



## International Federation of Clinical Chemistry and Laboratory Medicine



The International Federation of Clinical Chemistry and Laboratory Medicine (IFCC) is proud to host IFCC WorldLab Berlin 2011.

IFCC is a global professional organization serving a worldwide partnership of clinical laboratory scientists, laboratory physicians and specialists within the in-vitro diagnostics industry. Founded in 1952 the IFCC membership currently comprises 85 national societies and 42 companies who together represent more than 30,000 laboratory medicine specialists.

The IFCC mission statement is: "Through leadership and innovation in science and education:

- We strive to enhance the scientific level and the quality of diagnosis and therapy for patients throughout the world
- We build on the professionalism of our members to provide quality services to patients
- We communicate effectively with our members, other healthcare providers and the public to ensure knowledge of our excellent scientific and educational achievements
- We focus on scientific standards, publications, education and communications
- We hold outstanding congresses and conferences throughout the world to bring the efforts of IFCC to the global community.

The current priorities for IFCC are:

- To complement and enhance the activities of its members
- To share examples of good practice and to promote the contribution and added value of clinical chemistry and laboratory medicine
- To transcend geographical and corporate boundaries by developing global programmes for clinical chemistry and laboratory medicine
- Through the Scientific Division (SD) to provide a forum for standardization and traceability, with the establishment of reference systems to improve the quality of health care for individuals and communities
- Through the Education and Management Division (EMD) to provide IFCC members and the healthcare community with relevant education directed at clinical, scientific, and management issues, especially in developing countries
- Through the Communication and Publications Division (CPD) to communicate and promote the work and image of IFCC to clinical laboratory scientists, physicians and health care policy makers worldwide.

The IFCC has extensive co-operation and direct collaboration with a large number of international organizations which are active in clinical, scientific and educational areas of common interest.

The Officers of IFCC are always keen to communicate with members, other organizations and with individuals on matters relating to clinical chemistry and laboratory medicine. Please visit the IFCC website ([www.ifcc.org](http://www.ifcc.org)) and/or contact the President, Graham Beastall ([president@ifcc.org](mailto:president@ifcc.org)) or the Secretary, Paivi Laitinen ([secretary@ifcc.org](mailto:secretary@ifcc.org)).

Graham Beastall  
IFCC President



## European Federation of Clinical Chemistry and Laboratory Medicine

Dear Colleagues,

It is a pleasure to welcome you at the joint IFCC WorldLab and EuroMedLab Congress 2011 in Berlin, the second most populous and one of the most vibrant cities of Europe. Berlin is among the top three convention cities in the world, where research and development have established economic significance, and the Berlin Brandenburg region ranks among the top three innovative regions in the European Union.



Thus there is no doubt that Berlin, with its history and resources, provides an infrastructure which enables all attendees to meet their needs and to enjoy the scientific, cultural and social opportunities that this Congress offers. As one would expect there is a wide-ranging high quality scientific program covering the cutting-edge developments in laboratory medicine. The scientific program of the Congress demonstrates the invaluable role that Laboratory Medicine plays in health care. Main conference topics include the role of prevention, theragnostics, new technologies and biomarkers in the era of "omics", the relevance of automation and IT, and the education and training of our future professionals to cope with these challenges, particularly in a demanding and difficult economic environment.

This conference will be an opportunity to meet old friends and make new ones to interact with like-minded colleagues in the pursuit of common goals and interests in the ongoing development of clinical chemistry and laboratory medicine.

After the fall of the Berlin Wall in November 1989 the Brandenburg Gate, enhancing the approach into the Boulevard Unter den Linden, became not only a historical landmark but also the symbol of unity. So, let us unite the profession in Europe and all over the world in the exciting city of Berlin!

Whether on the congress floor or sampling the attractions of Berlin, I am sure you will enjoy your attendance at a memorable meeting. EFCC welcomes you for an enriching professional conference and friendly exchanges Unter den Linden!

