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Foreword

Welcome to another exciting edition of the EFLM EuroLabNews newsletter, particularly since it recaps the recent EuroMedLab 2025 Brussels conference among other cutting edge developments in our scientific community. Following their unparalleled coverage of the Conference on the EFLM social media platforms, and once again assuring you a seat in the front row, our Young Editorial Team, here at the Communications Division, has made extraordinary efforts to bring you all the highlights of the Conference and have compiled the must know. Mario Plebani, EFLM President extends his gratitude to all participants of the EuroMedLab 2025, and happily assesses the achievements at the record breaking conference. Aleksei Tikhonov, Member of Promotion and Publication Committee, presents his coverage of the EFLM awards ceremony held at the Brussels Museum of Arts. Michel Langlois, Chair of the EFLM Scientific Division: Value-Based Laboratory Medicine, briefly introduces the accomplishments of the EFLM Research Grant 2025 winners. The EFLM Office extends its heartiest welcome to its new members. Silvia Terragni from the EFLM Office announces the change of guard at the Swedish Society of Clinical Chemistry. Become a recognized EFLM LabX Partner is the motto, Daniel Turnock, Technical Committee: EFLMLabX member shortlists the benefits for offerers. Tomris Ozben, Chair of the EFLM Committee "Green & Sustainable Laboratories", reiterates the four simple actions to be more sustainable and green in your laboratory. Aleš Kvasnička, Chair of the EFLM C:YS, Aleksei Tikhonov, C:YS member and SFBC member and Tara Rolic, C:YS member, sum up the various activities of the super active Young Scientist Community at the YS Forum. Tara Rolić, Monica Dugăeșescu and Emeline Gernez, Full Members of the EFLM Committee: Young Scientists, also summarized the happenings at the BioMedJ congress in Paris. Michela Cuccorese, Margherita Borriello and Chiara Della Franca share their personal experiences at the EuroMedLab 2025. Natalia Kozopas, presents her signature infographics on the EFLM European Urinalysis Guideline 2023. Alessia Carere, EFLM Office, presents the latest EFLM publications and the upcoming EFLM events. Tara Rolić, Executive Member of Division: Communication, revisits past EFLM webinars. Aleksei Tikhonov, Member of Promotion and Publication Committee, creates an appetite for upcoming EFLM webinars. Under News from National Societies, the Norwegian Society presents their latest event. There is plenty on the horizon, browse the Calendar of Events and mark your calendars.



Reported by **Harjit Pal Bhattoa**,
Editor EFLM EuroLabNews

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Highlights



THANK YOU FOR JOINING US! HIGHLIGHTS FROM THE EUROMEDLAB 2025

EuroMedLab 2025 Brussels: a landmark of success and collaboration

by Mario Plebani, EFLM President



The recently concluded 2025 EuroMedLab Congress in Brussels marked a landmark event in the history of EuroMedLab Congresses: with over 9,000 people from around the globe and an expansive exhibition area, hosting 112 leading exhibitors showcasing the latest advancements in our field, this year's edition set a new attendance record and reaffirmed the status of this EFLM event jointly organized with IFCC as the premier congress in the field of Laboratory Medicine in Europe.

From May 18 to 22, the Brussels Exhibition Centre became a vibrant hub of scientific exchange, professional networking, and celebration of innovation. Among the many highlights, EFLM was proud to host four high-level symposia that sparked dynamic discussion on cutting-edge topics:

- **Laboratory Medicine and the EU in the Era of Precision Medicine**
- **Value Based Healthcare in Laboratory Medicine**
- **Integrated Diagnostics - Interdisciplinary Strategies and Approaches**
- **Integrating Recent Basic Biomolecular Achievements in Medical Practice: Diagnostics & Therapy - jointly organized with FEBS.**

We also must not forget the highly informative symposium organized by our colleagues at RSBML, where the recently published EFLM guidelines on urinalysis were presented and thoroughly discussed. This underscores EFLM's commitment to providing practical and up-to-date guidance for our community.

We were also thrilled to continue our commitment to supporting the next generation of professionals. Their energy and ideas were most evident during the dedicated IFCC Young Scientists FORUM, jointly organized with EFLM Young Scientists, held on May 17 and 18, sessions that were rich in dialogue and optimism for the future of our discipline. Furthermore, 15 EFLM bursaries were awarded to outstanding young scientists, covering their attendance to the Congress.

Recognizing the exceptional talent within our community, the prestigious EFLM Awards Ceremony took center stage on Monday evening during the Congress Speakers & Awards dinner. Eight well-deserved awards were presented, celebrating significant achievements and innovation in Laboratory Medicine.

Here is the list of the outstanding EFLM award-winning personalities:

- **Ana-Maria Simundic** for her leadership and dedication to advancing laboratory medicine, particularly in the preanalytical phase - EFLM Award for Scientific Achievements in Laboratory Medicine - sponsored by Roche, ex aequo
- **William Bartlett** for his significant contributions to the understanding and practical application of biological variation internationally as a key initiator of the EFLM Biological Variation studies and database - EFLM Award for Scientific Achievements in Laboratory Medicine sponsored by Roche, ex aequo
- **Aasne K. Aarsand** for her outstanding achievements and work related to Biological Variation and Porphyria - EFLM Award for Achievements in Advancing Laboratory Medicine in Europe - sponsored by Roche
- **Daria Pasalic** for her outstanding dedication to the advancement of laboratory medicine across Europe and role in shaping continuous learning tools as Chair of the EFLM Committee for Education and Training - EFLM Academy Award 2023
- **Matteo Vidali** for his significant dedication to the advancement of biostatistics in laboratory medicine across Europe - EFLM Academy Award 2024
- **Jorge Diaz Garzon** for his innovative educational initiatives and leadership within the professional community - EFLM Young Laboratory Medicine Professional Award 2025
- **Abdurrahman Coskun** for the scientific paper "Reference intervals revisited: a novel model for population-based reference intervals, using a small sample size and biological variation data" - EFLM Award for Excellence in Outcomes Research in Laboratory Medicine - sponsored by Abbott Diagnostics
- **Hikmet Can Cubukcu** for the scientific paper "APS calculator: a data-driven tool for setting outcome-based analytical performance specifications for measurement uncertainty using specific clinical requirements and population data" - EFLM Award for Excellence in Performance Specifications Research - sponsored by Abbott Diagnostics
- **Selma Salonen** for the scientific paper "Highly Sensitive Immunoassay for Long Forms of Cardiac Troponin T Using Upconversion Luminescence" - EFLM Cardiac Marker Award 2025 - sponsored by Hytest
- **Matthijs Oyaert** for the poster "Renal tubular epithelial cells: a urinary biomarker that adds value in the diagnosis of acute kidney injury" - EFLM Young Scientist Best Poster Award

The EFLM General Meeting, held on Sunday May 18, also marked a pivotal moment with the election of new Executive Board members who will guide our Federation into its next chapter, commencing their service on January 1, 2026. This transition will see Tomas Zima assume the role of incoming President, while I will serve as Past President. I extend a warm welcome to our newly appointed Board members and express sincere gratitude to those concluding their terms for their dedicated service. I would also like to express my sincere appreciation to all the National Societies, and especially to their respective Presidents and National Representatives, for their participation in the General Meeting; their strong engagement and proactiveness is vital to the strength and direction of our Federation.

- Damien Gruson (Belgium) – President-Elect
- Snezana Jovicic (Serbia) – renewed term as EB Secretary
- Matthias F. Bauer (Germany) – Treasurer
- Abdurrahman Coskun (Turkey) – Member at large
- Anne Stavelin (Norway) – Member at large

We were pleased to officially welcome new National Societies and Companies into the EFLM family, reflecting the growing reach and relevance of our Federation across Europe.

- **Association of Physicians and Specialists in the field of Laboratory Medicine of the Republic of Moldova (AMLRM), Moldova** – New Full Member
- **Association of Medical Laboratory Diagnostics Specialists (AMLDS), Armenia** – New Full Member
- **Armenian Association of Laboratory Medicine (AALM), Armenia** – New Affiliate Member
- **Inpeco, Switzerland** – New Corporate Member

In keeping with our commitment to stakeholder engagement, a high-level Board-to-Board meeting was held on Tuesday, May 20th between Executive Boards of both EFLM and IFCC and top executives from MedTech Europe, further strengthening our strategic collaborations.

EuroMedLab 2025 Brussels was more than just a congress: it was a celebration of progress, unity, and the extraordinary potential of Laboratory Medicine to improve lives. On behalf of the EFLM, I thank all participants, speakers, organizers, and partners who contributed to making this a record-breaking and unforgettable event.

Let us carry this momentum forward as we look ahead to new challenges and opportunities in our shared journey. I am filled with optimism for the future and confident that London 2027 will be an equally enriching and memorable experience. We eagerly anticipate welcoming you there to continue celebrating the advancements and vital role of European Laboratory Medicine.



See you in London in 2027!

16-20 May 2027!



