



VIRTUAL CONFERENCE

# CRITICAL ROLE OF CLINICAL LABORATORIES IN THE COVID-19 PANDEMIC

IFCC GLOBAL CONFERENCE ON COVID-19  
(FINAL PROGRAMME)

FEBRUARY 15-17, 2021

TIME SCHEDULE: PROGRAMME WILL START AT 08.00 AM,  
US EASTERN STANDARD TIME / NEW YORK  
(CORRESPONDING TO: 14.00 ROME; 21.00 BEIJING)

All sessions will be recorded and fully available for registered participants.



Professor Khosrow Adeli  
IFCC President

## WELCOME LETTER

It is my great pleasure to present this welcoming message to all attendees, speakers, and industry sponsors of the IFCC Global Conference on COVID-19. This virtual conference will bring leading experts around the world together to present the latest advances in COVID-19 diagnostics and therapeutics. The theme of this conference will be the Critical Role of Clinical Laboratories in the COVID-19 Pandemic. It will be a truly international event with presentations from all regions across the globe.

At the beginning of the pandemic, the IFCC established a Taskforce on COVID-19 to provide updates on epidemiology, pathogenesis, and diagnostics of COVID-19, as well as to develop practical recommendations for diagnostic testing and patient monitoring. Since establishment, the Taskforce has maintained an online Information Guide on COVID-19, which can be found on the IFCC website. This guide is updated biweekly, presenting the latest evidence on COVID-19. The Taskforce has now also published interim guidelines in the November 2020 issue of Clin Chem Lab Med to provide practical recommendations on the intended use, selection, evaluation, and implementation of laboratory tests used in the diagnosis of SARS-CoV-2 infection and monitoring of COVID-19 patients.

There is no doubt that the current pandemic has highlighted the critical role of clinical laboratory medicine, which until now has not been widely recognized within healthcare organizations or by the public. Clinical laboratory professionals continue to play a vital role in the diagnosis of SARS-CoV-2 infection, serological monitoring of individuals with past SARS-CoV-2 infection, and biochemical monitoring of hospitalized patients with COVID-19. Scientists, other medical professionals, industry leaders, and public health authorities have also been working diligently to understand, diagnose, treat, and prevent COVID-19, providing invaluable information and service.

Now, the IFCC feels it is more crucial than ever to virtually bring us all together on a global platform to present the most up to date evidence in the field of COVID-19, with a specific focus on innovations in diagnostics and laboratory management of hospitalized patients. This conference also provides the opportunity for us all to work towards a more collaborative clinical care model in diagnosing and treating COVID-19. Specifically, you will have access to:

- Plenary sessions delivered by leading scientists, physicians, and public health authorities.
- Ten scientific symposia, covering physiology, diagnostics, therapeutics, and technology
- Special presentations on the global response to COVID-19 in Africa, Asia-Pacific, Europe, Latin America, Arab Federation, and North America
- An industry panel with presentations from industry leaders on the latest IVD innovations
- Twelve educational industry workshops
- A young investigator forum with presentations from young scientists worldwide
- Scientific e-posters and virtual industry exhibits

I look forward to seeing many of you (virtually!) at this important and timely scientific event in February.

Professor Khosrow Adeli  
IFCC President



## CONFERENCE ORGANIZING COMMITTEE

Khosrow Adeli, Canada (Chair)  
Sergio Bernardini, Italy  
Andrea Horvath, Australia  
David Koch, USA  
Giuseppe Lippi, Italy  
Tomris Ozben, Turkey  
Cheng-Bin Wang, China

### **Corporate Representatives:**

Rolf Hinzmann, Roche Diagnostics  
Patricia Ravalico, Abbott Diagnostics

### **Regional Federation Representatives:**

Rosa Sierra-Amor, Latin America  
Ana-Maria Simundic, Europe  
Ann Gronowski, North America  
Rajiv Erasmus, Africa  
Sunil Kumar Sethi, Asia-Pacific  
Osama Najjar, Arab Federation

### **Conference Organizing Secretariat (MZ Congressi):**

Stefano Montalbetti, Italy



## SCIENTIFIC SESSION CHAIRS

Adeli, Khosrow  
Bernardini, Sergio  
Erasmus, Rajiv  
Fares Taie, Santiago  
Gouget, Bernard  
Gronowski, Ann  
Hedhili, Abderrazek  
Horvath, Andrea  
Lavie, Carl J.  
Lippi, Giuseppe  
Najjar, Osama  
Passarelli, Joseph  
Ravalico, Patricia  
Sethi, Sunhil Kumar  
Sierra-Amor, Rosa  
Simundic, Ana-Maria