Andrea Rita Horvath  
EFCC President



## German Society of Clinical Chemistry and Laboratory Medicine



Dear Delegates,  
dear Colleagues,

It is my pleasure to welcome you to the 21st International Congress of Clinical Chemistry and Laboratory Medicine in Berlin organized by IFCC, EFCC, and DGKL. As one of the oldest scientific societies devoted primarily to this field of medicine we are proud to host scientists from all over the world on this occasion. The congress presidents Harald Renz and Rudolf Tauber supported by an international congress organizing committee and a scientific advisory board have assembled a program delineating the state of the art of our profession. Looking at the final program it is clear that the hard work of the last three years has led to what can be expected from an outstanding congress. It will underscore the immense impact of laboratory diagnostics on all areas of modern medicine. During the congress there will be ample opportunity for scientific exchange among the delegates and with the invited speakers. Plenary sessions, parallel symposia, industry sponsored workshops, and poster sessions provide the stage for in depth discussions, and I encourage you to take this opportunity. During the meeting the IFCC, EFCC, and DGKL will also award their renowned prizes for scientific and professional achievements among them the Biochemical Analysis Prize of the DGKL with a tradition of more than 40 years. Among the list of prize winners are 5 scientists who were later awarded the Nobel Prize.

All this is embedded in the vibrant city of Berlin which offers a wealth of cultural experiences. One of them – the world famous Museum Island – will open its doors exclusively for congress delegates and their company on Wednesday evening. You will have time to visit the unique treasures among them the Pergamon Altar and Nefertiti. I expect this to become an unforgettable congress highlight.

I wish that all of you enjoy your stay in Berlin and remember the congress as an exciting and stimulating scientific event that was well worth the travel.

*Karl J. Lackner*  
President DGKL

Welcome



**Bundesministerium  
 für Bildung  
 und Forschung**

## Message from the Federal Minister of Education and Research, Annette Schavan

Increasingly detailed knowledge about the causes of diseases and new diagnostic technologies are vital prerequisites for medical innovations. Modern laboratory equipment contributes to diagnosing diseases more quickly, more reliably and at an earlier stage. As a result, treatment can be initiated more promptly and in a more targeted way. The aim of individualized medicine is to choose the therapy that is best suited to the patient, avoiding side effects wherever possible. More precise diagnostic tools do not just enable individually tailored treatments - innovative laboratory diagnostics and bioinformatics also change the way in which new drugs are developed.



Health research plays an important role in the Federal Government's High-Tech Strategy: since 2007, approximately 800 million euros have been provided for efforts to strengthen basic research and accelerate the transfer of research results to the treatment of patients. During this period, the Federal Ministry of Education and Research has invested 30 million euros in molecular diagnostics alone to ensure that Germany remains a competitive, forward-looking research location in the field of laboratory medicine. After all, the molecular diagnostics market is also important from an economic point of view. It is currently worth 12 billion euros, and experts predict that it will grow to approximately 22.5 billion euros over the next five years.

We are facing great challenges in the 21st century - particularly in the field of health research. Demographic change and the rapidly increasing prevalence of certain diseases pose great challenges in the area of health research. To meet them, we need modern health research in all fields of science, and we expect a great deal from the area of laboratory medicine. I would like to thank the organizers of this year's International Congress of Clinical Chemistry and Laboratory Medicine in Berlin for their great commitment. I hope that the event will provide a forum for interesting conversations and discussions, stimulate new ideas for future research activities, and present important information for medical practitioners.

*Prof. Dr. Annette Schavan*  
 Federal Minister of Education and Research

## Message from the Governing Mayor of Berlin, Klaus Wowereit, for the IFCC WorldLab 2011 in Berlin



IFCC WorldLab EuroMedLab is one of the world's largest and most important scientific congresses, and Berlin is greatly honored to be hosting the national and international experts working in this field. You will feel at home in Berlin, which is a city of great scientific capability.

Medicine, research, and academics occupy a special position in Berlin. Universities and many non-university research institutes of international renown work together closely here. Networks within disciplines promote cooperation between science and business, and many of our medical products and services are unique in their fields.

Berlin is very well prepared to host large national and international congresses and trade fairs. The International Congress Center (ICC); Messe Berlin, our trade fair company; and many other conference facilities offer excellently equipped premises for concentrated professional interaction, and Berlin's hotels and atmospheric restaurants offer inviting opportunities for culinary exploration.

Those attending a conference on the banks of the Spree should not forget to take a look at the city's cultural calendar. Whether theater or opera, classical music or jazz, ancient sculpture or contemporary art – Berlin has something for everyone.

Berlin is welcoming the IFCC WorldLab-EuroMedLab participants.

*Klaus Wowereit*  
Governing Mayor of Berlin