



APFCB News

The Newsletter of the Asia-Pacific Federation for Clinical Biochemistry
and Laboratory Medicine for circulation among APFCB and IFCC members

2018
Issue 2

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Association for Clinical Biochemistry, Sri Lanka (ACBSL)
Chinese Society of Laboratory Medicine (CSLM)
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Hong Kong Society of Clinical Chemistry (HKSCC)
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Submissions

The APFCB News welcomes suitable contributions for publication. These should be sent electronically to the Chief Editor. Statements of opinions are those of the contributors and are not to be construed as official statements, evaluations or endorsements by the APFCB or its official bodies.

**Cover page: "Enjoying Cool Breeze and Sound of Cascading Water at a Mountain Stream". Contributed by Tan It Koon
Founding and Past President APFCB**

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Contents

From the desk of Chief Editor – Praveen Sharma	01
APFCB Activities	
APFCB Report November 2018 by <i>Prof Sunil Sethi</i>	02
APFCB 2019 Progress report	05
APFCB AACC Workshop report	07
IFCC Activities	
IFCC TFYS at ACBICON 2018 by <i>Dr Pradeep Dabla</i>	11
Member Societies– Annual activities reports 2018	
Chinese Association for Clinical Biochemistry (CACB)	13
Hong Kong Society of Clinical Chemistry (HKSCC)	17
Japan Society of Clinical Chemistry (JSCC)	20
Macao Laboratory Medicine Association (MLMA)	22
Singapore Association of Clinical Biochemistry (SACB)	24



From the desk of Chief Editor

Dear Friends,

Season's Greetings!

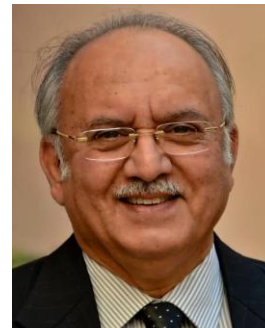
It is my pleasure to present to you the second issue of APFCB News 2018 with great sense of gratification. This issue shall be wrapping off the major activities of member societies during the latter half of 2018. I would like to thank and appreciate the efforts of those member societies and national representatives who have contributed by sending their respective societies' timely reports for this issue. However, I would request the other member societies to also contribute actively to APFCB News and make it a useful platform for information dissemination among the APFCB members. I would also request our corporate partners to extend their support in the form of scientific articles and advertisements' APFCB News. We hope to have their sustained support in future.

We come forward with this issue as we prepare for the APFCB Congress 2019 and I would invite all the member societies for an active participation in the congress. The cover page of this issue has been graciously designed by Prof. Tan It Koon the founding and the past president of APFCB. The attractive painting titled "Enjoying Cool Breeze and Sound of Cascading Water at a Mountain Stream" is inspired by the beautiful gardens, waterfalls and mountain streams, quiet walkways in the shade of green majestic trees, natural wetlands, pavilions and covered wooden bridges from the Jiangnan region of China. I'm thankful to him for providing beautiful painting for Cover page from his art treasure. His constant support is immensely inspiring.



Praveen Sharma

Chief Editor





ASIA-PACIFIC FEDERATION FOR CLINICAL BIOCHEMISTRY AND LABORATORY MEDICINE



APFCB Report for 2018

Education and Laboratory Management Committee Report

The Education and Laboratory Management Committee (C-ELM) consists of the following: Environmental - Lia Gardenia Partakusuma (Indonesia); Website development/Interpretative Comments - Tze Ping Loh (Singapore); Vietnam Course - Ronda Greaves (Australia); MACB Course - Elina Raja (Malaysia); Needs Survey of members - July Kumalawati (Indonesia); Phlebotomy audit - Endang Hoyaranda (Indonesia); Lean Vietnam - Jozi Habijanac (Roc he Corporate); Quality Control/Sigma training - Amit Manjure (Siemens Corporate).

A brief summary of the major outcomes of the C-ELM follows:

1. APFCB Travelling Lecturer

The APFCB Visiting Lecturer for 2018/19 is Dr. Raja Elina Raja Aziddin

The first engagement was at the College of Chemical Pathologists of Sri Lanka Annual Academic Meeting in Columbo in March The Travelling Lecturer has presented at the following meetings;

July - Indonesian Association of Clinical Chemistry - Bali

August - Vietnamese Association of Clinical Chemistry - Da Nang

September - Philippine Council for Quality Assurance in Clinical Laboratories (PCQACL) - Manila.

