acknowledged.

EDUCATION COMMITTEE ACTIVITIES

Committee Chair: Dr Wei Cui

Members:

Dr. Nada Syazana Zulkifli (Malaysia)

Dr. Mithu Bannerjee (India)

Dr. Aamir Ijaz (Pakistan)

Ms. Pearline Teo (BD Company)

Mr. Sum Li (Greiner Bio-One Company)

The mission of C-E is to provide APFCB members and the healthcare community with educational activities relevant to the region in the field of Clinical Chemistry and Laboratory Medicine. It shall be concerned with developing an educational network within member Associations/Societies of the Federation to share educational materials and resources and coordinate the activities of the national educational representatives of the member Associations/Societies.

1. APFCB Presence in Regions

To raise the profile of APFCB in China, Dr. Tony Badrick was invited to attend the Annual Conference of Chinese Society of Laboratory Medicine and delivered a speech on March 31 in Changsha, China.

2. The APFCB Young Scientist Award Competition

As a scientific organization committed to promoting various scientific and educational programs for clinical biochemists in Asia-Pacific region, APFCB keeps up efforts to foster young scientists' scientific potential. In April, APFCB Education Committee organized a Young Scientists Award Competition, which could provide financial support for young scientists to attend IFCC-EFLM WorldLab/EuroMedLab in Rome, Italy, from May 21-25, 2023.

After a thorough assessment of applicants' abstracts accepted by the congress, ten winners were selected. They were invited to the Congress and IFCC Young Scientists FORUM in Rome. Eight of them finally attended the congress. They are Rina Kawaguchi (Japan), Siska Darmayanti (Indonesia), Taru Goyal (India), Monica Irungbam (India), Rina Triana (Indonesia), Chandra Agung Purnama (Indonesia), Juliyatin Putri Utami (Indonesia), Aktaruddin Arief Santoso (Indonesia).

For all the winners, the meeting was impressive and fruitful. Most importantly, this experience is critically helpful for their scientific and career success in the future.



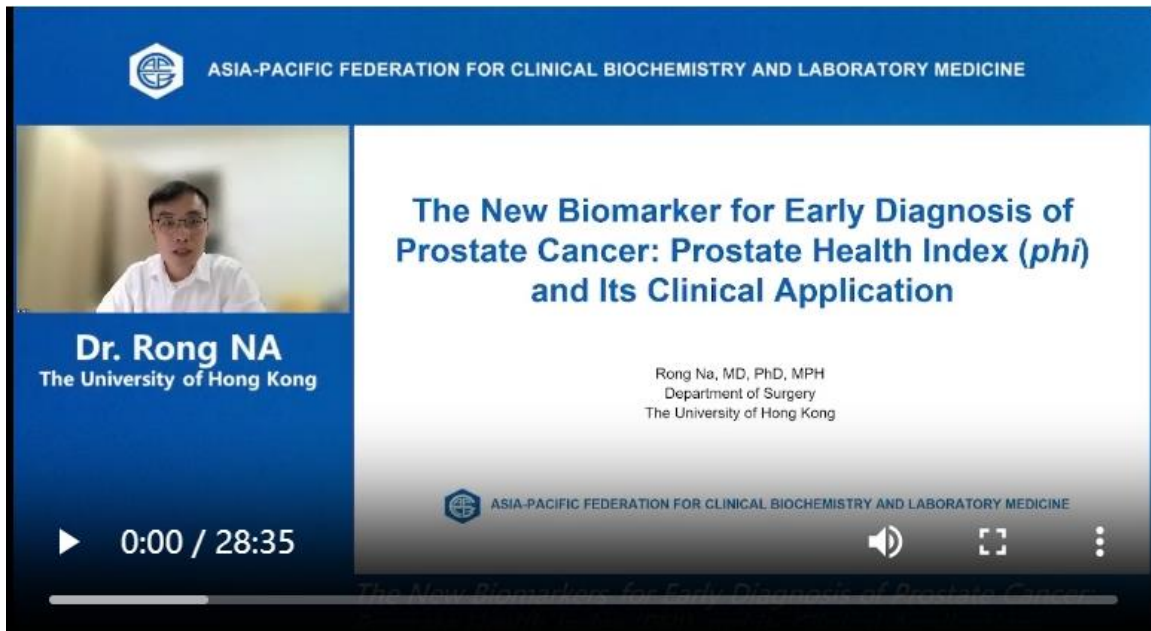
Winners' Group Photo at IFCC-EFLM WorldLab/EuroMedLab

3. APFCB-AACB Travelling Scholarship

AACB 60th Annual Scientific Conference was held on 17-19 October, Brisbane, Australia. APFCB offered two scholarships for qualified candidates to attend this meeting. After assessment based on the quality of all the participants' abstracts, Dr. Susruta Sen from India, and Dr. Mihika Fernando from Sri Lanka were awarded.