## SCIENTIFIC SESSION SPEAKERS

Agravatt, Ashish  
Aspinall, Mara  
Ben Moussa, Mohamed  
Bin, Cao  
Blake, William  
Bohn, Mary Kathryn  
Bossuyt, Patrick  
Buño Soto, Antonio  
Christophersen Tollånes, Mette  
Ciccozzi, Massimo  
Deeks, Jon  
Di Natale, Corrado  
Dinnes, Jac  
Doust, Jenny  
Erasmus, Rajiv  
Farnsworth, Chris  
Fattah, Miswar  
Favaloro, Emmanuel J.  
Freeman, Jim  
García Fabiani, María Belén  
Germanos, Myrna  
Goldbaum, Fernando  
Greaves, Ronda  
Gruson, Damien  
Hackett, John R.  
Harenberg, Job  
Henry, Brandon M.  
Hope, Tom  
Jester, Barbara  
Krogan, Nevan  
Lang, Tim  
Lavie, Carl J.  
Lippi, Giuseppe  
Lundberg, Patric  
Matthews, Susan

Mattiuzzi, Camilla  
Mehiri, Emna  
Menezes, Maria-Elizabeth  
Mitra, Prasenjit  
Montagnana, Martina  
Mwangala, Situmbeko  
Myles, Jonathan  
Najjar, Osama  
Ndlovu, Ngobile  
Neumaier, Michael  
Nichols, James  
Njau, Allan  
Perrone, Marco  
Pillay, Tahir  
Pinsky, Benjamin  
Plebani, Mario  
Polevikov, Sergei  
Ramge, Peter  
Rampul, Ashlin  
Remes-Lenicov, Federico  
Russomando, Graciela  
Sanchis-Gomar, Fabian  
Sandberg, Sverre  
Satchkov, Daniel  
Schulman, Sam  
Serdar, Muhittin  
Sibtain, Ahmed  
Steyn, Nicolene  
Tapia, Cecilia  
Tikhonov, Aleksei  
Valpassos Guimarães, André  
Wenjie, Tan  
Zemlin, Annalise  
Zhang, Victoria



## INDUSTRY WORKSHOP CHAIRS

Adeli, Khosrow  
Galli, Claudio  
Holden, Jeannine

Simon, Christian O.  
Soreng, Katherine



## INDUSTRY WORKSHOP SPEAKERS

Allibardi, Sonia  
Bernardini, Sergio  
Bonanni, Paolo  
Buño Soto, Antonio  
Chambers, Christopher  
Chiu, Charles  
Dimech, Wayne  
Furtado, Manohar R.  
Garry, John  
Gouvêa, Carlos Eduardo  
Januzzi, James  
Kamen, Ali  
Ledeboer, Nathan  
Lewis, Ian  
Li, Lily

Lindner, Nigel  
Lütgehetmann, Marc  
Mendez Machado, Gustavo Francisco  
Möckel, Martin  
Neath, Sean  
Peeling, Rosanna  
Plebani, Mario  
Regueiro García, Benito José  
Roush, Karen  
Sabino, Ester  
Tabb, Michelle  
Tamimi, Waleed  
Vance, Dwaine  
Vincini, Joe  
Yik-Ying, Teo