2. APFCB Chemical Pathology Course - Vietnam

This annual event took place in June with approximately 250 participants in Hanoi and 350 in HCMC. The program contains a mixture of invited and local speakers presenting on routine chemical pathology topics. The popularity of the program continues to grow.

3. APFCB VACB Lean Project

The Lean project continues with the support of Roche in Vietnam. At this time there have been 31 trainers trained in 11 Lean 'train the trainer' workshops. These trainers have in turn trained 230 laboratory staff from 101 laboratories in Vietnam. The project will continue with support for the trainers being provide by Roche. The emphasis of the training has been standardisation of techniques and a just in time approach to using a suite of Lean tools. Small laboratory improvement projects are favoured so that trainees learn from the application of the tools.

4. MACB Chemical Pathology Course

Planning is underway for the third component of the three-year Course designed to complement a local professional qualification process. It is expected that two external speakers will be involved with the three-day course but that 70% of the material will be delivered by local speakers. Part of the process is to have the course entirely run by the local Association. The MACB fully support this course and it also fits with Malaysian government policy of certifying medical scientists.



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6. APFCB Becton Dickinson Pre-Analytical Improvement Project

The BD phlebotomy audit program has been successful at reducing pre-analytical error in a number of APAC countries. The aim of this project is to produce an APFCB training course for phlebotomy auditors that could be used throughout the Region. An MoU with BD was signed in January and the project is underway. To pilot the program two countries have been identified, the Philippines and Singapore. Key outcomes from the project will include the following:

1. A Self – Assessment Check list
2. Development of a Best Practice Guideline for Phlebotomy
3. A Pre-Analytical Workshop will be presented at the Philippine Association of Medical Technologists meeting in November.

7. APFCB–AACB Scholarships

Two scholarships were awarded for two young investigators (Sri Lanka and India) to attend and present their posters at the AACB Annual Scientific Meeting in Sydney September 2018.

8. APFCB–AACC Workshops

The APFCB has been collaborating with the AACC with their Global Lab Quality Initiative (GLQI) as part of the Asia Pacific Working Group (APWG). This year there have been three two-day workshops held in the Philippines, Sri Lanka and Nepal in conjunction with the local APFCB member Society. The APFCB and the AACC will continue to work on this project to assist in the development of educational programs.

Scientific Committee Report

9. Mass Spectrometry Harmonisation WG

- Publication: Current state and recommendations for harmonization of serum/plasma 17-hydroxyprogesterone mass spectrometry methods. Greaves RF, Ho CS, Loh TP, Chai JH, Jolly L, Graham P, Hartmann MF, de Rijke YB, Wudy SA; Working Group 3 “Harmonisation of Laboratory Assessment” European Cooperation in Science and Technology (COST) Action BM1303 “DSDnet”. Clin Chem Lab Med 2018;56(10):1685–97.
- A protocol for the study of the influence of internal standard on the analysis of 17OHP by LCMSMS is being developed in association with RCPAQAP – AACB and IFCC ETD Pediatric Hormonics Working Group.
- The Chair of the WG, Ronda Greaves, is involved with the AACB proposal to hold a Workshop on chromatography-mass spectrometry at the APFCB Congress 2019 in Jaipur, India.



10. APFCB–WASPaLM TF–CKD

Following on from the visit to Sri Lanka by Graham Jones, Chair of APFCB–WASPaLM TF–CKD and discussions with Chemical Pathologists earlier in the year, ACB–SL is currently considering the feasibility of standardising creatinine assays and reporting practices throughout the country. Assistance will be sought from APFCB–WASPaLM TF–CKD as and when required.

11. Diabetes Mellitus in APFCB region

A survey of current status of laboratory testing for diabetes in India is currently under way spearheaded by Dr Col Mithu Banerjee, with a view to assessing the potential role of APFCB in improving the quality of laboratory practice in the diagnosis and monitoring of diabetes mellitus.

12. 15TH APFCB Congress

Every effort is now focused on the planning and execution of the 15TH APFCB Congress in Jaipur, India, 17–20 November 2019. I cordially invite all corporate partners, speakers and participants to this event.

Prof Sunil Sethi

President APFCB
November 2018



ASIA-PACIFIC FEDERATION FOR CLINICAL BIOCHEMISTRY AND LABORATORY MEDICINE

APFCB Progress Report for 2019

Summary in Oct, 2018

This is the progress report by Dr. Praveen Sharma, the Chair of Organizing Committee of APFCB Congress 2019 of preparations for the 15th APFCB Congress to be held from 17th–20th November 2019, in Jaipur.

