ARAB FEDERATION OF CLINICAL BIOLOGY AFBC

LM4MS
LABORATORY MEDICINE FOR MOBILE SOCIETIES

EFLM
EUROPEAN FEDERATION OF CLINICAL CHEMISTRY AND LABORATORY MEDICINE

STBC
Société Tunisienne de Biologie Clinique

Virtual Congress

ANNOUNCEMENT

Under the auspices of the IFCC

ifcc
International Federation of Clinical Chemistry and Laboratory Medicine

1st EFLM-AFCB Conference
"Laboratory Medicine For Mobile Societies"
XXXIVth National Days of Clinical Biology

18 - 20 February 2021

Free online registration
https://cutt.ly/8kmJWih

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1st EFLM-AFCB Conference
"Laboratory Medicine For Mobile Societies"
XXXIVth National Days of Clinical Biology

February 18th, 19th & 20th 2021

Virtual Congress

Scientific themes

- Epidemiology and common health care interventions
- Laboratory medicine and mobile societies in the era of digitalization
- Migration and genetics
- Migration and drug addiction
- Migration and emerging infectious diseases
- Laboratory diagnosis of COVID-19
- Physiopathological mechanisms of thrombotic events linked to COVID-19
- Companion diagnostic tests associated with targeted therapy
- Updates on diagnosis and management of acute coronary syndromes
- Delayed hemolytic transfusion reaction in sickle cell disease
- IFCC TFYS symposium: Young scientists confronting COVID-19 pandemic
- Professional symposium: The new nomenclature of medical biology tests in Tunisia

Pre-Congress workshop

Molecular biology course :

- Next-generation sequencing and its applications in clinical biology
- Nutrigenetics

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WELCOME MESSAGES

LM4MS Steering Committe
Prof. Michael Neumaier

Dear Colleagues,

I am honored to welcome you to this very special 1st EFLM/AFCB Conference on "Laboratory Medicine for Mobile Societies". This conference is a result of the strategic collaboration - designated "Laboratory Medicine for Mobile Societies" (LM4MS) – forged between EFLM and AFCB, two of the Regional Federations within the International Federation of Clinical Chemistry (IFCC). LM4MS is grateful for the support and the continuous input that IFCC has provided for our concept. We also are indebted to the Tunesian Society for Clinical Biology (STBC) for the enthusiasm to host this first conference.

While the planning for this 1st congress was well on its way in early 2020, mankind has been struck by the COVID-19 Pandemic, which so far has affected 100 million individuals and caused well over 2 million deaths. In an unprecedented effort of international scientific, medical and political collaborations, the world is still working to contain the disease and to mitigate its effects. One year into the COVID-19 Pandemic, we are being reminded on a daily basis, how health systems and their resilience are impacted by mobility.

Through their joint LM4MS Task Force, EFLM and AFCB recognize the diagnostic challenges associated with an increasing mobility of their citizens not only within the Federations´ borders. We also experience that migration and getaway movements - as consequences of unrest and violence, socio-political instability and war - often leave the victims in desperate need for health care. This need not only exists while crossing through the Mediterranean region representing the geographical interface between the two Federations, but also beyond the points of entry and the continued migrations through the Federations´ territories.

Clinical Chemistry and Laboratory Medicine can play an important role for monitoring health and disease during these processes as the diagnostic tools are available to answer to the medical needs. Together with the rapid evolution of digitalized medicine, the field can address the challenges of monitoring health and disease in mobile societies and people migration by networking health care professionals within the Mediterranean region and beyond. We are urged to recognize the societal importance of working together on issues of mutual interest. LM4MS shall be a first effort to connect EFLM´s and AFCB´s realm of expertise and professional activities to meet these tasks.

Dear colleagues, while it is a pity that we will not be able to meet in person to discuss the important issue of Medical Diagnostics in mobile societies, I am confident that the web-based virtual conference format, we are confined to at present, will add important digital facets to LM4MS communication activities and hopefully further the LM4MS mission.