## AGENDA (EASTERN STANDARD TIME / NEW YORK)

### MONDAY 15 FEBRUARY

	ROOM 1	ROOM 2	POSTER AREA	EXHIBITION AREA
08.00 - 09.30	<b>OPENING AND PLENARY SESSION</b> Critical Role of Laboratory Medicine in Public Health			
09.45 - 11.45	<b>SYM1</b> Pathophysiology of COVID-19	<b>SYM2</b> Emerging Tools in Fighting COVID-19		
12.00 - 13.00	DIASORIN EduW 1 Diagnostic approaches to manage the COVID-19 emergency	SNIBE EduW 2 Diagnostic testing for COVID-19: not only molecular		
13.15 - 15.15	<b>SYM3</b> Global Response to COVID-19 Pandemic (Europe)	<b>SYM4</b> Global Response to COVID-19 Pandemic (Africa)		
15.30 - 16.30	MINDRAY EduW 3 COVID-19 Serology: Opportunities and Pitfalls	THERMO FISHER EduW 4 Laboratory diagnostics tools aiding in Antibiotic Stewardship programs	ePosters Open	eExhibits Open
16.45 - 17.45	ABBOTT EduW 5 SARS-CoV-2 serology coming of age	ROCHE EduW 6 Challenges and Strategies to Optimize COVID-19 Testing – Selecting the Right Test at the Right Time		
18.00 - 19.00	ROCHE EduW 7 A Broader Framework for Testing and Critical Decision Making – Lessons from COVID-19	QUIDEL EduW 8 Using cardiovascular biomarkers to inform COVID-19 treatment		



## AGENDA (EASTERN STANDARD TIME / NEW YORK)

### TUESDAY 16 FEBRUARY

	ROOM 1	ROOM 2	POSTER AREA	EXHIBITION AREA
08.00 - 09.15	<b>PLENARY SESSION</b> Cardio-renal Involvement in COVID-19			
09.30 - 12.00	<b>Industry Panel</b> Technological Innovations for Today and Tomorrow	<b>Young Scientist Forum</b> Oral Presentations by Young Scientists from Around the World		
12.15 - 14.15	<b>SYM5</b> Global Response to COVID-19 Pandemic (Latin America)	<b>SYM6</b> Global Response to COVID-19 Pandemic (North America)		
14.30 - 15.30	<b>SNIBE EduW 9</b> Laboratory inflammatory markers in the diagnosis and prognosis of COVID-19 patients	<b>THERMO FISHER EduW 10</b> Molecular Testing, Strain Identification and Quality Control Strategies for COVID-19 Testing	ePosters Open	eExhibits Open
15.45 - 16.45	<b>ABBOTT EduW 11</b> New Perspectives: SARS-CoV-2 molecular epidemiology & immunity	<b>TECHNOPATH EduW 12</b> Quality Control of Qualitative Testing of SARS-CoV-2 in Clinical Laboratories		



## AGENDA (EASTERN STANDARD TIME / NEW YORK)

### WEDNESDAY 17 FEBRUARY

	ROOM 1	ROOM 2	POSTER AREA	EXHIBITION AREA
08.00 – 09.30	<b>PLENARY SESSION</b> Clinical Evaluation of Tests for SARS-CoV-2 Infection			
09.45 – 11.45	<b>SYM7</b> Global Response to COVID-19 Pandemic (Asia-Pacific)	<b>SYM8</b> Global Response to COVID-19 Pandemic (Middle East/Arab Federation)		
12.00 – 14.00	<b>SYM9</b> Hemostasis and COVID-19	<b>SYM10</b> Emerging Technologies in Fighting COVID-19		
14.15 – 15.15	SIEMENS EduW 13 The role of predictive algorithms in managing COVID-19 disease severity	ORTHO EduW 14 Role of Antigen Tests in the COVID-19 pandemic	ePosters Open	eExhibits Open
15.30 – 16.30	LUMIRADX EduW 15 The LumiraDx Platform – meeting the needs for COVID POC Testing	RANDOX EduW 16 SARS-CoV-2 – The Full Diagnostic Circle		
16.30 – 17.00	<b>CLOSING</b>			



## SCIENTIFIC PROGRAMME

### MONDAY 15 FEBRUARY (EASTERN STANDARD TIME/NEW YORK)

#### 8:00–9:30

##### OPENING & PLENARY SESSION

Critical Role of Laboratory Medicine in Public Health

IFCC President & Executive Board  
IFCC Taskforce on COVID-19

Barbara Jester, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, Atlanta, Georgia, USA - Spanish Flu Pandemic: a Lesson in History (15 min)

Jonathan Myles, College of American Pathologists, Cleveland, Ohio, USA - Importance of the Laboratory during a Pandemic: Critical Role in Response to COVID-19 (15 min)

Mario Plebani, Padova, Italy - Laboratory Medicine in the COVID-19 era: lessons for the future (15 min)

Brandon M. Henry, Cincinnati, Ohio, USA / Mara Aspinall, Phoenix, Arizona, USA - The Global State of SARS-COV-2 Diagnostic Testing: an update from the COVID-19 Diagnostic Commons (15 min)