Katharine Hayden
Current President
Association for Laboratory Medicine



Ian Godber
Congress President and President
Elect of the Association for Laboratory Medicine



The EFLM President, Mario Plebani, together with members of the hosting National Society's team – the Association for Laboratory Medicine at the EuroMedLab 2027 booth in Brussels.

Reflecting on EuroMedLab 2025

Reported by Division: Communication Members

EuroMedLab 2025, a joint collaboration of IFCC, EFLM, and RBSLM, took place in Brussels, Belgium, from May 18–22, 2025. EFLM officers actively engaged in closed meetings to set short- and long-term goals for their divisions, committees, and technical committees.

The Division Communication members, together with the EFLM Office, prepared an engaging EFLM booth showcasing posters from the EFLM projects, infographics from key publications, and a presentation loop with additional information. A photo contest for social media was organized, with gadgets awarded to the winners. Several interesting interviews were also recorded at the booth. The EFLM bursary ceremony for young scientists was held here. Congratulations to all award winners!

Several EFLM symposia were held during the congress. In collaboration with BioMedAlliance, the symposium “Laboratory Medicine and the EU in the Era of Precision Medicine” highlighted the impact of IVDR regulations, the recognition of EuSpLM in the EU, diagnostic oecumenics in onco-hematology, and the upskilling of healthcare professionals to deliver genomic medicine, featuring perspectives from the UK and ESHG.

A key symposium on Value-Based Healthcare in Laboratory Medicine, chaired by EFLM President Mario Plebani and President-Elect Tomas Zima, featured presentations on the urgency of adopting value-based healthcare, its personalization and sustainability, the establishment of a European network, and practical strategies for implementing value-based principles in laboratory medicine.

Sessions on Integrated Diagnostics explored interdisciplinary strategies, including health data integrity, brain disease diagnostics, interoperability, cultural shifts, and bridging disciplines to improve healthcare delivery.

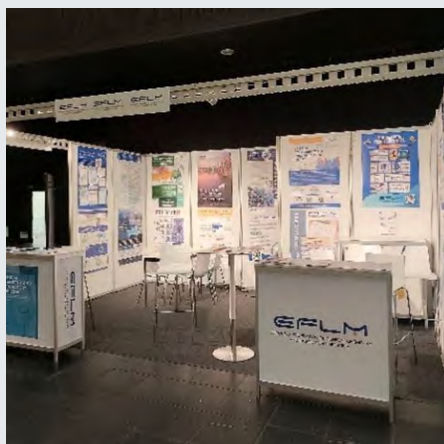
A joint symposium between EFLM and FEBS showcased advances in translating biomolecular research into medical practice. Highlights included mass spectrometry in routine labs, blood biomarkers for neurodegenerative diseases, genetic analysis in cancer prevention and treatment (including supplementation and diet interventions), and NMR-based analysis of biological samples for diagnosis and prognosis.

Numerous educational workshops by IVD companies, key collaborators in our profession, enriched the program. Plenary sessions featured outstanding and engaging speakers, while afternoon roundtables integrated laboratory and clinical perspectives on thyroid health, health economics, and AI applications in laboratory medicine.

EuroMedLab 2025 provided a valuable platform for exchanging rich professional and research knowledge, addressing critical issues in laboratory medicine both within the EU and globally.

Congratulations to the organizers and scientific committee for their outstanding work!

Brussels, the city of science, with its iconic Atomium (enlarged iron atom) provided an inspiring backdrop for all laboratory medicine professionals.



EFLM booth



EFLM Gadgets for Social Media Photo Contest Winners



Group photo of the EFLM Officers



Division Communication Members



EFLM Committee on CPECS



EFLM Committee on Biological Variation



EFLM Technical Committee on BVD



EFLM Committee Artificial Intelligence



Opening Ceremony



Ceremony of Certificates for EFLM Bursary Winners



Young Scientist Best Poster Award



Closing Ceremony & Announcement of EuroMedLab 2027

EFLM Awards

Reported by
Aleksei Tikhonov,
Member of the EFLM
Promotion and Publication
Committee, SFBC member

On Monday, 19 May, the EFLM Awards Ceremony 2025 took place at the beautiful Brussels Museum of Arts, where we proudly celebrated exceptional individuals for their contributions to our profession.

Congratulations to the award recipients:



Selma Salonen

EFLM Cardiac Marker Award
2025 (sponsored by Hytest)



Abdurrahman Coşkun

EFLM Award for Excellence
in Outcomes Research in
Laboratory Medicine (sponsored
by Abbott Diagnostics)



Hikmet Can Çubukçu

EFLM Award for Excellence in
Performance Specifications
Research (sponsored by Abbott
Diagnostics)



Daria Pašalić

EFLM Academy Award 2023

EFLM Awards

Reported by
Aleksei Tikhonov,
Member of the EFLM
Promotion and Publication
Committee, SFBC member

Congratulations to the award recipients:



Matteo Vidali
EFLM Academy Award 2024



William Bartlett
EFLM Award for Scientific
Achievements in Laboratory
Medicine (sponsored by Roche)



Ana-Maria Šimundić
EFLM Award for Scientific
Achievements in Laboratory
Medicine (sponsored by Roche)



Aasne K. Aarsand
EFLM Award for Achievements
in Advancing Laboratory
Medicine in Europe (sponsored
by Roche)



Jorge Díaz Garzón
EFLM Young Laboratory
Medicine Professional Award
2025

We're thrilled to congratulate Dr. Díaz Garzón on receiving the very first EFLM Young Laboratory Medicine Professional Award. In sharing this milestone, Dr. Díaz Garzón reflects on the importance of mentorship, resilience, and the collective effort behind scientific progress: *"Receiving the EFLM Young Scientist Award has been a truly meaningful experience. I'm deeply grateful to my colleagues and mentors who quietly supported and believed in me throughout this journey. This recognition is not just personal. It's a reminder of how important it is to have people around you who encourage your growth, especially in the early stages of a scientific career. We all face moments of doubt and uncertainty, and that's where resilience plays a key role. To all young scientists: keep moving forward, even when progress feels slow. Trust in your work, stay curious, and surround yourself with those who lift you up. Your path may look different from others', but it's just as valuable."*



At the EuroMedLab Closing Ceremony, Dr. Matthijs Oyaert from Ghent University Hospital received the first-of-its-kind EFLM Young Scientist Best Poster Award from EFLM President, Prof. Mario Plebani. Dr. Oyaert's poster is titled "Renal tubular epithelial cells: a urinary biomarker that adds value in the diagnosis of acute kidney injury."

We extend our heartfelt congratulations to all the award winners! Your achievements inspire us all and highlight the incredible talent within our clinical chemistry and laboratory medicine community.

Winners of the EFLM Research Grant 2025

Reported by **Michel Langlois**, Chair of the EFLM Division "Science: Value-Based Laboratory Medicine" (D-S)



The EFLM Scientific Research Grant has been established to promote science and facilitate research in laboratory medicine in Europe. Two grants of the maximum amount of € 10.000 each, are awarded each year, one for an applicant coming from a country enjoying "Vic Bleton" scholarship program and the other for an applicant coming from any other country in Europe. Applicants must submit a research project proposal and a detailed budget with a list of all required products, necessary to perform their study. For the 2025 EFLM Grant, we received 29 applications from 15 different countries. Applications were evaluated by a committee composed of the Chair of the EFLM Division "Science: Value-Based Laboratory Medicine" (Michel Langlois), the Chair of the EFLM Division "Education and Profession" (Evgenija Homsak), and one member of the EFLM Executive Board (Pilar Fernandez-Calle). The evaluation process was conducted according to the criteria established by the EFLM Executive Board. Evaluation included a scoring for study design and feasibility, study budget justification by aims and methods of the project, innovative value of the scientific project, potential of the study to generate relevant findings in laboratory medicine and improve patient outcome, relevance of previous work of the applicant to the proposed study, and scientific and professional experience of the applicant (CV). Based on these criteria, the selected applications for 2025 are those from:

- **Kristin M. Aakre (Norway)** – Research: "Investigating a novel biomarker of myocardial injury" and
- **Uygun Zihni Onur (Türkiye, Vic Bleton Grant)** – Research: "Ultra-Sensitive Single-Entity Electrochemical Platform for Rapid Detection of Epilepsy-Related miRNAs"

We thank all participants sending an application for the EFLM Research Grant 2025.

Although two applications were given the highest score for each of the two Grants, the Evaluation Committee wishes to acknowledge and congratulate other applicants in this year's competition who submitted high-quality, innovative study proposals which received almost equally high scores. We strongly encourage young scientists to continue to apply for EFLM Grants in the following years.