4. APFCB Online Education Program

As a part of C-E annual plan, we started an education column on the APFCB website, which is composed of a series of videos of lectures and webinars. As a first step, we collected two videos, one is from a HK professor, Dr Rony Na, and another is from a Chinese professor, Prof Wei Guo. These two videos have already been posted on APFCB website and can be visited. We will collect more videos and webinars to strengthen the educational capability of this column.



Lecture Video by Dr. Rong NA

5. APFCB - Becton Dickinson Flow Cytometry Workshop

On November 28, collaborated with Beijing Society of Laboratory Medicine and BD company, APFCB Education Committee organized a workshop: 2023 Summit of the Standardization of Clinical Flow Cytometry. Prof Wei Cui from Cancer Hospital, Chinese Academy of Medical Sciences, on behalf of APFCB Education Committee, delivered a welcome speech and a lecture of Standardization of Peripheral Blood Lymphocyte Subsets Detection by Flow Cytometry. Prof Sa Wang from MD Anderson Cancer Center, University of Texas, delivered a lecture titled Development of a 12-color Flow Cytometry Assay for the Detection of Minimal Residual/measurable Disease (MRD) of Acute Myeloid Leukemia

(AML). Prof Jianhua Pan from KingMed Independent Clinical Laboratory and Dr. Darci Gorgone Chavez from BD company also introduced the standardization and QC of clinical flow cytometry. Because of the increasingly wide application of clinical flow cytometry, the standardization and quality control of flow cytometry are getting more and more attention. More than 200 customers attended this meeting. This is the first workshop organized by APFCB education committee, which greatly improved the reputation of APFCB in Grand China.

6. APFCB Laboratory Medicine Case Contest

On December 15, the APFCB Laboratory Medicine Case Contest was successfully closed. This activity was launched on August 28. A total of 68 case reports were received during the first round. Among them, 50 cases were selected based on the quality of abstracts. Finally, 47 qualified video presentations were enrolled in the second round. After assessment of the Topic & content, Scientific & practicability, Originality & correctness, 10 winners participated in the finals on December 15. The final contest is an online presentation and discussion. Six distinguished professors were invited to be the judges. They are Dr. Tony Badrick, Dr. Leslie Lai, Dr. Sian Hwa, Dr. Helen Martin, and Dr. Goce Dimeski. According to the scores of each participant by every judge, 2 first prizes, 3 second prizes, and 5 third prizes were selected.



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APFCB Laboratory Medicine Case Contest

Winning Cases Panel Discussion and Award Ceremony

Dec. 15th
(Friday)

15:00 (UTC+11: Australian Eastern Time/AET)
13:00 (UTC+9: Japan)
12:00 (UTC+8: Beijing; Philippines; Malaysia)

11:00 (UTC+7: Thailand; Indonesia)
09:30 (UTC+5:30: India; Sri Lanka)
09:00 (UTC+5: Pakistan)



Scan for the registration

Members of the Case Contest



Dr. Tony Badrick Chair

- President, APFCB
- CEO of the RCPAQAP
- Faculty of Health Sciences and Medicine at Bond University Sydney, Australia



Australia



Dr. Wei Cui Executive Chair

- Chair of the C-Edu, APFCB
- Professor and Director
- Department of Clinical Laboratory
- Cancer Hospital, Chinese Academy of Medical Sciences, Beijing, China
- President-elect of the Chinese Society of Laboratory Medicine



China

Case Review Committee



Dr. Leslie Lai

- Past President of APFCB
- Consultant Chemical Pathologist, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia



Malaysia



Dr. Tjan Sian Hwa

- Chair, Laboratory Management Committee of APFCB
- IACC President
- Clinical Pathologist Jakarta, Indonesia



Indonesia



Dr. Helen Martin

- Past President of the Australasian Association of Clinical Biochemists (AACB)
- Senior Medical Scientist at SA Pathology in South Australia Adelaide, Australia