Break (15 min)

#### 9:45–11:45 ROOM 1

##### Symposium 1:

##### Pathophysiology of COVID-19

*Chair: Khosrow Adeli, Canada*

- Giuseppe Lippi, Verona, Italy  
Pathophysiology of COVID-19 (30 min)
- Camilla Mattiuzzi, Trento, Italy  
Demographical, environmental and social predictors (30 min)
- Martina Montagnana, Verona, Italy  
Clinical risk factors for severe COVID-19 illness (30 min)
- Q&A (30 min)

Break (15 min)

#### 9:45–11:45 ROOM 2

##### Symposium 2:

##### Emerging Tools in Fighting COVID-19

*Chair: Bernard Gouget, France*

- William Blake, Boston, USA  
CRISPR and synthetic biology-based solutions applied to COVID-19 diagnosis (20 min)
- Corrado Di Natale, Rome, Italy  
Sensor arrays for the detection of volatolomic signature of COVID-19 (20 min)
- Sergei Polevnikov / Daniel Satchkov, Sheridan, USA  
Comprehending Hundreds of Thousands of COVID-19 Studies using Mathematical Models of Language and AI (20 min)
- Tom Hope, Seattle, USA  
Accelerating scientific search and exploration by mining and visualizing COVID-19 literature (20 min)
- Damien Gruson, Brussels, Belgium  
Data integration for prevention and risk estimation of Covid-19 (20 min)
- Q&A (20 min)

**12:00 –13:00 ROOM 1 EDUW 1 – DIASORIN**  
**Diagnostic approaches to manage the COVID-19 emergency**

- Sonia Allibardi, Brescia, Italy  
LIAISON® immunology panel to fight COVID-19 Pandemic (10 min)
- Benito José Regueiro García, Vigo, Spain  
Impactful diagnostic solutions in managing COVID-19 suspected individuals: the experience of Hospital Álvaro Cunqueiro, Vigo, Spain (20 min)
- Michelle Tabb, Santa Ana, USA  
Overview of the Simplexa COVID-19 Direct molecular assay (30 min)

Break (15 min)

**13:15–15:15 ROOM 1**  
**Symposium 3: Global Response to COVID-19 Pandemic (Europe)**

*Chair: Ana-Maria Simundic, Croatia*

- Antonio Buño Soto, Madrid, Spain  
Experience of the organization of laboratory medicine in Madrid's IFEMA field hospital during the first wave of the pandemic (20 min)
- Sverre Sandberg, Bergen, Norway  
How the government and the national quality improvement organisation of laboratory examinations (Noklus) cooperate in the pandemic (20 min)
- Muhittin Serdar, Istanbul, Turkey  
COVID-19 challenges and laboratory perspective from Turkey: Limitations and competences (20 min)
- Tim Lang, Darlington, UK  
The effect of COVID on presentations of common paediatric diseases (20 min)
- Q&A (20 min)

Break (15 min)

**12:00 –13:00 ROOM 2 EDUW 2 – SNIBE**  
**Diagnostic testing for COVID-19: not only molecular**

- Mario Plebani, Padova, Italy  
Full Professor of Clinical Chemistry and Clinical Molecular Biology  
Dean of Medicine and Surgery School, University of Padova  
Director of Department of Laboratory Medicine, University Hospital of Padova  
Director of Biomedical Research Center, Veneto Region, Italy  
Adjunct Professor, University of Texas, Texas, USA  
Honorary Professor, University of Buenos Aires  
Editor in Chief of Journal CCLM and Diagnosis (Dx)

**13:15–15:15 ROOM 2**  
**Symposium 4: Global Response to COVID-19 Pandemic (Africa)**

*Chair: Rajiv Erasmus, South Africa*

- Annalise Zemlin, Cape Town, South Africa  
Biochemical changes in COVID-19: Experience from Africa (20 min)
- Tahir Pillay, Durban, South Africa  
The promise of single domain antibodies (nanobodies) in COVID-19: Applications in diagnosis and therapy (20 min)
- Rajiv Erasmus, Cape Town, South Africa  
Unfolding the reasons and the theories for COVID-19 being less deadly in Africa (20 min)
- Ngobile Ndlovu, Zimbabwe  
COVID-19 diagnostic response: The Africa experience (15 min)
- Situmbeko Mwangala, Zambia  
Investigation of Severe Acute Respiratory Syndrome Coronavirus 2 (SARS-CoV-2) Infections among Health Care Workers- Lusaka District, Zambia, April - June 2020 (15 min)
- Allan Njau, Kenya  
Quality management for SARS-CoV-2 testing: Key indicators for starting small and medium size molecular laboratories in Kenya (15 min)
- Q&A (15 min)