The following are some key points for the progress:

1. Scientific:

- a. The theme of APFCB Congress 2019: Laboratory Medicine – Innovation and Integration
- b. Closing date for abstracts is 15 October 2019.

To my experience, only about one month for conference program preparation is not enough. The Scientific Committee need time to review abstracts for qualification. It also need time to notify accepting or rejection of the abstract. It also need time for the abstract compilation. I will suggest set abstracts deadline 3–5 month before the Conference according Scientific Committee's capacity.

- c. Is Keynote speaker invited?
- d. Are the plenary speakers invited?
- e. Is all APFCB national societies confirmed the themes of their symposia and speakers?

2. The scale of this APFCB Congress is expect to have 1500 participants (1000 Domestic and 500 oversea). Number of exhibition booth is 200. (According to Sponsors Prospectus.)
3. Registration: USD600 (USD 550 for Bali and Taipei meeting) for foreign participants; USD350 (USD 300 for Bali and Taipei meeting) for foreign students; free registration for scholarship holders. Local registrants (From India, Sri Lanka, Nepal & Pakistan) to have lower registration fee of INR 15000 (about USD220).
Early Bird Registration till 31st August, 2019

4. Corporate Sponsorship:

- a. Is any major sponsor secured?
- b. Is there any promotion meeting and/or activities?

Venue: the venue of the congress will be the new Jaipur Exhibition & Convention Centre (JECC), located in the industrial hub of Sitapura and 8 km from the Jaipur International Airport. Facilities in JECC include two exhibition halls with a combined column-free space of 20,000 sq meters, and more than 20 meeting venues.





5. Professional Conference Organizer (PCO):

- a. A local PCO, Mike Hospitality LLP, has been appointed.
- b. The PCO will act as the congress's contact point. It manage everything such as registration, communication with speakers and participants, accommodation arrangements, etc.

6. Social:

- a. The reception for the opening will be held at the JECC.
- b. Conference Break & Lunch will be provided to all registered participants on each day of the congress

In keeping with tradition, the culture night will be open to all registered participants.

7. Finance:

- a. Please provide a budget plan.
- b. Is the external auditor for the congress (public auditor) appointed?

8. Promotions:

- a. The web-site was set up on 6 November 2016, and will be progressively updated.
- b. It will be used for registrations and submission of abstracts.
- c. Are there some major promotional efforts will be made?

Overall the preparations appear to be on course.

APFCB AACC Workshop report

Philippine Association of Medical Technologists Inc.

In coordination with APFCB-AACC "Raising the Bar of Quality in the Clinical Laboratory" August 30 -31, 2018

DAY 1

Opening Program: Message from PAMET President Ronaldo Puno, Dr. Victoria Zhang, Chair, AACC Asia-Pacific Working Group and Mr. Elias Caro from Wallace H. Coulter Foundation.

Morning Sessions Moderators: Dr. Victoria Zhang and Dr. Leila Florento

LECTURE 1: Laboratory Quality Assurance and Practices: The Philippine Setting (Part 1) Speaker: Mr. Victor Lumboy

LECTURE 1: Value of lab medicine through quality systems: Basic principles and concepts of QC and QA

Speaker: VICTORIA ZHANG, PHD, MBA, DABCC

LECTURE 3: Method selection and validation *Speaker:* SRIDEVI DEVARAJ, PHD, DABCC, FAACC, CCRP

LECTURE 4: How to choose QC Speaker: VICTORIA ZHANG, PHD, MBA, DABCC

Afternoon Sessions Moderators - Dr. Rej and Ms. Jacinta B. Cruz

LECTURE 5: How to establish QC Speaker: Robert Rej, PhD

LECTURE 6: How to monitor QC Speaker: VICTORIA ZHANG, PHD, MBA, DABCC

LECTURE 7: CASE STUDIES Speaker: Dr. Gary Horowitz

DAY 2

Morning Sessions Moderators: Dr. Horowitz and Dr. Leila Florento

LECTURE 8: Laboratory Quality Assurance and Practices: The Philippine Setting (Part 2) Speaker: Mr. Victor Lumboy

LECTURE 9: External quality assurance Speaker: Robert Rej, PhD

LECTURE 10: Reference intervals Speaker: GARY L. HOROWITZ, MD

LECTURE 11: Results reporting Speaker: SRIDEVI DEVARAJ, PHD, DABCC, FAACC, CCRP

Afternoon Sessions Moderators - Dr. Devaraj and Ms. Jacinta B. Cruz

LECTURE 12: ISO 15189 Speaker: Robert Rej, PhD

LECTURE 13: Risk management Speaker: SRIDEVI DEVARAJ, PHD, DABCC, FAACC, CCRP

LECTURE 14: Best practices and Case Studies Speaker: GARY L. HOROWITZ, MD

SUMMARY given by Dr. Victoria Zhang

Post-test evaluation was given after the lectures. This workshop was given 17 CPD units by the Philippine Professional Regulatory Commission Council for Continuing Program Development.