Australia



Dr. Goce Dimeski

- Editor of both Clinical Biochemist Reviews and Clinical Biochemist Newsletter
- Chief Scientist
- Chemical Pathology PAH Queensland, Australia



Australia

Agenda

Time (UTC+8)	Topic	Presenter
12:00-12:10	Opening Speech	Representative of APFCB and Mindray
12:10-14:40	Winning Cases Panel Discussion	Case Review Board and Clinical Case Winners
14:40-15:00	Winning Cases Award Ceremony	Case Review Board and Clinical Case Winners



>> Scan for the << Case Contest Details

APFCB Laboratory Medicine Case Contest Poster

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Winning cases sharing

No.	Country	Topic
1	Malaysia	Hyperleukocytosis_ An Important Puzzle Piece in Pseudohyperkalaemia
2	India	Coexistence of Haemoglobin D Punjab with Beta Thalassaemia Trait and Gilbert Syndrome A Complex Analysis
3	Indonesia	Hypokalemic Periodic Paralysis and Type 1 Renal Tubular Acidosis in a Young Woman
4	India	Neonatal death
5	Japan	A case of Ureaplasma meningitis in which rapid identification and quantitative bacterial count testing was effective
6	Sri Lanka	A Diagnostic dilemma in a female presented with hypercalcemia with a parathyroid and pancreatic tumor
7	Sri Lanka	A case of L2-hydroxyglutaric aciduria
8	Indonesia	A Very Rare Case A Change in The Rhesus Blood Type in A Patient With Colorectal Cancer
9	Indonesia	Pulmonary Tuberculosis Bacteriologically Confirmed with Non-reactive HIV Status, Probable Pulmonary Mycosis Et Causa Candida Albicans, and Bacterial Pneumonia Et Causa Klebsiella Pneumoni
10	Indonesia	Hepatitis Associated Aplastic Anemia

Screenshot of APFCB Laboratory Medicine Case Contest Finals

APFCB- COMMUNICATION AND PUBLICATION COMMITTEE

Committee Chair: Prof (Dr.) Pradeep Kumar Dabla

The APFCB Committee of Communication and Publications (C-CP) is responsible for developing, overseeing, reviewing, and addressing system-wide policies as well as issues pertaining to the organization's website and its online operations.

The committee is also responsible for the online publication of APFCB news and collaborates with the member associations and corporate members to promote participation and wider dissemination of relevant online activities, educational material and resources for the laboratory medicine personnel. Through this mode, C-CP directly supports novel ideas and encourages and promotes member associations to develop policies and strategies that assist with broad goals for patient care. The new Chair of Communications and Publications Committee for the term 2023-2025 was appointed in March 2023 by APFCB-EB (Executive Body).

Members of the APFCB C-CP for this term are as:

- Dr. Pradeep Kumar Dabla (Chair)
- Dr. Deepak Parchwani (Web Editor)
- Dr. Ryunosuke Ohkawa
- Dr. Mingma Lhamu Sherpa
- Dr. Alireza Lotfi Kian
- Dr Tze Wei Poh (Corporate - Beckman Coulter) (member till Dec2023)

Following their appointment, through the APFCB e-newsletter, social media, and official website, the new C-CP team has strengthened the organization's online presence.

Over the course of the previous year, the C-CP maintained active communication and used electronic methods to promote the APFCB's operations to both its member societies in the Asia Pacific area and to nations under the umbrella of IFCC.

In summary, the following heads outline the committee's operation in the preceding year:

1. APFCB Website - Maintenance & Management:

The C-CP oversees the creation, upkeep, and administration of the APFCB website. Following the present committee's takeover, a new and dynamic APFCB website is operational. The most recent details about webinars, online courses, and virtual conferences hosted by the APFCB, its member societies, and international professional bodies are regularly updated on the federation's website. Scientific publications, guidelines, and webinars (live & recorded) on various interesting topics are also made available.

A substantial transformation was made from the prior version. Principal ones include improved webinar exposure with ongoing updates; the creation of a quick link tab emphasizing the APFCB Auspices on the home page, social media and news; upgradation of the announcement section, social media, visitors' stats and designated space for corporate partners.

APFCB auspices calendar organized:

APFCB is committed to maintaining and promoting an exchange of information in the field of patient care by creating links of communication between the involved parties. "Auspices" symbolizes the recognition of a professional conference activity of high scientific and/or educational level. It has been methodically set up and organized since the federation views it as a crucial area for its outreach.