**15:30–16:30 ROOM1 EDUW3**

**MINDRAY**

**COVID-19 Serology: Opportunities and Pitfalls**

- Sergio Bernardini, Italy  
President EMT IFCC

Break (15 min)

**16.45–17.45 ROOM1 EDUW5 – ABBOTT**

**SARS-CoV-2 serology coming of age**

*Chair: Jeannine Holden, USA*

*Divisional Vice President, Diagnostics  
Medical Affairs, Abbott*

- Ester Sabino, Sao Paulo, Brazil
  - Looking back on the development of the SARS epidemic
  - Understanding seroprevalence in 8 cities using blood donation data
  - Exploring national viral diversity
- John Garry, Norwich, UK
  - Exploration of COVID-19 in across diabetics, healthcare workers and other cohorts
  - Assessing quantitative immune response

Break (15 min)

**15:30–16:30 ROOM2 EDUW 4**

**THERMO FISHER**

**Laboratory diagnostics tools aiding in Antibiotic Stewardship programs**

- Ian Lewis, Calgary, Canada  
Harnessing High Resolution Mass Spectrometry as a Rapid Diagnostic Tool for Characterizing Infectious Diseases
- Sean Neath, San Diego, USA  
How to overcome antibiotic overuse in COVID-19 patients? Antibiotic stewardship programs with PCT.

**16.45–17.45 ROOM2 EDUW 6 – ROCHE**

**Challenges and Strategies to Optimize COVID-19 Testing – Selecting the Right Test at the Right Time**

- Christian O. Simon, San Francisco, USA  
Introduction (5 min)
- Marc Lütgehetmann, Hamburg, Germany  
Current Challenges for Laboratories to Cope with Increased Testing Demand for SARS-CoV-2 – A Real World Perspective (20 min)
- Martin Möckel, Berlin, Germany  
COVID-19 Testing Strategies in the Emergency Department (20 min)
- Christian O. Simon, San Francisco, USA  
Moderated Q&A and discussion (15 min)

**18:00 –19:00 ROOM1 EDUW 7 – ROCHE**  
**A Broader Framework for Testing and**  
**Critical Decision Making – Lessons from**  
**COVID-19**

- Rosanna Peeling, London, UK  
Policy and decision-making for COVID-19 testing: a proposed framework (10 min)
- Yik-Ying Teo, Singapore  
Learning the lessons from COVID-19 testing strategies in Singapore: sharing best practice (10 min)
- Carlos Eduardo Gouvêa, Sao Paulo, Brazil  
Bringing COVID-19 diagnostics to Brazil: a model for expedited decision making (10 min)
- Rosanna Peeling, London, UK  
Panel Discussion  
Preparing for the future: COVID-19 testing in 2021 (25 min)
- Rosanna Peeling, London, UK  
Summary and close (5 min)

**18:00 –19:00 ROOM2 EDUW 8 – QUIDEL**  
**Using cardiovascular biomarkers to**  
**inform COVID-19 treatment**

- James Januzzi, Boston, USA
- Gustavo Francisco Mendez Machado, Xalapa, Mexico
- Examine the causes of cardiac injury in COVID-19 and identify biomarkers with potential utility
- Develop a strategy to utilize cardiovascular biomarkers to facilitate clinical care in COVID-19
- Explain the utility of cardiovascular biomarkers in a COVID-19 algorithm and discuss the improvements in patient care

**8:00–9:15**

## **PLENARY SESSION**

Cardio-renal Involvement in COVID-19

*Chair: Carl J. Lavie, USA*

Carl J. Lavie, New Orleans, USA

Pathophysiology of cardio-renal involvement in COVID-19 (25 min)

Brandon M. Henry, Cincinnati, USA

The renin-angiotensin system in COVID-19 (25 min)

Fabian Sanchis-Gomar, Valencia, Spain

Cardiac biomarkers in COVID-19 (25 min)