Let's know more about the selected researches

Improving specificity for identifying myocardial necrosis



Kristin Moberg Aakre, MD, PhD^{1,2}

¹ Department of Clinical Science, University of Bergen, Bergen, Norway

² Department of Medical biochemistry and Pharmacology & Department of Heart Disease, Haukeland University Hospital, Bergen, Norway

Since cardiac troponins became available some decades ago our ability to identify and diagnose myocardial injury (defined as cardiac troponin (cTn) concentration above the 99th Upper Reference Limit of the assay) has increased tremendously. Even though cardiac troponins (cTn) are high-sensitive biomarkers for identifying myocardial injury, they are less specific for myocardial necrosis. Cardiac troponins are released into circulation within few minutes after occlusion of a coronary artery (1) but also increases after physiological conditions like strenuous exercise (2) or chronic high load of metabolic stress due to cardiovascular risk factors (3,4). Acute myocardial infarction (MI) is a condition where myocardial ischemia leads

to cardiomyocyte necrosis. Since cardiac troponins are likely released during both reversible and irreversible cell injury, they have high sensitivity but rather low clinical specificity for the diagnosis. Instead, the Universal Definition of Myocardial Infarction relies on clinical symptoms and imaging findings indicating myocardial ischemia and necrosis to increase the specificity of the diagnoses (5). Such findings are subjected to interobserver variability reducing the consistency of non-ST elevation MI (NSTEMI) diagnoses between institutions.

Another emerging observation is that the concordance between cTn assays for diagnosing myocardial injury outside of type 1 MI is modest to low. Accordingly, there is a strong clinical need to identify cardiac biomarkers that may accurately identify the patients at highest risk, including high long-term risk.

Cardiomyocyte necrosis can in theory be identified if one could measure biomarkers that originates from cardiomyocytes and were released during necrosis of these cells only, representing a fundamental aspect of tissue identity. A novel method now allows measurement of a subtype of DNA originating from the heart. The hypothesis is that this cardiac DNA is present in circulation during cardiomyocyte necrosis but not during cardiomyocyte stress. The aim of this pilot study is to investigate the diagnostic performance for NSTEMI of cardiac DNA in a cohort of acute chest pain patients.

The study will utilize biobanked material from adult patients included in the prospective observational WESTCOR study (6,7). WESTCOR included 1900 patients presenting to an Emergency Department (ED) in Norway with a suspicion of non-ST elevation myocardial infarction (NSTEMI). The current analysis will include patients with Type 1 NSTEMIs, chronic myocardial injury, non-ischemic acute myocardial injury and non-cardiac chest pain, as determined by clinical adjudication by two independent cardiologists.

Our vision:

This study aims to investigate a clinical question of high importance for patients, laboratories, clinicians and the health care system. Improving the diagnostic and prognostic specificity of cardiac biomarkers enabling differentiation between necrosis and stress related myocardial injury carry the potential to be of high importance for patients, their relatives and the health care system. The data may have high internal and external validity being representative for chest pain patients internationally and may therefore facilitate further studies within this field and eventually lead to important changes in clinical practice. The data may also improve our understanding of the biological and pathophysiological processes related to cardiomyocyte injury and necrosis. Such knowledge might facilitate studies investigating novel treatment and prevention strategies for patients at high risk of cardiovascular disease in the future.

1. Temporal Release of High-Sensitivity Cardiac Troponin T and I and Copeptin After Brief Induced Coronary Artery Balloon Occlusion in Humans. Árnadóttir Á, Pedersen S, Bo Hasselbalch R, Goetze JP, Friis-Hansen LJ, Bloch-Münster AM, Skov Jensen J, Bundgaard H, Iversen K. Circulation. 2021 Mar 16;143(11):1095-1104.
2. Race duration and blood pressure are major predictors of exercise-induced cardiac troponin elevation. Kleiven Ø, Omland T, Skadberg Ø, Melberg TH, Bjørkavoll-Bergseth MF, Auestad B, Bergseth R, Greve OJ, Aakre KM, Ørn S. Int J Cardiol. 2019 May 15;283:1-8.
3. Diagnosing Myocardial Injury in an Acute Chest Pain Cohort; Long-Term Prognostic Implications of Cardiac Troponin T and I. Saeed N, Steiro OT, Langørgen J, Tjora HL, Bjørneklett RO, Skadberg Ø, Bonarjee VVS, Mjelva ØR, Norekvål TM, Steinsvik T, Vikenes K, Omland T, Aakre KM. Clin Chem. 2024 Oct 3;70(10):1241-1255.
4. Prognostic significance of chronic myocardial injury diagnosed by three different cardiac troponin assays in patients admitted with suspected acute coronary syndrome. Steiro OT, Langørgen J, Tjora HL, Bjørneklett RO, Skadberg Ø, Bonarjee VVS, Mjelva ØR, Steinsvik T, Lindahl B, Omland T, Aakre KM, Vikenes K. Clin Chem Lab Med. 2023 Nov 9;62(4):729-739.
5. Fourth Universal Definition of Myocardial Infarction (2018). Thygesen K, Alpert JS, Jaffe AS, Chaitman BR, Bax JJ, Morrow DA, and White HD. Circulation. 2018 Nov 13;138(20):e618-e651
6. Aiming toWards Evidence baSed inTerpretation of Cardiac biOmMarkers in patients pResenting with chest pain-the WESTCOR study: study design. Tjora HL, Steiro OT, Langørgen J, Bjørneklett R, Nygård OK, Renstrøm R, Skadberg Ø, Bonarjee VVS, Lindahl B, Collinson P, Omland T, Vikenes K, Aakre KM. Scand Cardiovasc J. 2019 Oct;53(5):280-285.
7. Clinical derivation and data simulated validation of rule-out and rule-in algorithms for the Siemens Atellica IM high-sensitivity cardiac troponin I assay. Restan IZ, Steiro OT, Pickering JW, Tjora HL, Langørgen J, Omland T, Collinson P, Bjørneklett R, Vikenes K, Steinsvik T, Skadberg Ø, Mjelva ØR, Larsen AI, Bonarjee VVS, Aakre KM. Eur Heart J Acute Cardiovasc Care. 2025 Mar 22;14(3):155-168.

Ultra-Sensitive Electrochemical Platform for Early Detection of Epilepsy-Related Biomarkers



Dr Zihni Onur Uygun, Kafkas University, Türkiye

Epilepsy is a serious neurological condition that affects around 50 million people worldwide (1). It causes seizures that can appear suddenly and unpredictably, disrupting lives and, in severe cases, leading to injury or even death. For many patients, getting a diagnosis is frustratingly slow especially when the symptoms aren't typical or visible. This delay means treatment often starts too late, making it harder to control the disease and protect quality of life.

One of the biggest challenges in epilepsy care is detecting the disease early ideally before seizures become frequent or severe. While tools like EEGs and MRIs are helpful, they don't always catch the early warning signs, especially at the molecular level Surges et al. That's where biomarkers measurable biological signals can play a life-changing role.

Tiny molecules called **microRNAs (miRNAs)** are emerging as exciting new biomarkers for epilepsy (2,3). These molecules help regulate brain function and inflammation, and certain miRNAs show up in the blood of people with epilepsy. If we can detect them early and accurately, we could transform how epilepsy is diagnosed and monitored. The miRNAs are incredibly small and fragile. Detecting them in blood is like trying to hear a whisper in a noisy crowd. Therefore, traditional biosensor tools often aren't sensitive or stable enough especially because the biological sensors can lose their function, or the signals get buried in noise.

Our research tackles this problem by rethinking how we detect these molecules. Instead of ignoring the random, chaotic movements of tiny particles in solution caused by natural motion called **Brownian motion** we study them. We use a method known as **stochastic electrochemistry** to track how these particles collide the sensor surface (4). These tiny impacts create brief electrical signals, which we capture and analyze to reveal if the miRNA is present and how much of it there is.

This approach may sound unpredictable, but that's the point. We're learning to understand and control these random interactions, turning what was once considered noise into valuable data. It's like finding patterns in chaos. That solution make our research more valuable because increasing selectivity and sensitivity are more valuable by improving this area. At the same time, we're working to overcome a major weakness of existing biosensors: their short lifespan and poor stability. Many biosensors rely on fragile biological components that break down easily. By studying the interface where these components interact with the sensor, we aim to build more **durable, reliable systems** for real-world clinical use.

The broader goal of this research is twofold: first, to make molecular epilepsy diagnostics faster, more accessible, and more accurate; and second, to advance the theoretical and practical understanding of biosensing systems operating in stochastic and chaotic regimes. In doing so, we hope to help shape the future of personalized laboratory medicine — not only for epilepsy, but for a wide range of conditions where early molecular insight can change lives.

Thanks to the support of the **EFLM Vic Blaton Research Grant 2025**, we are one step closer to turning these ideas into reality.

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2. Chen, X., Ba, Y., Ma, L., Cai, X., Yin, Y., Wang, K., ... Zhang, C. Y. 2008. "Characterization of microRNAs in serum: a novel class of biomarkers for diagnosis of cancer and other diseases", *Cell Research* 2008 18:10, 18(10), 997–1006.
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4. Sun Z, Hafez ME, Ma W, Long YT (2019) Recent advances in nanocollision electrochemistry. *Sci China Chem* 62:1588–1600. <https://doi.org/10.1007/S11426-019-9529-X/METRICS>

EFLM OFFICE INFORMS

EFLM expands. Welcoming our latest new Members!

by Silvia Cattaneo, EFLM Office

During the EFLM General Meeting held on Sunday, May 18 in Brussels, on occasion of the 26th IFCC-EFLM EuroMedLab Congress of Clinical Chemistry and Laboratory Medicine, three National Societies and one Company were officially approved as new Members of EFLM.