WELCOME MESSAGES

President of congress
Prof. Taieb Ben Messaoud

Mrs. President of the European Federation of Clinical Chemistry and Laboratory Medicine (EFLM)
Mr. President of the Arab Federation of Clinical Biology (AFCB)
Mr. President of the International Federation of Clinical Chemistry and Laboratory Medicine (IFCC).
Dear colleagues, Dear congress participants, Dear partners,

Recent evolution in the health situation linked to the Covid-19 pandemic have forced the government to ban the holding of scientific events in Tunisia. This year has been particularly difficult, difficult in terms of health, difficult for our country, and more generally for all the countries affected by this pandemic.

It is with great pleasure that we announce that the Tunisian Society of Clinical Biology (STBC), the European Federation of Clinical Chemistry and Laboratory Medicine (EFLM) and the Arab Federation of Clinical Biology (AFCB) are organizing the 1st Arab-European Congress (LM4MS) and the XXXIVth National Days of Clinical Biology in virtual format from February 18 to 20, 2021.This event is held under the auspices of the International Federation of Clinical Chemistry and Laboratory Medicine (IFCC).

To the delegates from the various countries of the world that we are expecting from February 18 to 20, 2021, to our partners and to our collaborators: many thanks for choosing our congress. We look forward to seeing you participate in our congress.

We also salute the involvement of the members of the organizing committee. Each and every one of you has instilled your vision and concern for providing an enriching and quality event in all respects.

We would like to thank all the partners who lent a hand in setting up this congress, which the relevance is no longer to be discussed.

The scientific program is rich and involves various aspects of the main theme of the congress, namely "Health and mobility".

The XXXIVth National Days of Clinical Biology aims to provide a framework for exchanges to the various participants in order to boost clinical biology in our country with the creation of new thematic networks.

Seven symposia, six plenary conferences and a round table are scheduled.

The XIIth course in molecular biology, now a tradition and organized in pre-congress, includes 3 conferences: Sequencing of new generation and its applications in clinical biology, nutrigenetics in the field of metabolic diseases, obesity and cardiovascular diseases and the bioinformatics applied to molecular biology.

Internationally renowned speakers (Germans, French, Greeks, Italians, Lebanese, Syrians, Saudis, Algerians, Moroccans and Tunisians) will host plenary conferences and symposia developed by an international scientific committee.

In order to encourage and involve young biologists, an IFCC-Task Force Young Scientists session is scheduled during this Arab-European Congress.

During this virtual congress, we offer you the opportunity to have rich exchanges of professional experiences.

Finally, I would like to thank all those who contributed to the success of this congress, in particular the members of the STBC board, the scientific committee, the organizing committee, the speakers, the session moderators and the jury for the evaluation of the posters. I would also like to thank the company MICE Travel, professional organizer of this congress, as well as all our industrial partners and all those who, from near or far, contributed to the organization of this congress. On behalf of the entire STBC board, I wish this congress every success.

WELCOME MESSAGES

President of EFLM
Prof. Ana-Maria Šimundić

Dear colleagues, dear participants, dear friends,

thank you for offering me the opportunity to welcome you all to the 1st EFLM-AFCB Conference, on behalf of EFLM.

This conference is a result of the joined efforts of our Federations. This conference demonstrates that two Federations can join, work together and collaborate successfully on topics of mutual interest, as are certainly the many challenges of mobile societies for laboratory medicine across the Mediterranean Sea. This conference is, I hope, a beginning of a wonderful friendship between our two Federations and I hope just one of the many successful joint projects to some.

The program of this conference addresses many challenges of laboratory medicine, which occur as a result of the increasing mobility of the citizens of our two Federations across the Mediterranean – the geographical interface between the Federations.

Please allow me to extend my sincere congratulations to the scientific and organizing committees for the fantastic work in putting up such a great conference.

I am very much looking forward to it and I am sure it will be a success.

Thank you.