Panel discussion (15 min)

Break (15 min)

**9:30–12:00 ROOM 1**

## **COVID-19 Industry Panel: Technological Innovations for Today and Tomorrow**

*Co-Chairs:*

• *Patricia Ravalico, Abbott*

*Director, Scientific Leadership and Education, Corporate Representative, IFCC CPD, Chair, IFCC Task Force of Corporate Members*

• *Joseph Passarelli, Roche*

*Senior Director, Scientific Relations Corporate Representative, IFCC Executive Board, Secretary, IFCC Scientific Division*

• **John R. Hackett - Abbott**

**Divisional Vice President Applied Research & Technology (25 min)**

• **Jim Freeman - Siemens Healthineers**  
**VP of Immunoassay Development (25 min)**

• **Peter Ramge - Roche Diagnostics**  
**Senior International Medical Affairs**

**Manager CPS (25 min)**

• **Patric Lundberg - Ortho Clinical Diagnostics**  
**Senior Scientist R&D (25 min)**

• **Panel discussion (30 min)**

Break (15 min)

**9:30–12:00 ROOM 2**

## **Young Scientist Forum: Oral Presentations by Young Scientists from around the World**

*Chair: Santiago Fares Taie, Argentina*

• **Ashish Agravatt, India**  
**Rapid Antigen and Antibody detection tests for COVID-19 (15 min)**

• **María Belén García Fabiani, Argentina**  
**CRISPR & diagnostics: Disrupting technology (15 min)**

• **Sibtain Ahmed, Pakistan**  
**Utility of prognostic biomarkers in COVID-19 (15 min)**

• **Marco Perrone, Italy**  
**Cardiovascular complications in COVID-19 patients (15 min)**

• **Nicolene Steyn, South Africa**  
**COVID in children (15 min)**

• **Ashlin Rampul, South Africa**  
**Nanobodies for COVID (15 min)**

• **Aleksei Tikhonov, Russia**  
**Antibody test development (15 min)**

• **Mary Kathryn Bohn, Canada**  
**Pediatric evaluation of SARS-CoV-2 IgG and IgM serology assays (15 min)**

## 12:15–14:15 ROOM 1

### Symposium 5: Global Response to COVID-19 Pandemic (Latin America)

Chair: Rosa Sierra-Amor, Mexico

- Graciela Russomando, Asuncion, Paraguay  
COVID-19 infection and community transmission: Lessons learned from a public molecular Dx laboratory (20 min)
- Fernando Goldbaum, Buenos Aires, Argentina  
RBD-specific polyclonal F(ab')<sub>2</sub> fragments of equine antibodies in patients with moderate to severe COVID-19 disease: a randomized, double-blind, placebo-controlled, adaptive phase 2/3 clinical trial. (20 min)
- Cecilia Tapia, Santiago, Chile  
Diagnostic approach in networked laboratories, Chilean experience (20 min)
- Federico Remes-Lenicov, Buenos Aires, Argentina  
Emergency establishment of a SARS-CoV-2 test center at an academic lab in the University of Buenos Aires, Argentina (20 min)
- Maria-Elizabeth Menezes / André Valpassos Guimarães, Rio de Janeiro, Brazil  
The coronavirus storm: The pandemic situation at the bench (20 min)
- Q&A (20 min)

Break (15 min)

## 14:30–15:30 ROOM 1 EDUW 9 – SNIBE

### Laboratory inflammatory markers in the diagnosis and prognosis of COVID-19 patients

- Waleed Tamimi, Riyadh, Saudi Arabia  
Head of Clinical Chemistry at King Abdulaziz Medical city National Guard  
Associate professor at College of Medicine, King Saudi bin Abdulaziz University for Health Sciences  
Consultant Smart Lab, Riyadh, Saudi Arabia

Break (15 min)

## 12:15–14:15 ROOM 2

### Symposium 6: Global Response to COVID-19 Pandemic (North America)

Chair: Ann Gronowski, USA

- Benjamin Pinsky, Stanford, USA  
Method validation for COVID-19 testing (20 min)
- Victoria Zhang, Rochester, USA  
AACC Taskforce COVID-19 Serology Guidelines (20 min)
- Chris Farnsworth, St. Louis, USA  
SARS-CoV-2 serology: Utilization and outstanding questions (20 min)
- Nevan Krogan, San Francisco, USA  
Multi-omics/systems approach to COVID investigation (20 min)
- Q&A (20 min)