We warmly welcome our new members to the EFLM community. These are:

Full Members:

- Association of Medical Laboratory Diagnostics Specialists (AMLDS), Armenia
- Association of Physicians and Specialists in the field of Laboratory Medicine of the Republic of Moldova (AMLRM), Moldova

Affiliate Member:

- Armenian Association of Laboratory Medicine (AALM), Armenia

Corporate Member:

- Inpeco, Switzerland

	<p>Founded in 2017, the Association of Medical Laboratory Diagnostics Specialists (AMLDS) aims to enhance laboratory services in Armenia. Initially focused on senior medical laboratory specialists, the association later expanded to include nurses, technicians, biologists, and engineers. With 215 members today, AMLDS promotes professional development and actively supports the implementation of quality management systems in laboratories across Armenia.</p> <p>https://www.facebook.com/ArmMedLab/</p>
	<p>Founded in 2006, the Association of Physicians and Specialists in the field of Laboratory Medicine of the Republic of Moldova (AMLRM) aims to bring together laboratory doctors, biologists, chemists, and biochemists from across Moldova who are dedicated to progress and excellence. AMLRM promotes high quality standards, supports continuous professional development, and facilitates the exchange of best practices with the final goal to ensure more accurate laboratory results improving patient health. Currently, AMLRM has 209 members.</p> <p>https://www.labmed.md/</p>
	<p>The Armenian Association of Laboratory Medicine (AALM) is a professional association of laboratory medicine specialists, manufacturers and distributors of laboratory diagnostic equipment, with the aim of uniting specialists and improving the work of the professional community to enhance the quality and accessibility of modern laboratory medicine for the population in the Republic of Armenia. AALM was founded in 2024 and currently has 102 members, from hospital laboratories, independent laboratories and reference laboratory as well.</p> <p>https://aalm.am/</p>
	<p>Inpeco is the global leader in Total Laboratory Automation. The company's innovative solutions integrate open connectivity with complete sample traceability to provide secure test results and enhance productivity for clinical laboratories worldwide. In 1995, Inpeco pioneered the world's first lab automation system to reduce errors in healthcare tracing a path of continuous research and innovation. The Group is headquartered in Novazzano, Switzerland.</p> <p>https://www.inpeco.com/</p>

Wish to become a member of EFLM. [Click here to discover more!](#)

EFLM OFFICE INFORMS

Changing of the Guard in EFLM National Societies

Reported by **Silvia Terragni**, EFLM Office

A warm welcome to the new incoming National Society officers and a great thank you to the outgoing EFLM National Representatives and National Society Presidents for the support to EFLM activities during their terms of office.

Swedish Society for Clinical Chemistry, SSKK

We are glad to inform that Henrik von Horn (Sect. Biochemistry, Clinical chemistry, Karolinska University Hospital Solna, Stockholm, Sweden) is the new President of the Swedish Society for Clinical

Chemistry, replacing Inga Zelvyte.

Furthermore, after many years of activities, Mats Ohlson has the pleasure to introduce his successor as the national representant for Sweden, PhD Marie Larsson. She is a Clinical biochemist at the Clinical chemistry laboratory in the Region Halland in the south west of Sweden, and she is affiliated to the Lund University with her neonatal research. Dr Larsson is also a board member of the Clinical Biochemist organization in Sweden, the Swedish Association of Clinical Biochemists, SSKF.

NEWS FROM EFLM FUNCTIONAL UNITS

Become a Recognized EFLMLabX Partner – Open Your Doors to Europe!

Reported by Daniel Turnock, Technical Committee: EFLMLabX member

Could your laboratory be the next to join the EFLM LabX network?

With over **26 institutions** already part of the **EFLM LabX Program**, your laboratory could be next in line to connect, inspire, and grow alongside colleagues across Europe.

EFLMLABX CORNER



THE EFLM LABORATORY
EXCHANGE PROGRAMME

Why Join as an EFLM LabX Offerer?

No cost or obligation, just connection, recognition and collaboration.

What's in It for your laboratory?

- 🔗 **International networking** with peers and experts across Europe
- 🤝 Opportunities for **collaborative research** and support
- 🌱 Inspire and mentor **young professionals** or host **senior colleagues**
- 💬 Share your knowledge, workflows, or research
- 📈 Boost your **institution's visibility** as a leader in laboratory medicine

"I don't have time for this..."

Let your **resident or colleague** help run your LabX offer! It's a perfect way to involve and engage your team – while contributing meaningfully to the European laboratory community.

"My laboratory doesn't have any specialist testing"

You don't have to be a specialist or research laboratory to offer a placement! Any practice you can offer will be of value in offering experience of laboratory medicine in your country

Ready to Join?

All the information is on the [LabX website](#) to help you start your journey as an EFLM LabX offerer in three simple steps:

- Register on the site and add institution details
- Sign contract of partnership with EFLM
- Create your laboratory practice for users
- 🔗 **Sharing knowledge is a privilege** – whether it's a simple look at your lab routines or insights into your latest study, **someone will benefit from your experience.**

Become an EFLM LabX offerer – because science grows stronger when we grow **together**.

NEWS FROM EFLM FUNCTIONAL UNITS

Four simple actions to be more sustainable and green in your laboratory!

Reported by **Tomris Ozben**, Chair
of the EFLM Committee "Green &
Sustainable Laboratories"



In line with the goal of the [EFLM Committee "Green & Sustainable Laboratories"](#), I have the pleasure to continue the column: Four simple actions to be more sustainable and green in your laboratory!

In each issue of the newsletter, we will select 4 actions from each section of the checklist prepared by the EFLM TF-GSL members (Chemicals, Energy, Waste and Water) to start implementing the daily routine in your laboratories and getting familiar with the checklist.

The below actions are accompanied by a graphical leaflet that you can download and post in the notice board of your laboratory to be shared with your colleagues (in this case, please remember to use recycled paper).

[Click here to download the PDF](#)

The selected actions of this issue are:

✓ **Section "Hazardous Chemicals Management"**

ACTION: Is chemical waste disposed in the correct container, labelled appropriately and collected in the correct collection area?

✓ **Section "Energy Management"**

ACTION: Do you switch off biological safety cabinets when not required or at the end of day?

✓ **Section "Waste Management"**

ACTION: Do you have a specific policy to reduce the use of plastics, especially single-use plastics?

✓ **Section "Water Management"**

ACTION: If you are using autoclaves / sterilizers / glass washers in your lab, do you run them in full capacity?

I am delighted to inform you that there are currently 21 laboratories certified by EFLM as "Green & Sustainable Laboratory". The last laboratories receiving the EFLM "Green and Sustainable Laboratory" certification were **SNB Diagnósticos Globales, S.A.U.** and **CATLAB, Centre Analítiques Terrassa AIE**, both in Spain. The detailed list can be seen at the [dedicated website page](#)

April 15 – International Biomedical Laboratory Science Day

This Year's Theme:

"Biomedical Laboratory Scientists Promoting Sustainability in Clinical Diagnostics"

Reported by the EFLM C-GSL Chair, **Tomris Ozben**

To mark the occasion, the **Danish Association of Biomedical Laboratory Scientists** has produced four podcasts based on the **EFLM Green and Sustainable Laboratories (GSL)** Guidelines. These podcasts cover four key areas: **hazardous chemicals, waste, energy, and water**.

You can listen to the podcasts via the link below, listed under each corresponding topic of the EFLM GSL Guidelines.

<https://greenlabs.eflm.eu/educational-resources>

EFLM YOUNG SCIENTISTS CORNER

EFLM Committee Young Scientists was a key element in establishing a supportive young scientists community at EUROMEDLAB 2025

Reported by **Aleš Kvasnička**, Chair of the EFLM C:YS, **Aleksei Tikhonov**, C:YS member and **Tara Rolic**, C:YS member

Just before and during the IFCC-EFLM EuroMedLab 2025 in Brussels, Belgium, young scientists played an active and visible role in organizing a range of activities tailored to their peers in laboratory medicine. A major highlight was the **Young Scientists (YS) Forum**, co-organized for the first time by three youth-focused groups: the **IFCC Task Force on Young Scientists (TF-YS)**, the **EFLM Committee on Young Scientists (C-YS)**, and the **AABC Young Scientists**. The two-day forum (17–18 May) featured impactful leadership training, a laboratory visit, scientific presentations, and vibrant networking opportunities.

Saint-Luc Laboratory Visit

The Forum began on Saturday, 17 May, with a guided tour of the **Cliniques Universitaires Saint-Luc** laboratories at UCLouvain. Around 20 young scientists participated in this hands-on visit, which was led by Belgian AABC members **Meryem Benamour**, **Antoine Laffalize**, and their colleagues. The participants had a unique first-hand look at both preanalytical and analytical solutions used in this advanced laboratory. In addition to sections dedicated to chemistry and immunoassays, the laboratory boasts extensive departments for hematology, body fluid analysis, microbiology, toxicology, and more. The post-analytical phase, including the interpretation of lab results through clinical comments, was also discussed with the local hosts - providing a valuable learning opportunity for attendees.