WELCOME MESSAGES

AFCB President
Dr. Osama Najjar

Dear Colleagues and Friends,

On behalf of the AFCB executive board I send you my greetings on the occasion of the 1st EFLM/ AFCB Conference Laboratory Medicine for Mobile Societies. This conference as one of the practical cooperation between AFCB and EFLM highlights the role of laboratories in mobile societies.

The great efforts that established for organizing this conference were thankful efforts. The role of the Tunisian Society of Clinical Biology (STBC) was the spearhead in holding this conference due to their commitment, enthusiasm, and determination to succeed which represents a success story in joint cooperation between reginal federations in the IFCC.

Our friends from the EFLM gave their utmost efforts in planning, guidance and follow up for the success of the conference. These efforts continue to build bridges of knowledge, science, medicine and love for the sake of human health. The enthusiasm of our colleges from EFLM was of great importance in building a sustainable strategic relationship between AFCB and EFLM.

This conference which will be held under the circumstances of Corona Pandemic impose special procedures on the organizing committee to overcome the challenges in holding it virtual. The symposium program including multidisciplinary lectures concerning different topics about laboratory medicine in mobile societies and the great effect of lab. Medicine in the health of these societies. These challenges were the driving force for the achievement of holding the conference.

Finally, with my great delight I welcome you to this conference in Tunisia, wishing the success of this conference.

Sincerely.

WELCOME MESSAGES

IFCC President
Prof. Khosrow Adeli

It is my great pleasure to present this welcoming message to all national and international conference participants of this special conference. This joint conference between the European Federation of Clinical Chemistry and Laboratory Medicine (EFLM) and the Arab Federation of Clinical Biology (AFCB) sets the stage for a truly international and collaborative event and presents a unique opportunity to bring leading experts and industry partners together on a global virtual platform to discuss the latest findings and advances in laboratory medicine, clinical chemistry, clinical biology, and epidemiology, with focuses on COVID-19 and migration.

The IFCC organization is pleased to partner with both the EFLM and AFCB on this important event to support scientific exchange and the harmonization of scientific, educational, and professional efforts. As the IFCC continues to expand its international reach, we remain committed to the key goal of advancing better healthcare worldwide, primarily through advancements in laboratory medicine. In order to optimize laboratory medicine, and thus healthcare, it is essential to understand the context in which it operates, such as the epidemiological patterns related to migration and the on-going COVID-19 pandemic. To ensure continued growth and development of our field, we need to encourage a culture of innovation contributing to technological and process innovations, while also ensuring that we consider how those innovations can support healthcare in the context of our external environment. This will allow us to meet the future needs of our patients and healthcare systems.

I hope you all enjoy the excellent scientific program organized by the EFLM and AFCB. With a wide-breadth of timely topics, this event is sure to stimulate interesting conversation, ideas, and, ultimately, new discoveries in the near future.

WELCOME MESSAGES

LM4MS Steering Committe
Dr. Alexander Haliassos

Dear Colleagues and Friends,

Thank you to each and every one of you for being here with us today. We are very pleased to be able to welcome you to our first LM4MS conference.

As you probably know, the European Federation of Clinical Chemistry and Laboratory Medicine (EFLM) and the Arab Federation of Clinical Biology (AFCB) had recognized the importance of working together in order to collaborate on specific issues that have been identified as being mutually important in both Federations´ realm of expertise and professional activities. Especially they recognized that today´s societies are characterized by an increasing mobility of their citizens within the Federations´ borders, and also across the Mediterranean region defining the geographical interface between the two Federations.

As we all know migration and getaway movements are the consequence of unrest, war, socio-political instability and recently exploding pandemics, often leaving the victims in desperate need for health care not only upon entering our member countries, but also beyond their point of entry during their continued migration through the Federations´ territories.

In consequence, EFLM and AFCB recognized the importance of jointly supporting the evolution of comprehensive laboratory strategies in the context of mobile societies and people migration by networking health care Professionals in the Mediterranean region organize jointly this conference.