## 14:30–15:30 ROOM 2 EDUW 10 – THERMO FISHER

### Molecular Testing, Strain Identification and Quality Control Strategies for COVID-19 Testing

- Manohar R. Furtado, San Ramon, USA  
Molecular Testing for the Detection, Surveillance, and Strain Identification of SARS-CoV-2
- Nathan Ledebauer, Milwaukee, USA  
The Need for Speed, Strategies to assess the right QC for COVID-19 and Infectious Diseases Assays

**15:45-16:45 ROOM1 EDUW 11- ABBOTT**  
**New Perspectives: SARS-CoV-2 molecular epidemiology & immunity**

*Chair: Claudio Galli, Core Diagnostics, Associate Medical Director, Infectious Diseases, Abbott, Italy*

- Charles Chiu, San Francisco, USA
  - Understanding seroprevalence of SARS-CoV-2-specific antibodies in different populations
  - Taking a closer look at the longitudinal dynamics of PCR, immunoglobulin-G, immunoglobulin-M, and in vitro neutralizing antibody titers in COVID-19 patients.
- Paolo Bonanni, Florence, Italy  
SARS-CoV-2 vaccination: a public health perspective

**15:45-16:45 ROOM2 EDUW 12**  
**TECHNOPATH**  
**Quality Control of Qualitative Testing of SARS-CoV-2 in Clinical Laboratories**

*Chair: Khosrow Adeli, Canada*

- Wayne Dimech, Melbourne, Australia  
The Context of Internal Quality Control for Qualitative Testing (e.g. SARS-CoV-2) (20 min)
- Joe Vincini, Melbourne, Australia  
The Practice of Internal Quality Control for Qualitative Testing (e.g. SARS-CoV-2)
- Discussion and Q&A (15 min)

**8:00–9:30**

## **PLENARY SESSION**

Clinical Evaluation of Tests for SARS-CoV-2 Infection

*Chair: Andrea Horvath, Australia*

Patrick Bossuyt, Amsterdam, Netherlands

When disaster strikes: How to balance unmet needs with imperfect tests in an emergency situation of a pandemic? (20 min)

Jac Dinnes and Jon Deeks, Birmingham, UK

State-of-the-art of diagnostic tests: What did we learn from the Cochrane systematic reviews of existing test evaluations? (20 min)

Jenny Doust, Brisbane, Australia

Can we do better? Framework for the evaluation of SARS-CoV-2 tests (20 min)

Q&A (30 min)

Break (15 min)

**9:45–11:45 ROOM 1**

## **Symposium 7: Global Response to COVID-19 Pandemic (Asia-Pacific)**

*Chair: Sunil Kumar Sethi, Singapore*

• Tan Wenjie, China

Identification and detection of Covid-19 on China (20 min)

• Miswar Fattah, Indonesia

Variability of molecular testing for SARS CoV-2 (20 min)

• Prasenjit Mitra, India

COVID-19 pandemic: Perspectives from India (20 min)

• Susan Matthews, Australia

SARS-CoV-2 molecular-based testing – experience from the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander COVID-19 point-of-care testing program in rural and remote Australia (20 min)

• Cao Bin, China

Atypical pneumonia to COVID-19 (20 min)

• Q&A (20 min)

Break (15 min)

**12:00–14:00 ROOM 1**

## **Symposium 9: Hemostasis and COVID-19**

*Chair: Giuseppe Lippi, Italy*

• Emmanuel J. Favaloro, Sydney, Australia

ADAMTS13 and Von Willebrand Factor testing in COVID-19 and beyond (30 min)

**9:45–11:45 ROOM 2**

## **Symposium 8: Global Response to COVID-19 Pandemic (Middle East/Arab Federation)**

*Co-Chairs: Osama Najjar, Palestine*

*Abderrazek Hedhili, Tunisia*

• Mehiri Emna, Tunisia

Impact of COVID-19 in the Middle East (25 min)

• Myrna Germanos, Lebanon

Impact of COVID-19 (25 min)

• Osama Najjar, Palestine

AFCB Response to COVID-19 crisis (25 min)