Leadership Workshop

For the first time, a **Leadership Workshop** was incorporated into the IFCC YS Forum.

Moderated by **Prof. Rajiv Erasmus** and **Prof. Ana-Maria Šimundić**, the workshop was opened by **Aleš Kvasnička** (Chair, EFLM C-YS) and **Santiago Fares Taie** (Chair, IFCC TF-YS). The session began with a creative icebreaker: participants visualized and shared their personal journeys using printed images, which encouraged open communication and built a relaxed atmosphere. This led into a series of thought-provoking presentations:

- **Aleksei Tikhonov** (France) opened with a lecture on defining leadership, developing leadership styles, and the challenges leaders face. His talk emphasized self-awareness and self-confidence. The session included a group discussion on **task prioritization**, with Prof. Šimundić elaborating on the **Eisenhower Matrix** as a helpful decision-making tool.
- **Charlotte Gran** (Sweden) focused on the importance of communication in leadership, highlighting that a strong leader guides their team to find the most effective path to results.
- **Udara Senarathne** (Sri Lanka) gave a practical talk on **goal-setting**, including how to formulate and communicate **SMART goals**, and how to build a clear, shared vision.

Due to time constraints, the final session by **Ashlin Rampul** and **Tara Rolić** on conflict resolution could not be delivered as planned. Alternatively, we are planning to present this lecture online as a webinar. Nevertheless, participants gave overwhelmingly positive feedback, and there are already plans to organize similar workshops during future in-person and online events



On Sunday, May 18th, the IFCC Forum for Young Scientists brought together future leaders in laboratory medicine for scientific exchange and professional growth at Brussels Expo. The day's program featured three diverse scientific sessions, covering topics from novel cancer biomarkers and assay standardization to innovations in kidney transplant diagnostics and the integration of artificial intelligence in the laboratory. Young Scientists from five continents delivered insightful presentations and enjoyed valuable discussions. The day began with opening remarks from prominent figures including Prof. Tomris Ozben (IFCC President), Prof. Damien Gruson (Congress President), Dr. Eduardo Freggiaro (TF-YS Liaison), and Dr. Santiago Fares Taie (TF-YS Chair). The scientific program featured **three thematic sessions**, each highlighting cutting-edge contributions to laboratory medicine.

Session 1: Clinical Chemistry, Hematology & Diagnostic Insights (coordinated by Dr. Santiago Fares Taie and Dr. Tamar Ramishvili) featured presentations such as:

- "Prognostic significance of platelet-to-lymphocyte ratio in patients with triple-negative breast cancer" by **Victoria Alzogaray** (Uruguay),
- "Marked method related differences in fT4 immunoassays support the need for standardization" by **James Bree** (Australia),
- "Immunoturbidimetric measurement of albumin exacerbates discrepancies between corrected and ionized calcaemia" by **Charles Lefèvre** (France), and
- "Evaluation of Specific IgE in Tear, Nasal Fluid and serum in Allergic" by **Henry Velázquez Soto** (Mexico).

Session 2: Advancing Biomarker-based Risk Stratification in Chronic Diseases (coordinated by Dr. Ashlin Rampul and Dr. Marie Lenski) included:

- "Value of calculated small dense LDL-C and LDL-TG using various formulae in Diabetes Mellitus" by **Jurie Johannes Jordaan** (South Africa),
- "Precision Diagnostics in Kidney Transplants: A Novel Molecular Signature" by **Ceren Gümedağ** (Türkiye),
- "Proposed reference limits for emerging cardiovascular risk markers" by **Blanca Beumer** (Spain), and
- "Correlations of parathormone, calcium, phosphorus, and magnesium in chronic kidney disease" by **Hamide Shllaku** (Albania).

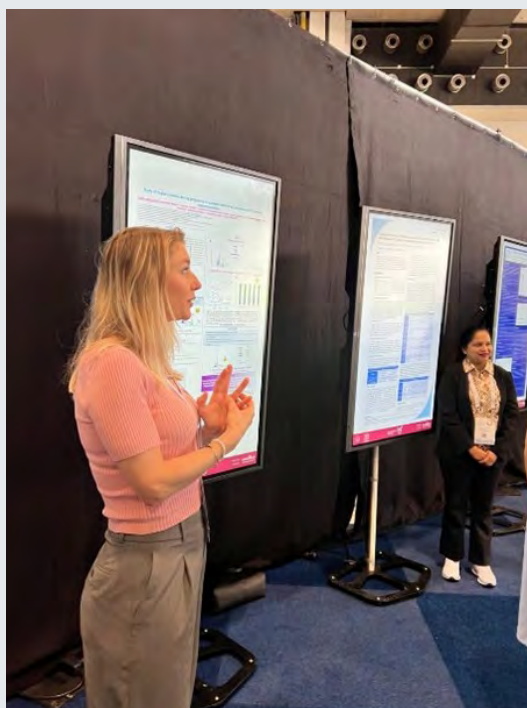
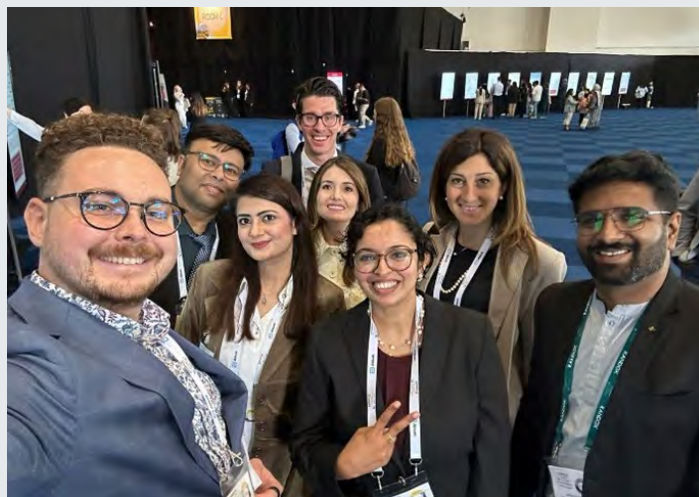
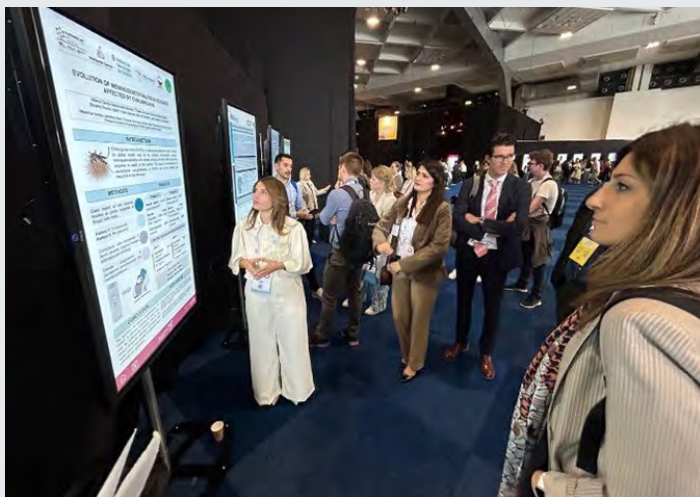
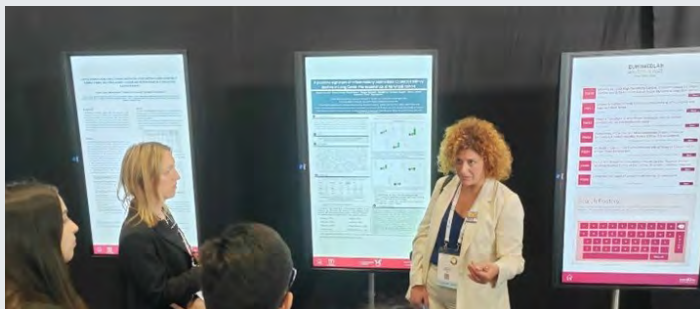
Session 3: Artificial Intelligence and Innovation for Advancing Diagnostic Accuracy and Laboratory Efficiency (coordinated by Dr. Sean Campbell and Dr. Kamil Taha Uçar) highlighted:

- "Integrated Workflow for Microbiological Diagnosis in Hospitalized Patients" by **Zidonia Carmen Delgado Barrera** (Bolivia),
- "Improving the efficiency of quality control with an integrated PBRTQC system" by **Luke Xincen Duan** (China),
- "Establishing a Reference Measurement System for PT-INR Tests" by **Michelle van der Helm** (Netherlands), and
- "Assessment of knowledge and attitude of laboratory staff on AI use" by **Pavithra Samarakoon** (Sri Lanka).

The forum concluded with closing remarks by the IFCC Task Force for Young Scientists, celebrating the international collaboration, diversity of research, and innovation shared throughout the event. The IFCC Forum for Young Scientists was a unique opportunity for personal and career development—empowering the next generation to take an active role in advancing laboratory medicine.

