



## **The Association for Clinical Biochemistry**

The Association for Clinical Biochemistry represents Clinical Scientists and doctors working in pathology laboratories in the UK and abroad.

Our major concerns are:

- Providing effective investigations for diagnosis and monitoring of disease.
- The safety and health of patients.
- Maintaining the quality of our services.
- Ensuring the best value for money.

We would like to let you know more and to give you an opportunity to visit a Hospital Laboratory to see for yourself what we do through your local contact or our head office (below):



# Laboratory Results Affect 70% of the Decisions Made by Doctors

Clinical Biochemists, Immunologists, Microbiologists and other Clinical Scientists and Doctors are highly trained professionals, dedicated to ensuring the safe, rapid, and effective diagnosis and treatment of patients in the community as well as in hospitals. We believe the most important aspects of our work to be:

## Patient Safety and Health

We respond to requests from GPs and hospital doctors – and offer them specialist advice and guidance – but it is the patients for whom we work! We make sure that any samples are collected from patients without causing them harm and that the results of tests are accurate and consistent and promptly reported so that they receive accurate diagnoses and the appropriate treatment.

## The Quality of Our Services

Ensuring the rapid and effective diagnosis and treatment of patients demands a laboratory service of the highest quality. We regard it as a fundamental professional responsibility to monitor and maintain that quality and are continuously striving to define effective measures that not only help to maintain quality but also to demonstrate clearly how we can learn from one another.

## Ensuring Value for Money

A safe and high quality service must also be affordable. Our training and expertise help doctors to ensure that the right tests are performed at the right time and that unnecessary testing is avoided. Equally importantly we help to ensure that correct diagnoses lead to patients receiving appropriate treatment, avoiding unnecessary, possibly unpleasant, often costly, procedures.

**We have prepared this in collaboration with our patient representatives who share our aim to help you as a politician gain a good understanding of, and appreciation for, the services we deliver. In the future we hope you will help us to continue to provide a world leading Health Service in the UK. Please take note of the contact details overleaf and feel free to contact us for further information on how we can and do contribute to the wellbeing of the nation!**