2. Stewardship of APFCB Social Media Platform

Social media has become an indispensable part of our lives; in fact, it is a great online teaching-learning and publicizing platform for the federation. Everyone has at least one account on any one of the social media sites. This allows them to meet the target population where they are by connecting on channels they use every day, i.e. it creates an opportunity for our federation to be even more user-centric to spread information across the world.

The current C-CP set up newer social media profiles and revived the passive handles for the APFCB to effectively communicate and distribute news, publications, nominations, awards, congress and updates on the federation's activities with national societies and clinical laboratory experts.

After assuming the role by the current C-CP, the APFCB is not only officially available but is actively disseminating the relevant information under the purview of APFCB on Facebook, Twitter, LinkedIn, Instagram and YouTube.

Links to the APFCB social media pages are as follows –



(<https://www.apfcb.org/networking>)

Facebook Page: <https://www.facebook.com/APFCB/>

Twitter: https://twitter.com/APFCB_LM

Instagram: https://www.instagram.com/apfcb_lm/

LinkedIn <https://www.linkedin.com/company/apfcb/>

YouTube: <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCoicTsnVX-COjklgZHQ54Q>

3. Publication of online activities, educational material and resources

In the era of digital connectivity, the publication of online activities, educational materials, and resources plays a pivotal role in fostering accessible learning environments. Educators can share engaging content, interactive exercises, and valuable resources

through diverse platforms, transcending geographical boundaries. This dissemination facilitates the democratization of education, empowering learners globally.

Amidst the ongoing surge in digital connectivity demand, the publication of online activities, educational materials, and resources is significantly enhanced through C-CP continuous efforts. We provided diverse platforms to share dynamic content, interactive exercises, and valuable resources, creating a vibrant and accessible learning ecosystem. (visit: https://www.apfcb.org/continuing_education).

4. Practices to Promote the Education and/or relevant activities of the federation

The homepage of the APFCB website and social media platforms are used to publicize all forthcoming events. The C-CP also notifies members of impending events and extends blast email invitations to them. The C-CP is relentlessly working to meticulously update and expand the list of members in its database.

5. Publication of APFCB News

The C-CP takes charge of the online publication of APFCB News (<https://www.apfcb.org/#enewsletter>). The chair of the C-CP, who was just elected, has been responsible for being the APFCB News's Chief Editor.

The newsletter is published twice yearly and can be found on the APFCB website as an e-book. It can also be accessed as a PDF version. As per the convention of the newsletter's biannual publication schedule, two editions were released in the year 2023:



In keeping with convention, **paintings of Dr. Tan It Koon**, the organization's founder, and former president, was kept as the front cover of the newsletter of both issues (**Issue 1: A Bunch of Ripening Bananas with Flower Bud Still Attached** and **Issue 2: A Beautiful View of the Three Gorges in China**).

The published APFCB News (Volume 1 and 2) includes myriads of information, ranging from delineating annual reports from the members societies showcasing their efforts in adding scientific knowledge to laboratory medicine, expert opinion in laboratory quality management & artificial intelligence, special reports from IFCC Global Medical Lab Week celebrations 2023 & sustainable green labs.

A feature piece on Tony Badrick (APFCB President) authored by Dr. Pradeep kumar Dabla (Chief editor; eNews APFCB), was published in APFCB News 2023 Issue 2 in recognition of his honor of “Member of the Order of Australia” for his services and immense contribution towards the community and science.

Industry partners have shown great enthusiasm while sharing reports for industry voice, whether triage or non-invasive prenatal testing (NIPT). Their active engagement underscores a commitment to advancing cutting-edge technologies and practices,

fostering innovation, and collectively shaping the future landscape of diagnostic and prenatal healthcare.

An additional fascinating feature included in APFCB News 2023 is visibility to young scientists, and it is always thrilling to see young scientists share their efforts. The full report on the 2nd IFCC Young Scientists' Forum, organised in conjunction with IFCC World Lab Euro-Med Lab 2023 and Rome, was made available in the second issue.

To standardize article submissions to the APFCB news, the C-CP team drew up a Guideline for submitting reports, articles, and corporate advertisements. These guidelines are accessible on the APFCB website homepage via this link:

<https://www.apfcb.org/Submission%20Guidelines%20APFCB%20News%20050721.pdf>.

A key new feature added to APFCB news is the clinical case discussion due to its inevitable importance in clinical medicine and practice as an instructive example to people who might encounter similar problems.