Young Scientists Poster Tour

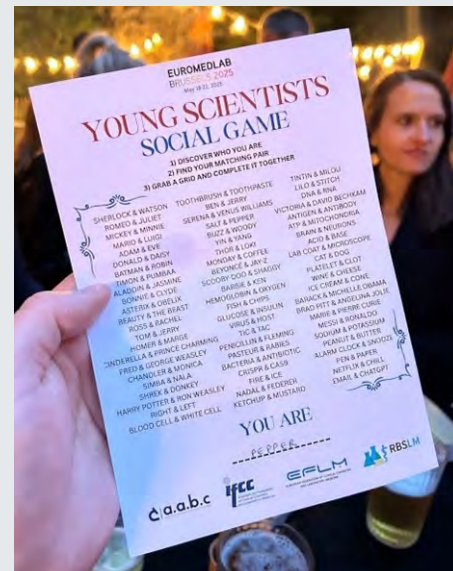
Following the success of the Poster Tour tradition, which started at WorldLab in Dubai, The Young Scientists Poster Tour at EuroMedLab 2025 in Brussels brought together early-career researchers from 26 countries for an energizing three-day series of interactive sessions. Guided by coordinators from **IFCC TF-YS** and **EFLM C-YS**, and inspired by **Marie Lenski** and **Aleksei Tikhonov** from France, organized in the manner "from young scientists to young scientists", participants presented their work in small groups, sparking lively discussions and valuable peer feedback. For many, it was a first step onto the international stage—building confidence, presentation skills, and global connections. The 100% positive response highlighted the event's role in inspiring young scientists to share their discoveries and pursue new opportunities in laboratory medicine.



Social & Networking Events

Thanks to the young Belgian scientists, a **guided city tour** of Brussels was also organized, allowing participants to explore the beauty and history of the host city.

Additionally, a lively **Young Scientists Social Event** took place on Tuesday evening. This included an interactive **quiz night**, designed to help participants connect on personal, professional, and scientific levels. The atmosphere was energetic and collaborative, and many new friendships and professional connections were formed - laying the groundwork for future international collaborations.



EUROMEDLAB 2025 in Brussels was a highly valuable and inspiring experience

Michela Cuccorese, Margherita Borriello, Chiara Della Franca (Italy), EFLM Young Scientists Network

The event reaffirmed the importance of laboratory medicine as a cornerstone of healthcare, and emphasized the crucial role laboratory professionals play in ensuring the quality, reliability, and effectiveness of diagnostic processes.

One of the most rewarding aspects of the congress was the opportunity to interact with professionals from across the globe. Engaging in meaningful discussions and exchanging knowledge and experiences provided a broader perspective on current challenges and innovations in our field. Between the educational activities, there was the "Young Scientists Poster Tour" organized by IFCC TF-YS and EFLM C-YS. The possibility to present our poster to other colleagues expert in the field, gave us motivation, the opportunity to discuss and improve the work and find new collaborations. Indeed, Young Scientists Poster Tour was conceived as informal activity during the congress, and the efficiency as well as the professional growth of the experience were very high!

Moreover, the congress offered a unique and enriching experience for the Young Scientists: a Forum, to exchange ideas, motivation, innovation, and to improve human connection. The forum was characterized by interesting sessions that provided an extraordinary occasion for sharing knowledge and exploring the future of laboratory medicine.

This forum was a valuable opportunity to build professional connections and significant dialogue. It promoted a spirit of curiosity, openness, and mutual growth, essential values for any scientific community. It was a testament to the idea that when young minds come together, both science and humanity move forward.

The congress not only enriched our professional knowledge but also left us with a lasting impression of a dynamic and supportive scientific community.

See you in London 2027, with the same enthusiasm, and thanks to the Euromedlab in Brussels, with the full desire and awareness to be an active part of the EFLM - YS Community!



Photos from Young Scientists Poster Tour organized by IFCC TF-YS and EFLM C-YS

EFLM Young Scientists shine at BioMedJ congress in Paris

Reported by **Tara Rolić**, **Monica Dugășescu** and **Emeline Gernez**,
Full Members of the EFLM Committee: Young Scientists

An inspiring international session took place at a french medical congress of laboratory medicine called « BioMedJ » (organized by « Les Biologistes Médicaux ») on May 15th, 2025, in Paris, France, highlighting the diverse and evolving landscape of laboratory medicine across continents.

Under the warm and professional moderation of **Emeline Gernez** and **Guillaume Grzych**, the session brought together passionate voices from Europe, North Africa, and the USA. Organized with the kind invitation and support of the moderators, the EFLM Young Scientists (YS) took center stage to share experiences, best practices, and forward-looking perspectives.



Representing the **EFLM**, **Monica Dugășescu** (Romania), and **Tara Rolić** (Croatia) presented the **EFLM Academy**, **EFLM Register**, **EFLM LabX** projects, and several strategic initiatives such as **EuLabDay**, **EFLM Awards**, and other key projects led by the Young Scientists' community such as **EuLabDay** as vital tools in raising awareness, increasing visibility, and promoting the profession among young students and the general public. Their presentations reflected not only the structure and opportunities within the profession in Europe, but also a commitment to mentoring and motivating the next generation of laboratory professionals. Their presentation show the diversity of the profession in Europe but also the unity bring by EFLM.

Adding a broader global dimension, **Yachana Kataria** from Boston presented the perspective from the United States, introducing the work of **ADLM (formerly AACC)** and more precisely the **SYCL** (Society for Young Clinical Laboratorians). She described the structure and recognition of laboratory medicine in the US healthcare system.

From North Africa, **Mouhamed Ouni** who represented the **STBC** (Tunisian Society of Clinical Biology) contributed valuable insights into the North Africa region's professional challenges and strengths, emphasizing the shared values and goals that unite laboratory professionals worldwide.

The session sparked rich discussions around education, working environments, and the diversity of laboratory medicine as a global profession. Audience members engaged with the panel, raising important questions about international recognition of the profession and strategies for attracting more students into laboratory medicine.

This vibrant and cross-cultural session was a clear testament to the strength of collaboration, the value of shared experiences, and the power of international dialogue in shaping the future of laboratory medicine.

After the conference, we visit the different booths of the congress. We stopped at the Protoside photobooth (www.protoside.com) – a playful way to highlight a serious issue: nitrous oxide misuse, one of the concerns currently addressed by the [EFLM Committee Biological Markers of Nitrous Oxide Abuse](#)

We would like to sincerely thank the EFLM for supporting us in this initiative. We have done our best to highlight the EFLM, which we are always very proud to represent. We hope that this initiative will be adopted by other national congresses across Europe in order to promote the EFLM to a wider audience.