This workshop was highly appreciated and well recommended by the participants citing top calibre speakers and well-organized program. There were 399 participants to the workshop and 368 respondents to the evaluation. Strongly agree response on evaluation questions were 1. Overall program quality was high 66.3%; 2. Program presented new and valuable information 65%; 3. Program will help improve QC in the laboratory 65%; 4. Program provided practical information 71%; 5. Will recommend this program to others 72%; 6. Program met expectations 76%.



THE FACULTY OF APFCB-AACC WORKSHOP



THE PARTICIPANTS OF APFCB-AACC WORKSHOP



Q & A SESSION





Q & A and SUMMARY by Dr. Zhang



CLOSING PROGRAM



HOSPITAL LABORATORY VISITS



CULTURAL TOUR IN MANILA





SOCIAL EVENT





IFCC-Task Force Young Scientists (TFYS)

ACBICON – 24–27th Oct 2018, Kala Academy, Goa, India

2018 Oct 25th: IFCC–TFYS organized educational symposium supported by organising committee of 45th National Conference of ACBICON–2018, Kala Academy, Goa, India. The symposium was organized successfully under the theme of “Next Steps in Lab Medicine of the Future – Young Specialists & Technology”. The chair sessions were **Prof Howard Morris, IFCC Prof Praveen Sharma, Chair Organizing Committee ACBICON, and Prof. Abbas Ali Mahdi, President ACBI.**

The healthcare system is undergoing a major transformation worldwide. The clinical laboratory is seeing a rapid introduction of new technologies and rapid progress of science related to new biomarkers for diagnosis, prognosis and response to therapy. Both interpretation of tests and understanding the fastest and most cost effective approaches to testing is becoming a challenge. Thus, duties and responsibilities of laboratory scientists are still evolving in the diversity of our profession. Laboratory medicine still attracts bright medical and scientific graduates to work in the field. It is need of an hour to help young scientists for promoting the essential contribution of laboratory medicine at the centre of healthcare as they are the future of laboratory medicine.





The various topics covered were, 1). State of Major Transformations in Healthcare & Medical Laboratory by **Prof. Praveen Sharma**, EB-ACBI, APFCB, IFCC 2). Innovations & Skills - Advancing New Delivery Systems by **Prof. Damien Gruson**, EurSpeLM & Consultant IFCC-TFYS 3). Laboratory Medicine Vs. Clinical Medicine - Interface Linking by **Dr. Pradeep K. Dabla**, Chair IFCC-TFYS 4). Education & Training Programmes Opportunities - Preparing Young Scientists by **Dr. Danni**, IFCC-TFYS & Dir Clinical Chemistry, University of Minnesota Medical Center Fairview, USA. These topics covered range of attributes and blend the invaluable skills, capabilities, knowledge, experience and diversity to develop a new culture and vision with leadership. At the end, session was made open for young scientists and participants to interact with world leaders to solve their queries. IFCC-TFYS is thankful to organizing committee **ACBICON-2018**, senior members IFCC & ACBI and especially to our young participants.

By: Dr Pradeep K Dabla, IFCC-TFYS



Chinese Association for Clinical Biochemistry (CACB)

Contributed by Dr. Woei-horng Fang, Executive Director and National Representative

This brief report summarizes some of the highlights of activities for CACB during the Year of 2018.