Last year has been a hard year and the interest has shifted mostly to SARS-CoV-2, however I am thankful that we made this conference a reality despite all the obstacles, although we are organized this conference in all virtual form for obvious reasons.

With everyone struggling, it is comforting that we are still dedicating time to the people in most need. There are many great challenges that the refuges face every day and with the pandemic still raging their problems have been multiplied. With the virus thriving under the crowded conditions the mobile societies face, the situation has been devastating to them. We believe it is appropriate that we focus on the most pressing health issue for the refuges themselves, the coronavirus. Coping with it is a great challenge for everyone, and especially for the refuges who lack the infrastructure and the space to social distance.

Today, just after the opening in a Symposum we will discuss about the Epidemiology and public health care interventions and our plenary lecture has as subject the Mobile societies in the digitalization area as a structural challenge to laboratory medicine.

Tomorrow our agenda starts with the plenary lecture about Migration and genetics followed by a Symposium on Migration and emerging infectious diseases. The first afternoon Symposium presents the latest developments in Laboratory diagnosis of COVID-19 followed by the afternoons plenary on an evidence-based approach for the management of COVID-19 in Tunisia and the key role of INEA Santé followed by a Symposium on the important problem of Migration and drug addiction. During the closing Symposium of the second day the IFCC Young Scientists Task force Session will present us how the Young scientists confront the COVID-19 pandemic.

The final day of our conference starts with a plenary lecture on Targeted therapies and companion diagnostic tests followed by a plenary presentation of Late hemolytic reaction and transfused-related hyperhemolysis in sickle cell disease. The next two symposia present the News on the diagnosis and management of acute coronary syndromes and a Professional view on the new nomenclature of medical biology tests in Tunisia. The closing plenary of our conference presents the important issue of Physiopathological mechanisms of thrombotic events linked to COVID-19

Dear Colleagues and friends, many countries in our region have struggled with the pandemic, however new scientific developments and a better understanding of the virus, as will be presented the following days, have brought us hope for the future. It is a privilege and an honor to hold this conference with you. It has been a tough period and the end of the pandemic seems to be near.

Dear colleagues and friends I hope next time I will be able to embrace each one of you at a face-to-face meeting.

WELCOME MESSAGES

President of the LM4MS scientific committee
Prof. Abderrazek Hedhili

This first EFLM / AFCB LM4MS congress is the culmination of 3 years of intense efforts by persons who believed in this great collaborative project between our two EFLM / AFCB Federations. Despite the worrying world situation, the organization of this congress, even virtual and especially during this critical period, is a challenge for all of us and allows us to show our solidarity and to overcome this disastrous pandemic. This congress will be held in an exceptional international context dominated by the Covid-19 pandemic.

Around the mobilizing theme "Mobility and health", we wanted to exchange our experiences in this field and especially the contribution of laboratory medicine for the management and prevention of pathologies linked to this mobility, including the covid- 19 pandemic .

Several themes will be covered:

- Epidemiology and common healthcare interventions
- Migration and emerging infectious diseases
- laboratory diagnostic structures in mobile societies
- Migration and drug addiction
- Migration and genetics
- Molecular biology
- Mobility of young people in science and health

3 plenary conferences, more than 30 conferences, 30 speakers from 20 countries, 450 posters and several workshops will be organized during this congress.

The scientific committee would like to thank all the persons who actively participated, the members of the steering committee of the two federations, the EFLM works councils, the AFCB, the IFCC EB who agreed to put this congress under its auspices, the STBC, the speakers who responded positively to our invitation despite their country's commitments in the fight against the Covid-19 pandemic and the industrial partners.

WELCOME MESSAGES

President of the JNBC scientific Committee
Prof. Brahim Nsiri

Dear colleagues, dear friends

On behalf of the scientific committee, it is our pleasure to welcome you to the XXXIV National Days of Clinical Biology which will take place this year in parallel with the 1st Arabo European Congress organized by the Tunisian Society of Clinical Biology, the European Federation of Chemistry Clinic and Laboratory Medicine (EFLM) and the Arab Federation of Clinical Biology (AFCB). Given the circumstances imposed by the covid 19 pandemic, this important scientific event will take place in virtual mode from February 17th to 19th, 2021.