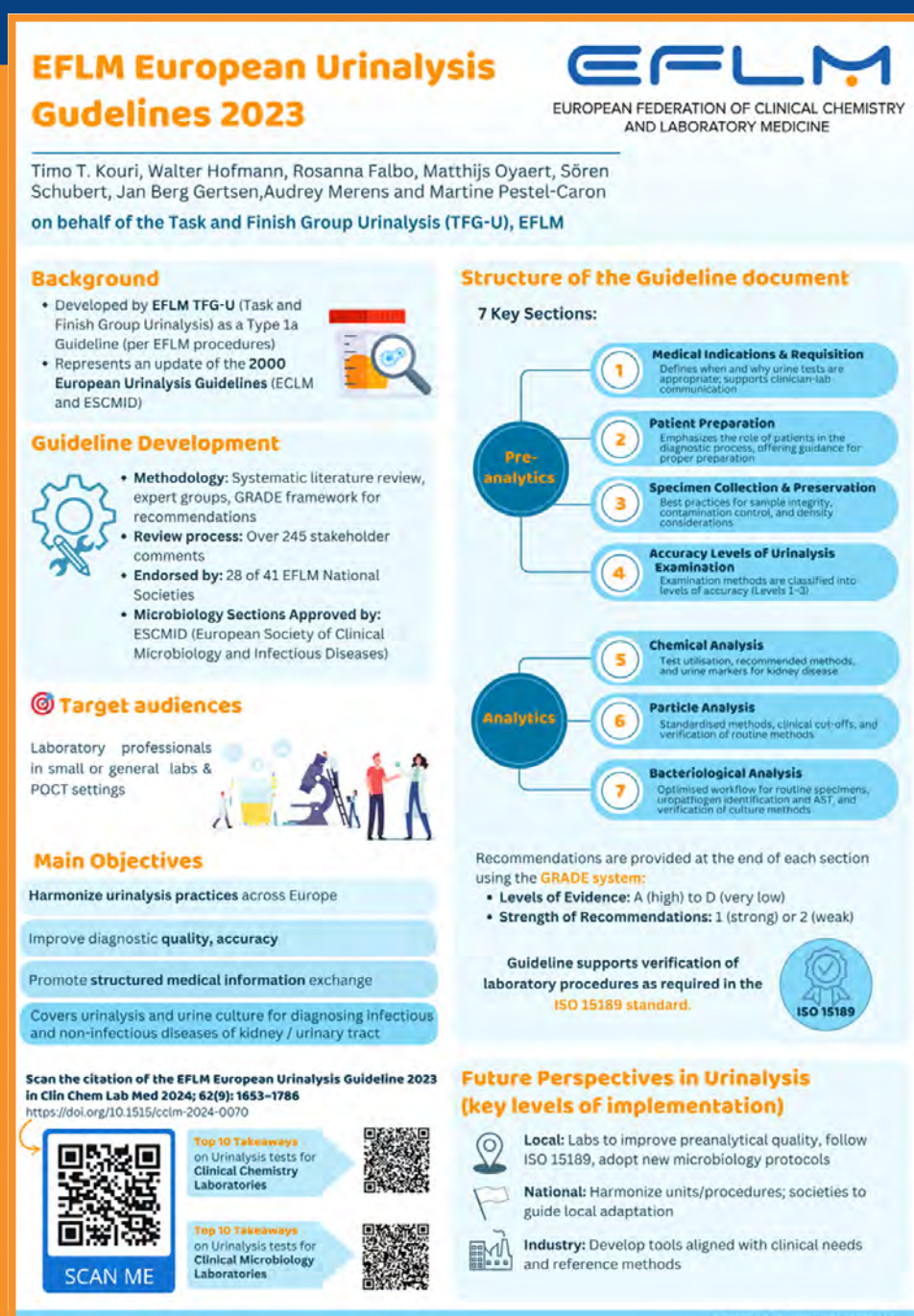



INSIGHTS FROM EFLM PUBLICATIONS

EFLM Paper: "The EFLM European Urinalysis Guideline 2023"

Reported by **Nataliia Kozopas**, EFLM Division: Communication Member

The 2023 EFLM European Urinalysis Guideline presents a refined and forward-looking vision for standardizing urinalysis across Europe. Building on the foundation of the 2000 edition, this updated document introduces a harmonized framework that encompasses all phases of testing – from patient preparation and specimen handling to chemical, microscopic, and microbiological evaluation. With a strong emphasis on quality indicators, evidence-based methodology, and the integration of emerging technologies, the guideline aims to strengthen diagnostic accuracy and promote consistency in laboratory practice. Key highlights are illustrated in the infographic, with further details available in the full publication.





New EFLM publications have been produced by EFLM functional units!

UPDATES ON EFLM PUBLICATIONS

New EFLM scientific papers have been published!

Reported by **Alessia Carere**, EFLM Office

The EFLM Office is happy to announce the latest published EFLM papers, developed by EFLM functional units to share knowledge and promote best practices across Europe and beyond.

Discover all EFLM publications at the dedicated page of the EFLM website <https://www.eflm.eu/site/eflm-publications>, where with the retrieval function you can search publications for title, author, keywords or EFLM functional units producing the paper.

A value-based score for clinical laboratories: promoting the work of the new EFLM committee

Plebani M

[Clin Chem Lab Med 2025](#)

New insights in preanalytical quality

Plebani M, Scott S, Simundic AM, Cornes M, Padoan A, Cadamuro J, Vermeersch P, Can Cubukcu H, Gonzalez A, Nybo M, Salvagno GL, Costelloe SJ, Falbo R, von Meyer A, Iaccino E, Botrè F, Banfi G, Lippi G

[Clin Chem Lab Med 2025](#)

Novel biomarkers in bone pathophysiology: Establishing reference intervals and biological variations estimates for serum leptin, sclerostin, lipocalin-2, osteoprotegerin, resistin and Dickkopf-related protein-1 from the European biological variation study (EuBIVAS) populations

Sansoni V, Lombardi G, Díaz-Garzón J, Fernández Calle P, Bartlett W A, Coşkun A, Itkonen O, Jonker N, Sandberg S, Aarsand A K, Banfi G, Carobene A, on behalf of the European Federation of Clinical Chemistry and Laboratory Medicine Committee on Biological Variation

[Clinica Chimica Acta 2025](#)



PAST EFLM EVENTS

Past EFLM webinars

Reported by **Tara Rolić**,
Executive Member of
Division: Communication



Value of faecal calprotectin in the management of Inflammatory Bowel Disease

Speaker: Guardiola Jordi, Spain

In this inflammatory bowel disease (IBD) webinar, the importance of faecal calprotectin as a biomarker for mucosal lesions was highlighted. The presentation focused on how to interpret faecal calprotectin values in different clinical scenarios to effectively manage IBD. Participants also learned about the current treatment paradigm for IBD, which is based on achieving "mucosal healing."



Biochemical biomarkers in Multiple Sclerosis

Speaker: Julia Maroto García, Spain

Presented by Dr. Maroto García this webinar explored the role of biochemical biomarkers in multiple sclerosis (MS). Participants gain a clear understanding of the clinical features and underlying pathology of MS. The session focused on identifying the most appropriate biomarkers for both diagnosing MS and monitoring disease progression during follow-up, providing valuable insights for improved patient management.



Implementation of NGS technology and National Population Genetic Mapping Project

Speaker: Michal Naftali, Israel

This webinar featured session focused on the implementation of Next-Generation Sequencing (NGS) technology and its application in the National Population Genetic Mapping Project. Attendees learned about the practical challenges and benefits of integrating NGS into clinical and research settings, as well as the impact of genetic mapping on personalized medicine and population health.



Harmonization of thyroid-stimulating hormone measurements - an historical overview and outlook for the future

Speaker: Katleen Van Uytendanghe, Belgium

This insightful webinar addressed the critical need for harmonization in TSH measurements. The session emphasized why standardizing TSH assays is essential for ensuring consistent and accurate clinical results across different laboratories and platforms.

UPCOMING EFLM EVENTS

New insights in preanalytical quality Take part in the 7th EFLM Conference on Preanalytical Phase 2025

by EFLM Office



Since its first meeting in Parma in 2011, six editions of the EFLM Conference on Preanalytical Phase have been organized gathering more than 2500 participants in presence along the years.

The 7th edition of the EFLM Conference on Preanalytical Phase is focused on the improvement of the preanalytical phase through innovation and sustainable solutions. The programme has been tailored by the scientific committee to update the knowledge in the field and to create an open forum for interactive discussion. In addition to formal lecturers, round tables and poster sessions will be organized. The guiding principle of this conference is to be different, pragmatic, practical and interactive, to address some most common preanalytical challenges, raise questions and offer answers and solutions.

Main topics of the scientific programme:

- Sustainability and preanalytical phase
- The role of digitalization and AI in improving preanalytical phase
- Alternatives to classical venous blood collection
- Various preanalytical challenges – past, present and today

Call for abstracts

We wish to give a special emphasis to the abstract submission of your scientific works. Participants have the opportunity to present a poster and deliver an oral presentation!
Deadline for abstract submission: **7 September 2025**

[Click here to know more](#)

8 EFLM bursaries are available to attend the conference in Padua!

Applicants must be EFLM Academy Members in order with the annual fee 2025 and from EFLM National Societies.

Number of available bursaries:

- n. 4 bursaries for Young Scientists $\leq 40y$
- n. 4 bursaries without age limit from selected EFLM National Societies, see "[Vic Blaton bursaries programme](#)" for details

What the bursary covers:

- the travel and accommodation up to max Eur 750
- the registration fee is waived by EFLM

How to apply:

- using the [specific application form](#) to be sent to eflm@eflm.eu within 5 October 2025

Applications must be accompanied by the following documentation:

- Copy of the ID or passport proving the age for Young Scientists' applications
- Notification of the poster acceptance
- Any document proving the membership to the EFLM National Society
- 2025 EFLM Academy Certificate (downloadable from the Academy personal area)



EFLM Strategic Conference 2026

Laboratory Medicine for Society

24 – 25 April 2026 Prague, Czech Republic

Vienna House by Wyndham Diplomat Prague

Forthcoming EFLM webinars

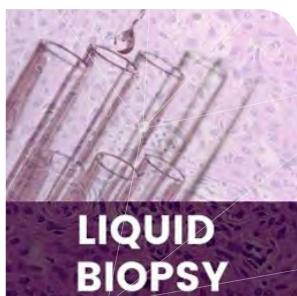
Reported by **Aleksei Tikhonov**, Member of Promotion and Publication Committee, SFBC member



How to ensure correct POCT results? – with focus on solutions

Date: 17th June 2025 at 18:00 CET time

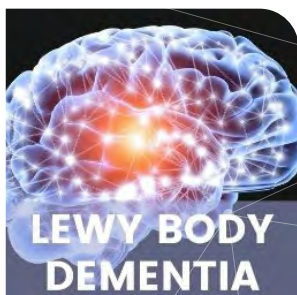
Speaker: Anne Stavelin (Norway)



Liquid biopsy - a new era for management of solid tumors

Date: 8th July 2025 at 18:00 CET time

Speaker: Marzia Del Re (Italy)



Dementia with Lewy body, a biological diagnosis is crucial

Date: 22nd July 2025 at 18:00 CET time

Speaker: Armand Perret-Liaudet (France)

NEWS FROM EFLM NATIONAL SOCIETIES

A Merger Two Decades in the Making: The Unification of Norwegian Societies for Medical Biochemistry

Reported by **Ingrid Hokstad**, Board member, Norwegian Society of Medical Biochemistry

In March 2025, during the Spring Meeting of the Norwegian Society for Medical Biochemistry (NSMB) in Lillehammer, a long-awaited merger was finally celebrated: NSMB and the Norwegian Association for Medical Biochemistry (NFMB) became one unified organization. The event was symbolically marked by a “wedding speech” and “vows” delivered by the respective board chairs—Morten Lindberg (NFMB) and Ingrid Hokstad (NSMB).