1. CACB annual conference and scientific symposium, in conjunction with the 33rd Joint Annual Conference of Biomedical Science (JACBS) -- CACB held its annual meeting during the 33rd Joint Annual Conference of Biomedical Science (JACBS) at the National Defense Medical University Campus, Taipei on March 24–25, 2018, we invited Dr. Jozica Habijanac, Head, Strategic Development Asia Pacific, Roche Diagnostic Asia Pacific, to deliver a special lecture on “The Future of Healthcare and Diagnostics: AI Application.” She shared valuable experiences with us the vision of cooperate sector from recent advance to the future development in health care and diagnostics. CACB also organized a symposium “Metablism and Disease from Research to Clinical Diagnosis” Three speakers shared the experiences in recent development of in vitro diagnostic technology. Ching-Hua Kuo, Professor of School of Pharmacy, National Taiwan University, presented “Development of analytical methods for metabolomics studies and therapeutic drug monitoring.” Dr. Ching-Ying Kuo, Professor of Department of Clinical Laboratory Scineces and Medical Biotechnology, National Taiwan University, presented “Altered mitochondrial metabolism regulates breast cancer tumorigenicity.” Mei-Ling Cheng, Professor of Healthy Aging Research Center, Metabolomics Core Laboratory, Chang Gung University, presented “Metabolomics in human health.” (Fig. 1) Following the symposium, student’s research oral presentation competition and poster contest were also held. (Fig. 2) Overall, the two-day conference was very successful and truly an enjoyable academic gathering for the attending members of CACB.

CACB board members and the invited speakers in 33rd JACBS



CACB Award presenting for poster contest in 33rd JACBS



2. Election for CACB Executive Board 2018–2021 (Fig. 3) – On 2 April 2018, Ms. Hsiao-Chen Ning (ning@cgmh.org.tw), Chief Technologist, Department of Laboratory Medicine, Chang Gung Memorial Hospital, was elected as the CACB President. The immediate past-president Dr. Woei-horng Fang will serve as Executive Director and National Representative to IFCC for the same period. The new Secretary General is Dr. Ching-Ying Kuo (cykuo27@ntu.edu.tw), Assistant Professor of Department of Clinical Laboratory Sciences and Medical Biotechnology, College of Medicine, National Taiwan University.



CACB Executive Board 2018-2021

3. CACB in conjunction with Dept CLSMB, National Taiwan University, and Biomedical Technology and Device Research Laboratories, Industrial Technology Research Institute organized a special lecture to invite Dr. Alan Wu, Professor Laboratory Medicine, Chief, Clinical Chemistry Laboratory, San Francisco General Hospital, to deliver a speech of “Promoting the value of the clinical lab to students, patients and the general public.” CACB members and students from Dept CLSMB, NTU enjoyed the talk and a enthusiastic discussion. This special lecture also served as the official launch of traditional Chinese edition of Dr. Wu’s book: “The Hidden Assassin: When Clinical Lab Tests Go Awry.” All the fans were very happy to have Dr. Wu’s signature on the front page of the books (Fig. 4).

Dr. Alan Wu and fans with his new book from CACB board

4. CACB is the organizer of upcoming the 34th Joint Annual Conference of Biomedical Science (JACBS) scheduled on 23–24 March 2019. The Conference venue will be at the National Defense Medical University Campus, Taipei as previous years. The first Organizing Committee meeting was held on 27 July 2018 chaired by CACB President Ning and attended by all nine association's Presidents and/or representatives. After heated discussion, the theme of the Conference was later set as 'Traslating Science into Health Care' and a competition of oral presentation of 'From Molecules and Cells to human health'. Prof. Pan-Chyr Yang, a member of Academia Sinica, as invited as the Plenary Lecturer to deliver latest achievement for lung cancer diagnosis and treatment. We are also approaching Dr. Paul Modrich, Professor at Duke University and The Nobel Laureate in Chemistry 2015 for the possibility to have a Nobel Lecture of 'DNA Mismatch Repair and Cancer'





Hong Kong Society of Clinical Chemistry (HKSCC)

The year started with the newly elected office bearers elected at the Annual General Meeting (AGM) of the Hong Kong Society of Clinical Chemistry held on 27 January 2018, taking up their office. The office bearers elected were:

President	Mr Yun Chuen LO
Vice President	Dr Jeffery SS KWOK
Immediate Past President	Dr Doris CK CHING
Secretary	Dr Iris HS CHAN
Treasurer	Ms Cybil TY WONG
Council Members	Prof YM Dennis LO
	Prof Allen CK CHAN
	Prof Joseph LEE
	Dr Liz YP YUEN
	Dr Lydia CW LIT
	Dr Eric LK LAW
	Mr Emmett WK LAW
	Ms Karen KT LAW
	Mr Eric WK WONG
	Ms Judy PS LAI

National Representative to IFCC	Prof Allen CK CHAN
National Representative to APFCB	Mr Yun Chuen LO
Representative to FMSHK	Ms Judy PS LAI