• Mohamed Ben Moussa, Tunisia

Tunisian Mobile Military Laboratory and COVID-19 management (25 min)

• Q&A (20 min)

**12:00–14:00 ROOM 2**

## **Symposium 10: Emerging Technologies in Fighting COVID-19**

*Chair: Sergio Bernardini, Italy*

• Mette Christophersen Tollånes, Bergen, Norway

Quality and clinical use of rapid tests for COVID-19 (20 min)

- Job Harenberg, Heidelberg, Germany  
Laboratory diagnostics of COVID-19 related thromboembolism (30 min)
- Sam Schulman, Hamilton, Canada  
Anticoagulation and laboratory monitoring in COVID-19 (30 min)
- Q&A (30 min)

- James Nichols, Nashville, USA  
The CLSI COVID-19 Resources for Validation, Implementation and Management of New Tests (20 min)
- Ronda Greaves, Sydney, Australia  
Managing rapid changes in LC/MS service delivery during the COVID pandemic: State-of-art (20 min)
- Michael Neumaier, Heidelberg, Germany  
Innate and adaptive immunological response to SARS-CoV-2: Implications for vaccine (20 min)
- Massimo Ciccozzi, Rome, Italy  
COVID-19 phylogenesis and mutations: Implications for vaccine (20 min)
- Q&A (20 min)

Break (15 min)

**14.15-15.15 ROOM1 EDUW 13 - SIEMENS**  
**The role of predictive algorithms in managing COVID-19 disease severity**  
*Chair: Katherine Soreng, Atlanta, USA*

- Antonio Buño Soto, Madrid, Spain  
Using core laboratory tests and uncovering an opportunity for development of predictive algorithms to manage COVID-19 a Spanish perspective
- Ali Kamen, Princeton, USA  
Applying artificial intelligence models in the time of COVID-19

**14.15-15.15 ROOM2 EDUW 14 - ORTHO**  
**CLINICAL DIAGNOSTICS**  
**Role of Antigen Tests in the COVID-19 pandemic**

- Lily Li, China
- Karen Roush, Dallas, USA
  - Challenges with RT-PCR testing for SARS-CoV-2
  - SARS-CoV-2 and infectiousness – what do we know today?
  - Performance data of a high throughput SARS-CoV-2 antigen test
  - Implementing a high throughput SARS-CoV-2 test at a large metropolitan medical center
  - Algorithms used to determine when to order which SARS-CoV-2 test
  - Workflow and clinical performance with the VITROS SARS-CoV-2 Antigen test

Break (15 min)

**15.30–16.30 ROOM1 EDUW15 –  
LUMIRADx**

**The LumiraDx Platform – meeting the  
needs for COVID POC Testing**

- Nigel Lindner, London, UK  
Chief Innovation Officer at LumiraDx

**15.30–16.30 ROOM2 EDUW16 – RANDOX  
SARS-CoV-2 – The Full Diagnostic Circle**

- Dwaine Vance, Belfast, UK
- Christopher Chambers, Belfast, UK

How the modern laboratory adapts to the  
SARS-CoV-2 (COVID-19) pandemic.

**16:30–17:00  
CLOSING**

IFCC Executive Board  
IFCC Taskforce on COVID-19



## REGISTRATIONS

[PLEASE CLICK HERE TO REGISTER](#)

IFCC NATIONAL SOCIETY MEMBERS AND NON-MEMBERS	€ 150
CORPORATE/INDUSTRY REPRESENTATIVES	€ 150
YOUNG SCIENTISTS/TRAINEES (= / < 40 YEARS)	€ 50

Registration will allow you to:

- enter all sessions of the programme (both plenary and parallel)
- ask “live” questions and interact with the speakers
- visit industry virtual booths and attend educational workshops
- get a Certificate of Attendance
- access the recorded sessions for 12 months after the conference date



## E-POSTERS

**E-posters** will be available for viewing in the Virtual Platform.

Every registered attendee will be able to:

- > Search a poster using few keywords, such as topic, authors, title, ID, etc.
- > View the poster on his/her device
- > Zoom in/out to see the details



## VIRTUAL INDUSTRY EXHIBITS AND WORKSHOPS

Every registered attendee will be able to:

- > Visit the Virtual Booths in the Exhibition Area.
- > Follow the Educational Industry Workshops presented by 16 companies
- > Take part in the Meet the Sponsor events



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