The road to unification has been anything but short. Already in 2002, a working group led by Kristian Bjerve was appointed to assess the potential for merging the two organizations. Their 2004 report concluded with a unanimous recommendation in favor of unification, citing the need to avoid duplication of efforts, pool resources, and facilitate interdisciplinary collaboration between physicians and non-physician laboratory specialists. However, concerns about governance, voting rights, and alignment with the Norwegian Medical Association (NMA) stalled the process. In 2006, the joint committee was formally dissolved.

Years later, collaboration between the two societies gradually increased, particularly in areas like national guideline development, postgraduate education, and scientific meetings. At the 2022 general assembly, NSMB was given a renewed mandate to explore closer cooperation with NFMB. In February 2023, the boards convened a joint meeting, resulting in a dedicated working group tasked with evaluating both intensified collaboration and the possibility of full merger.

The breakthrough came in autumn 2024, when the NSMB general assembly overwhelmingly approved the proposed merger. Shortly after, NFMB’s general assembly confirmed the decision, completing the formal unification process. The new organization retains the name Norwegian Society for Medical Biochemistry (NSMB) and is chaired by Morten Lindberg.

This merger marks a significant turning point for the field of medical biochemistry in Norway. It enables more coherent leadership, improved resource allocation, and a stronger voice both nationally and internationally. While the formal structure follows the requirements of the NMA—meaning only physicians who are members of the NMA can hold board positions—there remains a strong commitment to interdisciplinary inclusion. Non-physicians may join as associate members, and the new NSMB continues to prioritize multidisciplinary collaboration, which has long been a cornerstone of the profession in Norway.

With unified governance, the new NSMB is well positioned to promote the development of medical biochemistry as a medical specialty, advocate for the discipline within healthcare and academic settings, and ensure continued participation in European and global professional networks such as the EFLM and IFCC.

Two decades after the first steps toward unification were taken, the goal has finally been achieved—not as a compromise, but as a forward-looking, collective commitment to strengthen the profession.

Ingrid Hokstad and Morten Lindberg at
the Spring Meeting in March 2025.

(photographer: Øyvind Skadberg)





IFCC News

Dr Marilena Stamouli

Head of the Department of Biochemistry
Naval and Veterans Hospital Athens - Greece

E-mail: enews@ifcc.org

Dear colleagues,

Frequent communication helps us build relationships by sharing our experiences, ideas, work and achievements. As we welcome the new season, we are pleased to share exciting news from the Medical Laboratory community worldwide. The EuroMedLab Congress in Brussels was a huge success: it was expected to be one of the most impactful and most attended ones, with a rich and exciting scientific program, as well as with a very interesting exhibition from leading companies in the industry and it kept its promises. A great thank you to all who contributed to the creation of the scientific programme of the main congress and its satellite events, and of course to all who were involved in its organization. We will give a complete overview of the Congress and of the IFCC General Conference that was held ahead of the Congress in the lovely town of Bruges in the forthcoming issue. We invite you to read about the [Global Medlab Week 2025 winners](#), who created awareness of the significant contribution of Medical Laboratory Professionals in public health and patient care, with their outstanding work. Member societies from all over the world share with us information about their congresses and workshops, which confirm once again that Medical Laboratory Professionals are working on cutting edge subjects about technology, innovation, education and quality, artificial intelligence, emerging diseases, as well as scientific, clinical, managerial and organizational challenges. Interesting news from the [IFCC Task Forces on Laboratory Medicine Practice Guidelines](#), the [IFCC Emerging Technology Division's Vision for Transformative Laboratory Medicine](#), the [IFCC Committee on Clinical Applications of Cardiac Bio-Markers](#), as well as from the [IFCC Task Force-Young Scientists](#). This issue also includes information about an [exciting consensus paper](#), updating knowledge on the role of bone turnover markers in the diagnosis and management of osteoporosis. I would like to remind you that the [IFCC Executive Board call for nominations](#) for Executive Board Members is open until the end of June. IFCC Full Member Societies can consider appropriate candidates for the various positions on the EB.

Mark your calendar for the 2025 UNIVANTS of Healthcare Excellence Winners

On June 9th, the 2025 UNIVANTS of Healthcare Excellence award winner will be announced. To tune into the reveal and learn more about these prestigious winners, please visit

www.UnivantsHCE.com

Interested in becoming the next winner? Applications for the 2026 awards open Aug 1 through until Nov 15.

IFCC Distinguished Awards 2025 - Celebrating Excellence:

The IFCC is pleased to announce the names of the winners of the four IFCC Distinguished Awards 2025. The IFCC Distinguished Awards are bestowed to laboratory medicine professionals to recognize their outstanding achievements, publicize their exceptional research and contributions to medicine and healthcare, and encourage the overall advancement of clinical chemistry and laboratory medicine. Click below to read more about the 2025 IFCC Distinguished Award Recipients:

[Prof Sverre Sandberg](#) is the winner of the 2025 IFCC Henry Wishinsky Award for Distinguished International Services.

[Prof James Nichols](#) is the winner of the 2025 IFCC Award for Distinguished Contributions in Education.

[Prof Peter Kavsak](#) is the winner of the 2025 IFCC Distinguished Award for Contributions to Cardiovascular Diagnostics.

[Dr. Christopher Farnsworth](#) is the winner of the 2025 IFCC Young Investigator Award.

Calendar of EFLM events and events under EFLM auspices

Do not miss the opportunity to have your event listed here.

Apply for EFLM auspices!

For more information visit [here](#) or email eflm@eflm.eu



- **LabMedUk25**
Manchester (UK), 9-11 June 2025
- **EFLM Webinar**
How to ensure correct POCT results? – with focus on solutions
on-line, 17 June 2025
- **43rd Vicenza Course AKI - CRRT - EBPT and Critical Care Nephrology**
Vicenza (IT), 24-26 June 2025
- **FEBS 2025 Congress**
Istanbul (TR), 5-9 July 2025
- **EFLM Webinar**
Liquid biopsy - a new era for management of solid tumors
on-line, 9 July 2025
- **EFLM Webinar**
Dementia with Lewy body, a biological diagnosis is crucial
on-line, 22 July 2025
- **EFLM Webinar**
Risk and patient-based quality control in clinical laboratories
on-line, 5 August 2025
- **EFLM Webinar**
Anemia: old disease / new laboratory approaches
on-line, 18 September 2025
- **EFLM Webinar**
Leadership Strategies for Driving Data Analytics in Laboratory Management
on-line, 23 September 2025
- **EFLM Meet the Expert - Interpretation of Laboratory results**
Novel equations for estimating LDL-cholesterol from the standard lipid profile
on-line, 25 September 2025
- **Current issues of clinical laboratory diagnostics in Ukraine – 2025**
Kyiv (UA), 2 October 2025
- **EFLM Webinar**
Cardiovascular biomarkers in a Point-of-care Testing environment
on-line, 7 October 2025
- **EFLM Webinar**
Advanced molecular testing by Nuclear Magnetic Resonance for cardio-metabolic disease diagnostics
on-line, 21 October 2025
- **3rd congress of the Association of Medical Biochemists in Bosnia and Herzegovina with International Participation**
Banja Luka (BA), 23-26 October 2025
- **23rd National Congress of Clinical Chemistry**
Thessaloniki (GR), 30 October - 1 November
- **EFLM Webinar**
Reference Intervals Based on the Metabolic Activity of Analytes
on-line, 4 November 2025
- **8th ESPT Congress**
Rotterdam, 5-8 November 2025
- **47th Annual Conference of the Association of Clinical Biochemists in Ireland (ACBI)**
Athlone (IE), 14-15 November 2025

Calendar of EFLM events and events under EFLM auspices

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EFLM Webinar

Plasma pTau-217 as a New Diagnostic Tool for Alzheimer Disease Diagnosis
on-line, 18 November 2025



EFLM Meet the Expert - Interpretation of Laboratory results

Analysis and interpretation of laboratory testing of inherited thrombophilia
on-line, 20 November 2025



EFLM Webinar

Analysis of Circulating DNA and Clinical Utility in Cancer: A Perspective from the Clinical Laboratory
on-line, 2 December 2025



7th EFLM Conference on Preanalytical Phase

Laboratory Medicine for Society
Improving preanalytical phase through innovation and sustainable solutions
Padova, 12-13 December 2025



EFLM Strategic Conference 2026

Prague, 24-25 April 2026



EuroMedLab 2027

27th IFCC-EFLM EUROMEDLAB Congress of Clinical Chemistry and Laboratory Medicine
LABMEDUK27 of the Association for Laboratory Medicine
London, 16-20 May 2027