In the 2018 ASM/AGM, Professor Tony Mok, Department of Clinical Oncology, the Chinese University of Hong Kong and Professor Allen Chan, Department of Chemical Pathology, the Chinese University of Hong Kong presented on the topics "Molecular Diagnostics: The Bridge to Precision Medicine for Advanced Stage Lung Cancer" and "Circulating Cell-Free DNA: New Possibilities for the Next Decade" respectively. There were 3 industrial presentations by Beckman Coulter Inc., Roche Diagnostics (Hong Kong) Ltd and Thermo Fisher Scientific during the ASM. The ASM was attended by 145 members and guests. Education activities for the year carried on with presentations by distinguished academia and scientists. One scientific meeting was organized in the first half year of 2018:

The dinner lecture co-hosted with CUHK by Professor David Barry Sacks, External Examiner for Chemical Pathology, the Chinese University of Hong Kong, was held at Jade Ballroom, Eaton Hong Kong on 10th May 2018. The topic addressed was "Glycated Hemoglobin in the Diagnosis and Monitoring of Diabetes Mellitus:

Advantages and Limitations" and the event was sponsored by Bio-Rad Pacific Limited and Thermo Fisher Scientific (Hong Kong) Limited. The dinner lecture was attended by 170 members and guests.



Council 2018 - 2019



ASM 2018 (27 Jan 2018): Prof Tony Mok



ASM 2018 (27 Jan 2018): Prof Allen Chan



Dinner lecture (10 May 2018): Professor David Barry Sacks





Japan Society of Clinical Chemistry (JSCC)

The 58th Annual Meeting of Japan Society of Clinical Chemistry

During August 24–26, 2018, the 58th Annual Meeting of Japan Society of Clinical Chemistry (JSCC), chaired by Prof. Ishii (Fujita Health University), was held in Nagoya, which is located at the center of Honshu (the main island of Japan) with a population of 2.24 million. More than 1,050 participants gathered to Nagoya International Congress Center, and enjoyed academic programs as well as beautiful historic town and traditional Nagoya foods (it's called NAGOYA-MESHI) in the banquet. The events in the meeting included the Chairperson's Lecture, 3 keynote lectures, 5 educational lectures, 13 symposia/workshops, 15 luncheon seminars, 5 evening seminars, 4 satellite seminars and 180 poster presentations. As the guest for the JSCC International Scientific Seminar, Dr. Joseph Passarelli was invited to the meeting and gave a lecture on how Japan collaborates and supports the IFCC today and suggestions on opportunities to expand this relationship in the future. One of the most notable things of the meeting was that eight joint symposia were held with other academic societies, namely, with the Japanese Society for Gene Diagnosis and Therapy, Japanese Society for Biomedical Mass Spectrometry, the Japanese Society of Toxicology, Japan Mibyou System Association, Japanese Association of Medical Technologists, the Japan Society for Clinical Laboratory Automation, Japanese Society of Laboratory Medicine (Toukai-Hokuriku Branch), and Japanese Association of Medical Technology Education (Division of Clinical Chemistry). Thus, JSCC is actively developing a collaborative relationship with adjacent academic societies.





(Written by Ishii J & Kitagawa F, Fujita Health University)

Macao Laboratory Medicine Association (MLMA)

The Annual General Meeting (AGM) and Scientific Seminar of Macao Laboratory Medicine Association (MLMA) was held on March 17. Five well-known speakers from Singapore, Taiwan, Macau and Hong Kong were invited to deliver comprehensive presentations to our members and audience. The presentations covered wide variety of topics related to clinical laboratory science, including blood banking “Leveraging on automation and digital technology in the blood bank laboratory Part 1& Part 2”, Quality Management “Management of quality index in Microbiology Laboratory”, biochemistry “Novel Biomarker for predicting the future risk of cardiovascular events”, and ICQ implementation, “A common sense approach to Internal Quality Control: No more rules?”. The activity was a great success which attracted over a hundred members from our association to participate.



The 8th AGM of MLMA

A hospital visit tour was arranged on May 22 to 26. Members of MLMA travelled to Bangkok, Thailand and visited Siriraj Hospital and Nation Blood Center, Thai Red Cross Society. The staffs from Siriraj hospital introduced the phlebotomy room, biochemistry lab, molecular testing lab as well as hematology lab of Department of Clinical Pathology to us. Our members then visited the National Blood Center, Thai Red Cross Society to study the blood transfusion and blood donation system in Thailand.



MLMA keeps on organizing medical laboratory science seminars and courses for members. Distinguished professors, senior academic staffs and medical laboratory professionals are invited to give presentation and share their experience with our local medical technologists and experts.