As usual, the scientific program developed by a multidisciplinary scientific committee will be rich and varied with always the same passion to make this event a forum for training, knowledge exchange and debate of ideas.

In pre-congress, a molecular biology course is scheduled for young biologists and researchers in order to strengthen and perfect their knowledge in this innovative field. In its 12th edition, this course, which today becomes a tradition of the JNBCs, will be devoted this year to micro-RNAs and to nutrigenetics and bioinformatics.

In addition to the symposia, oral and poster communications, three plenary lectures and two sessions are scheduled. They will be led by specialists in the field and provided by internationally renowned experts and touching on clinical biology topics that are both judicious, relevant and topical.

The Abderraouf Mebazza Prize, an emblematic figure of clinical biology and founder of the STBC, is a scientific prize awarded in tribute to pioneers of clinical biology in Tunisia. During this event, this prize will be awarded to the best innovative scientific work in clinical biology.

The session of the best oral communications selected from the abstracts submitted will be closed with the awarding of prices to the three best scientific works presented during these days of clinical biology.

We hope that the scientific program will meet your expectations and will generate many discussions throughout these days of clinical biology.

Finally, we would like to thank all those who contributed to the success of this scientific event, in particular the members of the STBC board, the speakers, the moderators of the sessions, evaluation and selection juries of scientific work as well as to all those who participated, from near or far, in the organization of these days.

We will be happy to see many of you virtually at this scientific event. Excellent congress to all.

Kind regards.

COMMITTEES LM4MS

STEERING COMMITTEE

Chair:

Alexander Haliassos	*Greece*

Members:

Abderrazak Hedhili	*Tunisia*
Christian Haddad	*Lebanon*
Michael Neumaier	*Germany*
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INTERNATIONAL SCIENTIFIC COMMITTEE

Chair:

Abderrazek Hedhili	*Tunisia*

Members:

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Amina Bibi	*Tunisia*
Asma Ghariani	*Tunisia*
Brahim Nsiri	*Tunisia*
Christian Haddad	*Lebanon*
Farouk Barguellil	*Tunisia*
Kalthoum Kallel	*Tunisia*
Khalil Ben Abdallah	*Tunisia*
Leila Kallel	*Tunisia*
Manel Chaabane	*Tunisia*
Michael Neumaier	*Germany*
Myrna Germanos	*Lebanon*
Osama Najjar	*Palestine*
Sverre Sandberg	*Norway*
Taieb Ben Messaoud	*Tunisia*

INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZING COMMITTEE

Chair:

Taieb Ben Messaoud	*Tunisia*

Members:

Abdelhalim Chachou	*Algeria*
Abderrazek Hedhili	*Tunisia*
Adnan Khatib	*Syria*
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Kalthoum Kallel	*Tunisia*
Khalil Ben Abdallah	*Tunisia*
Layachi Chabraoui	*Marocco*
Leila Kallel	*Tunisia*
Manel Chaabane	*Tunisia*
Michael Neumaier	*Germany*
Myrna Germanos	*Lebanon*
Osama Najjar	*Palestine*
Sverre Sandberg	*Norway*

COMMITTEES JNBC

LOCAL ORGANIZING COMMITTEE

President:

Taieb Ben Messaoud

Members:

Amina Bibi
Asma Ghariani
Brahim Nsiri
Farouk Barguellil
Kalthoum Kallel
Khalil Ben Abdallah
Leila Kallel
Manel Chaabane

LOCAL SCIENTIFIC COMMITTEE

President:

Brahim Nsiri

Members:

Abderrazek Hedhili
Amina Bibi
Amina Bouatay
Asma Ghariani
Basma Mnif Chaabane
Boutheina Jemli
Dorra Amira
Elyes Slim Ghedira
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Farouk Barguellil
Fethy Ben Hassine
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Hassan Bouzidi
Imen Kraiem
Imen Sfar
Ines Jedidi
Kalthoum Kallel
Khalil Ben Abdallah
Lamia Thabet
Leila Kallel
Leila Slim
Manel Chaabane
Meriem Sellami
Med.Chiheb Ben Rayana
Med.Fadhel Najjar
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Mourad Chaari
Naoufel Nabli
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Saadia Fourati
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Sonia Mahjoub
Sophia Besbes
Souheil Omar
Taieb Ben Messaoud
Yousr Galai
Zied Aouni

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Member: Ayad Abud
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Member-at-Large: Dalius Vitkus

IFCC

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Secretary: David Kinniburgh
Treasurer: Alexander Haliassos
Corporate Rep.: Joseph Passarelli
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Asia-Pacific Federation for Clinical Biochemistry and Laboratory Medicine (APFCB): Sunil Sethi
European Federation of Clinical Chemistry and Laboratory Medicine (EFLM): Ana-Maria Šimundić
Latin-American Confederation of Clinical Biochemistry (COLABIOCLI): Ana María Lena Rodríguez
North American Federation of Clinical Chemistry and Laboratory Medicine (NAFCC): Stephen Hill

CONGRESS INFORMATION

SCIENTIFIC INFORMATION

Poster session

Abstracts of scientific contributions, covering the field of Clinical Chemistry, Clinical Molecular Biology and Laboratory Medicine in broader sense are welcome.

Satellite meetings

Satellite meetings will be organised as pre-Congress

Educational workshops

The congress has planned a number of Educational Workshops that will be organised together with industrial partners.

Certificate of attendance

A certificate of attendance will be issued to properly registered attendees, for the day(s) they actually take part in the Congress.

GENERAL INFORMATION

Language

The official language of the Congress will be English.

Exhibition

A virtual exhibition of the latest technical equipment and solutions for Laboratory Medicine will be arranged during the Congress

Organizing Secretariat

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Website

Updates on every aspect of the LM4MS Congress will be published on the website www.stbc.org.tn / www.lm4ms.org

SCIENTIFIC PROGRAM

Thursday, February 18th, 2021

09:00-10:30: XXXIVth National Days of Clinical Biology Pre-Conference : XIIth Molecular Biology Course
Moderators: Taieb Ben Messaoud (Tunisia), Amina Bibi (Tunisia)
09:00-09:40: Next-generation sequencing and its applications in clinical biology
Maurizio Ferrari (Italy)
09:40-10:20: Nutrigenetics and metabolic diseases, obesity and cardiovascular diseases
Frédéric Fumeron (France)
10:20-10:30: Discussion

10:30-11:30: Mindray Workshop: Mindray total solution for laboratories
11:30-12:30: Roche Workshop: Place of biomarkers in SARS-CoV-2 infection
12:30-14:00: Break
14:00-14:30: Opening EFLM/AFCB Conference "Laboratory Medicine for Mobile Societies" and welcome addresses
Michael Neumaier (LM4MS Steering Committee), Taieb Ben Messaoud (STBC President), Ana-Maria Simundic (EFLM President), Osama Najjar (AFCB President), Khosrow Adeli (IFCC President), Alexander Haliassos (LM4MS Steering Committe)
14:30-16:00: Symposium 1: Epidemiology and common health care interventions
Moderators: Adnen El Khatib (Syria), Alexander Haliassos (Greece), Samir Ennigrou (Tunisia)
14:30-14:50: Towards a new eldorado?
Myrna Germanos (Lebanon)
14:50-15:10: Management of an exceptional situation in a particular context
Mohamed Soussi (Tunisia)
15:10-15:30: The silent pandemic of antimicrobial resistance in the GCC countries and MENA region
Hosam Zowawi (KSA)
15:30-15:50: COVID-19 in Palestine: clinical and epidemiological issues
Rania Abu Seir (Palestine)
15:50-16:00: Discussion
16:00-16:30: Break / e-posters
16:30-17:00: Plenary lecture 1: Mobile societies in the digitalization era: A structural challenge to laboratory medicine
Michael Neumaier (Germany)
Moderators: Michael Neumaier (Germany), Osama Najjar (Palestine), Zied Aouni (Tunisia)
17:00-18:00: C4 Diagnostics Workshop: Development of a salivary molecular rapid diagnostic test for SARS-CoV-2