The APFCB News features a compelling **quiz and expert papers**, offering a rich source of knowledge in clinical chemistry and laboratory medicine. The quiz tests readers' understanding of crucial topics, while expert papers delve into the latest advancements and insights. This combination ensures a comprehensive learning experience, keeping professionals abreast of developments in laboratory medicine and promoting continuous education within the APFCB community. It serves as a valuable platform for sharing expertise and fostering collaborative growth.

Recommendations for the upcoming year:

The committee will further explore under the following heads in AY 2023-2024 to expand the APFCB network:

- **APFCB Webinar platform:**

Marshall McLuhan, in 1964, quoted that the digital communication world is becoming a global village. This concept says that communication has become instantaneous due to technological evolution. The same notion has now come into existence as learning/re-learning and shifted to the digital arena. With this concept and considering the raised activities/requirements and best marketing techniques, we propose to organize a series of webinars to reach our target audience.

A webinar permits many virtual functionalities in that a fully managed webinar platform provides the organizers with numerous sets of interactive features that make learning and networking. Another characteristic that makes webinars an exceptional choice is that they can reach a wider audience without limitations. Some of the most eminent advantages of Webinars include, Simpler Way to Gather Wider Audience, Easy Availability of High-Profile Guests, Cost-Effective Learning Method, Encourages Interaction, Great Flexibility & Convenience for All, Excellent Way to Grow Networks, and Branding & Customization.

Social media expansion

Connecting on social media handles that the target population uses on a daily/regular basis, it enables us to meet them where they are and gives our federation the chance to disseminate the information worldwide. Major benefits

of social media for our system include, but are not limited to, as a communication channel for Networking, creative demonstration, connecting with experts, marketing tools, access to information, and publishing news and updates. Because of this, it is necessary to use these social media channels aggressively for outreach.

e-Mail Marketing

E-mail marketing is a type of direct digital marketing method that uses emails to engage with a target audience. It involves sending promotional or informational content. APFCB can use e-mail marketing typically to create brand awareness and generate leads and presence at an international forum by being cost effective.

To utilize the platform of APFCB News for APFCB activities:

In the forthcoming issues of APFCB News 2024, C-CP intends and proposes to publish the APFCB Clinical Cases in batches of 2 to 4, considering that case studies are one of the cornerstones of medical progress and may provide novel ideas in the field.

As members of the Committee on Communication and Publication, we continue to take pride in the APFCB system and its continuing improvements.

CORPORATE Representatives Report:

Dr Douglas W Chung MPH (Infectious Diseases) FRSPH

Corporate Representative

1. Corporate Members

1.1. **Active corporate members**

There are 16 active Corporate Members listed at the start of this Report.

1.2. **Delisted corporate members**

No corporate members were delisted in the period Jan – Dec 2023.

1.3. **New corporate members**

Two new corporate members, Shenzhen Mindray Bio-Medical Electronics Co, Ltd. and Greiner Bio-One Singapore Pte Ltd. were added in Jan – Dec 2023.

2. **Corporate Member Webinars & Events**

In 2023, the following Corporate Members conducted events under APFCB auspices:

- Abbott Laboratories (Singapore) Pte Ltd. supported an IACC-APFCB virtual event on Green Laboratory
- Becton Dickinson supported the APFCB-BD Flow Cytometry Workshop
- Roche Diagnostics Asia Pacific – meetings in Seoul (South Korea) and Yokohama (Japan)
- Shenzhen Mindray Bio-Medical Electronics Co, Ltd supported the APFCB Laboratory Medicine Case Contest

- Snibe Co., Ltd. – various conferences and symposia held in Sri Lanka, Nepal, India, Hong Kong, Shenzhen, Dubai

3. Publications and Communications

The APFCB newsletter (2 issues per year) has a dedicated “Industry Voice” section that provides a platform for Corporate Members to contribute articles of educational or scientific relevance. Corporate Members can also place paid advertisements in the newsletter. We encourage Corporate Members to use this platform to reach a wide audience of laboratory professionals across the region.

4. Other administrative updates

The Corporate Representative is also assisting the Executive Board in various administrative matters concerning the Registry of Societies (ROS) under the Singapore Ministry of Home Affairs. The ROS record has now been updated to reflect the current officers of the APFCB Executive Board.

February 2023

Reported by: Tony Badrick, President, APFCB