Summary of 2018 scientific seminars are as follows:

Venue	Date	Topic / Workshop	Speaker
Hotel Royal Macau, 2/F, Vitoria.	April 11, 2018	EliA CTD Screen vs ANA-IF: which is better for screening of Connective Tissue Diseases?	Dr. Wolfgang Papisch Scientific advisor in Autoimmunity, Thermo Fisher Scientific.
Hotel Royal Macau, 2/F, Vitoria.	September 27, 2018	Droplet Digital PCR-From Research to Clinic	Tommy Lok Man Lo, Ph.D. Field application specialist, Bio-rad Pacific Ltd.
Hotel Royal Macau, 2/F, Vitoria	October 26, 2018	Lead the way-Roche Healthcare consulting	Mr. Sam Yew Roche APAC Consulting Team Manager
Star World Hotel, 8/F Grand Ballroom	December 4, 2018	Latest Technology in Prenatal Screening & Diagnostic Testing.	To be determined

On December 2, MLMA will hold a Community Activity Day in order to promote personal health issue and the importance of medical laboratory science to the Macao resident. MLMA will set some booths for people to measure blood pressure and blood glucose level. A brief introduction of blood donation service and laboratory tests, parasite demonstration, allergy testing, will also be presented to participants, increasing the awareness of people in health issues.





Singapore Association of Clinical Biochemistry (SACB)

The year 2018 has been a rather busy one for SACB so far!

Annual Scientific Meeting and Annual General Meeting 2018

More than 160 people participated in this year's Annual Scientific Meeting (ASM), which took place on Saturday, 10 March 2018 at the Sheraton Towers, Singapore. In the scientific programme, a total of eight speakers delivered talks on various topics ranging from clinical practice, general biochemistry, assay interference, molecular diagnostics to laboratory management:

Title	Speaker
Recent advances in molecular diagnostics	Dr Benedict Yan
Driving changes in the pre-analytical phase	Dr Endang Hoyaranda
Appropriate application of internal quality control	Dr Lim Hwan Sub
Theory to practice: utilising change management for the clinical laboratory	Ms Margaret Pope
Biotin: the Achilles' heel of biotin-streptavidin immunoassays	Dr Christina Trambas
Down syndrome: a clinician's perspective	Prof George Yeo
Procalcitonin point-of-care: myth or reality?	Mr Guillaume Galpy
Better patient care with more informative hsTnI results	Dr Li Pan

The background of our eight speakers was as diverse as the topics covered! They came from seven different countries including Australia, China, France, Indonesia, Singapore, South Korea and the United Kingdom.

As in previous years, the ASM was immediately followed by our Annual General Meeting (AGM). At the AGM, new SACB office bearers were elected for the 2018–2019 term, including A/Prof Sunil Sethi (President), Dr Wong Moh Sim (Vice President), Dr Sharon Saw (Hon Secretary), Dr Clement Ho (Assistant Secretary), Mr Alex Tan (Treasurer), Dr Leslie Lam (Council Member), Dr Edward Tan (Council Member), Dr Tan Jun Guan (Council Member), Ms Heng Ping Ying (Auditor) and Mr Stephen Ng (Auditor).



SACB Education Programme 2018

Once again, the annual education programme consisting of ten lectures on Wednesday evenings was conducted from August to October 2018. This year, the lectures were held at the Health Sciences Authority's auditorium, which is a bigger venue than previous years' lecture hall, so that more people can participate in this extremely popular lecture series. To our delight, there were more than 70 participants in this year's SACB Education Programme. Lecture titles and speakers are summarised in the table below.

Title	Speaker
Phaeochromocytoma: diagnosis and management	A/Prof Robert Hawkins
Biochemistry of renal functions: creatinine clearance and glomerular filtration rate	Ms Carol Tan
External quality assessment & proficiency testing	Dr Liu Qinde & Ms Heng Ping Ying
Principles and clinical applications of liquid chromatography	Ms Jayme Wong
Laboratory safety - NTFGH's experience in creating a safe laboratory workplace	Mr Alvin Yeung
Pre-analytical and clinical aspects of blood gases	Dr Ong Lizhen
Reference interval - how, when and why?	Dr Sharon Saw
Quality assurance and laboratory accreditation	Mr Andrew Goh
Amino acids testing	Dr James Lim
Reproductive endocrinology in females	Dr Clement Ho

Symposia co-organised by SACB

SACB co-organised a symposium with Becton Dickenson on 27th April 2018 on "The Importance of the Pre-Analytical Phase in Improving Patient Outcomes". This was a well-attended programme covering an important area of laboratory medicine. The programme included:

Title	Speaker
Links between patient experience, patient safety and clinical effectiveness	Dr Ling Moi Lin
Pre-analytical Variables - Why are they Critical for Appropriate Diagnosis?	Dr Neil Kent
Pre-analytical Quality Indicators and Methods of Assessment	Dr Neil Kent
Pre-Analytical Variables in Arterial Blood Gas Analysis and Point-of-Care Testing	Dr Sharon Saw
Influence of Pre-Analytical Errors in Laboratory Testing - Case Studies	Mdm Ou Mui Geok
Managing the Quality of Blood Sampling through Education	Mr Joshua Sng



SACB-Siemens also hosted a POCT Workshop on 18 October 2018. The programme for this meeting were:

Title	Speaker
Tips on Managing a Great POC Programme	Dr Leslie Lam
Training, Competency Assessment, and Maintaining Competency of POC Users	Dr Robert Christenson
Managing a Point-of-Care Testing Programme with Informatics	Mr Kristopher Lam
How to Deal with Improving Performance of Users (who don't actually work for you)	Dr Robert Christenson
Open Forum	Mr Poh Wee Koh

Last but not least, SACB has a new email address for administrative matters: membership.sacb@gmail.com

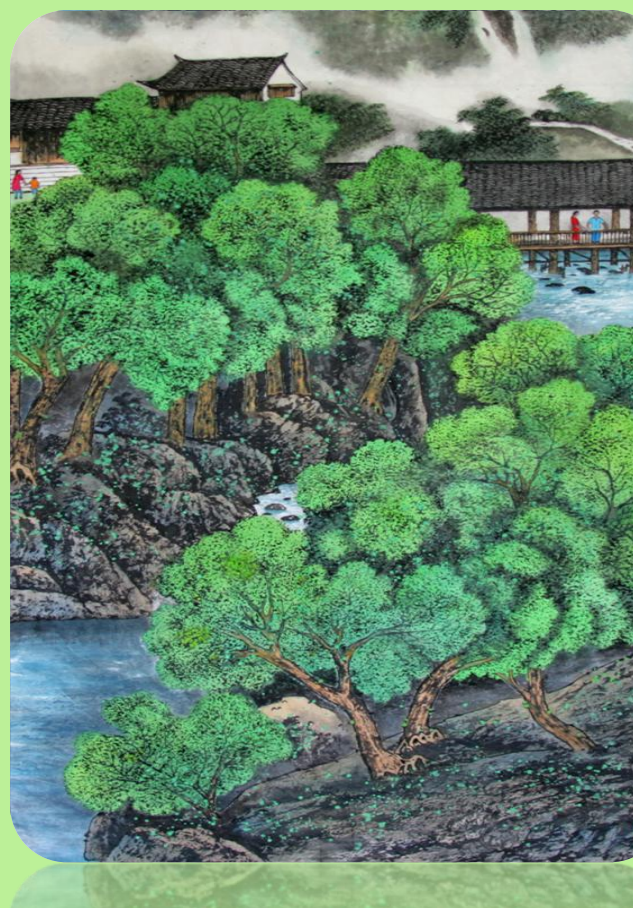


Enjoying Cool Breeze and Sound of Cascading Water at a Mountain Stream

By Dr It-Koon Tan (APFCB Founding & Past President)

I have taken multiple trips to China. The beautiful gardens, waterfalls and mountain streams, quiet walkways in the shade of green majestic trees, natural wetlands, pavilions and covered wooden bridges with unique characteristics at the Jiangnan region (the region of China located to the south of the Yangtze River, near Shanghai), left me with a deep impression.

This painting is inspired by an unforgettable experience during a visit in summertime to a small mountain covered by a variety of majestic tall trees. It was such a pleasure to look at the emerald-green and crystal-clear stream from the covered bridge, while enjoying the cool breeze and sound of cascading water. There is nothing more soothing and relaxing than the sound of running water.



绿涧泉声

多次到中国旅游，对江南地区许多美丽的园林，山泉瀑布，绿荫幽径，天然湿地，和为游人静观美景而建的特色亭台，有盖小桥等，印象深刻。《绿涧泉声》描绘一个夏日的美好记忆，在翠绿大树环绕的幽静小山丘上建的小亭和廊桥，享受清风，居高观望脚下的绿涧和游鱼，聆听潺潺泉声。

陈一军 博士作



Laboratory Medicine-Innovation and Integration

**15th Asia-Pacific Federation For
Clinical Biochemistry and
Laboratory Medicine Congress**

**17th - 20th November, 2019
JECC, Jaipur, India**