Friday, February 19th, 2021

09:00-09:30: Plenary lecture 2: Migration and genetics
Pierre Zalloua (Lebanon)
Moderators: Christian Haddad (Lebanon), Slama Hmida (Tunisia)
09:30-11:00: Symposium 2: Migration and emerging infectious diseases
Moderators: Adekunle Okesina (Nigeria), Karim Aoun (Tunisia), Layachi Chabraoui (Morocco)
09:30-09:50: Screening sexually transmitted viral infections among migrants in Algeria
Salima Bouzeghoub (Algeria)
09:50-10:10: Impact of uncontrolled immigration and the influx of refugees on the epidemiological profile of tropical parasitic pathologies in host countries
Badre Eddine Lmimouni (Morocco)
10:10-10:30: Tuberculosis in EMRO and Europe Regions
Ghassan Shannan (Syria)
10:30-10:50: Imported malaria: Tunisian experience
Aïcha Kallel (Tunisia)
10:50-11:00: Discussion

SCIENTIFIC PROGRAM

11:00-11:30: Break / e-posters

11:30-13:00: **Symposium 3: Laboratory diagnosis of COVID-19**

Moderators: Abdelhalim Chachou (Algeria), Ilhem Boutiba (Tunisia), Sergio Bernardini (Italy)

11:30-11:50: Covid-19 Outbreak
Sergio Bernardini (Italy)

11:50-12:10: Quality and clinical use of POCT for COVID-19
Sverre Sandberg (Norway), Mette C. Tollånes (Norway)

12:10-12:30: Mobile testing of SARS-CoV-2 infections in Germany: Status and perspectives
Michael Neumaier (Germany)

12:30-12:50: Novel molecular diagnostic test SARS-CoV-2 at the point of care
Electra Gizelli (Greece)

12:50-13:00: Discussion

13:00-14:30: Break / e-posters

14:30-15:00: **Plenary lecture 3: An evidence-based approach for the management of COVID-19 in Tunisia: The key role of INEA Santé**
Chokri Hammouda (Tunisia)
Moderators: Abdelhalim Trabelsi (Tunisia), Anwar Borai (KSA), Sverre Sandberg (Norway)

15:00-16:30: **Symposium 4: Migration and drug addiction**

Moderators: Nabil Ben Salah (Tunisia), Abderrazek Hedhili (Tunisia), Jean-Pierre Goullé (France)

15:00-15:20: Overview of the situation in Greece: physical and mental health perspectives for migrants and refugees living at the camps, detention and hospitality centers.
Chryssa Botsi (Greece), Foteini Savvopoulou (Greece)

15:20-15:40: Migrants and drugs: a European perspective
Klaudia Palczak (EMCDDA)

15:40-16:00: Illicit drugs in France: epidemiological aspects
Jean-Pierre Goullé (France)

16:00-16:20: The health of migrants: the Tunisian experience between reality and perspective
Henda Chebbi (Tunisia), Nabil Ben Salah (Tunisia), Abderrazek Hedhili (Tunisia)

16:20-16:30: Discussion

16:30-17:00: Break / e-posters

17:00-18:30: **Symposium 5: IFCC Young Scientists Task force Session: Young scientists confronting COVID-19 pandemic**

Moderators: Mohamed Yassine Kaabar (Tunisia), Pradeep Kumar Dabla (India), Rami S.H Assaad Khalil (Egypt)

17:00-17:20: Young scientists' opportunities during COVID-19 pandemic
Santiago Fares Taie (Argentina)

17:20-17:40: COVID-19 infodemic, misinformation and fake news: What can young scientists do?
Giulia Sancesario (Italy)

17:40-18:00: C-Reactive Protein and procalcitonin: Biomarkers for severity, treatment and prognosis of COVID-19
Jitender Sharma (India)

18:00-18:20: Effects of the COVID-19 pandemic on packed red blood cell units' supply in a Tunisian blood deposit
Emna Hammami (Tunisia)

18:20-18:30: Discussion

SCIENTIFIC PROGRAM

Staurday, February 20th, 2021

09:00-09:30: Plenary lecture 4: Targeted therapies and companion diagnostic tests
Guillaume Herbreteau (France)
Moderators: Lamia Torjemene (Tunisia), Mehdi Dridi (Tunisia)

09:30-10:00: Plenary lecture 5: Late hemolytic reaction and transfused-related hyperhemolysis in sickle cell disease
France Pirenne (France)
Moderators: Fethi Mellouli (Tunisa),Saloua Yaacoub Jemni (Tunisia), Slama Hmida (Tunisia), Sonia Mahjoub (Tunisia)

10:00-10:30: Break / e-posters

10:30-12:00: Symposium 6: News on the diagnosis and management of acute coronary syndromes
Moderators: Ali Bouslama (Tunisia), Sana Ouali (Tunisia), Vincent Sapin (France)

10:30-10:55: Novelties in clinical diagnosis of acute coronary syndromes
Majed Hassine (Tunisia)

10:55-11:20: Novelties in biological diagnosis of acute coronary syndromes
Fadoua Neffati (Tunisia), Rahma Mahjoub (Tunisia)

11:20-11:45: Treating better thanks to genes: pharmacogenetics of acenocoumarol and statins
Asma Omezzine (Tunisia)

11:45-12:00: Discussion

10:30-12:00: Symposium 7: Professional symposium: The new nomenclature of medical biology tests in Tunisia
Moderators: Haifa Sanhaji (Tunisia), Naoufel Nabli (Tunisia), Slama Hmida (Tunisia)

10:30-10:50: Presentation of the project
Rabah Blibech (Tunisia)

10:50-12:00: Discussion

12:00-14:00: Break / e-posters

14:00-14:30: Plenary lecture 6: Physiopathological mechanisms of thrombotic events linked to COVID-19
Amenallah Nasr (Tunisia), Mouna Sassi (Tunisia)
Moderators: Houda Kaabi (Tunisia), Mondher Kortas (Tunisia),Sami Guermazi (Tunisia)

14:30-17:00: General Assembly of the STBC

17:00: Conference closing and announcement of the best poster prize

WELCOME TO TUNISIA

General Presentation

Tunisia is a North African country which belongs to the Maghreb. It is bordered on the North and the East by the Mediterranean. Its western border opens on Algeria (965 km) and its South-eastern border on Libya (459 km). Its name is derived from that of its capital, Tunis, located in the north of the country.

Nearly 40 % of the surface area of the territory is occupied by the Sahara desert, the rest is made up of fertile soil, cradle of the Carthaginian civilization which reached its apogee in the III rd century B.C., before becoming the «breadbasket" of the Roman Empire.

Called for a long time Regency of Tunis, in particular under the Ottoman domination, Tunisia passes under French protectorate in 1881. With the advent of independence, March 20, 1956, the country takes the official name of Kingdom of Tunisia under the reign of Lamine Bey, the only Tunisian sovereign to have the title of king. With the proclamation of the republic, July 25, 1957, the nationalist leader Habib Bourguiba becomes the first president of the Republic of Tunisia.

Tunisia covers 163 610 km², which makes of it the smallest country of the Maghreb.

It has a relief relatively contrasting according to the areas and a significant maritime front (1 298 kilometres) mainly directed towards the east.

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