

ACBNews

The Association for Clinical Biochemistry & Laboratory Medicine | Issue 658 | April 2019



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Front cover: Clare Ford (right) receives a UNIVANTS of Healthcare Excellence Award from Tricia Ravalico, Director of Scientific Leadership for Abbott Diagnostics

ACB News

The bi-monthly magazine for clinical science

Issue 658 • April 2019

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The Association for
**Clinical Biochemistry &
Laboratory Medicine**

Better Science, Better Testing, Better Care

ACB Scientific Scholarship Applications

Applications open on 6th May 2019 and close on 4th August 2019 to enable forwarding to peer reviewers. Early submission is encouraged.

Applications will be considered from 16th September 2019 by the members of the ACB Scientific Committee.

All applicants will be notified of the outcome via email by the end of October 2019.

Please note: for the first time this year funding is available for travel that will support the completion of your project from the CP Stewart Memorial Fund.

If you wish to apply for the CP Stewart funding outside of the Scientific Scholarships please contact: deputydirector.scientificaffairs@acb.org.uk

OpenPathology is go . . .

Please note the posting on the ACB Mailbase from Tanya Hart: The new Open Pathology project may be of interest, especially to those with expertise in data analysis <https://ebmdatalab.net/funding-obtained-for-openpathology-pilot-project>

Sudoku

This month's puzzle

			S					
				H			E	
			C	E				M
R		C			M			
	M	I				S		
			H			M		Y
				I	R		Y	E
	T					R		C
		R			H	I	M	

Solution for February

C	Y	T	S	I	E	R	H	M
H	S	R	T	Y	M	E	C	I
E	M	I	C	R	H	S	Y	T
M	T	E	Y	H	C	I	S	R
I	R	C	E	T	S	Y	M	H
S	H	Y	R	M	I	C	T	E
T	C	S	M	E	R	H	I	Y
R	I	M	H	C	Y	T	E	S
Y	E	H	I	S	T	M	R	C

Annual General Meetings

Friday 3rd May 2019



This year's Annual General Meetings will take place in the Boisdale 2 room of the SEC, Glasgow.



The Federation of Clinical Scientists' Annual General Meeting will commence at 13.00 and the Association for Clinical Biochemistry and Laboratory Medicine Annual General Meeting will commence at 13.20.

New name ... same service!

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ACB Management & Leadership Course 2019

29th July – 2nd August 2019

Christ Church University, Canterbury

This course is aimed at Specialist Registrars/ Post-registration Clinical Biochemists, Immunologists and Microbiologists, and Consultants. The week will build on the well-established and acclaimed ACB Management Courses, the last one being held in 2017.

- ◆ Designed for those preparing for FRCPath and senior laboratory management.
- ◆ Utilising lectures, workshops, discussions, group projects, debates and presentations.
- ◆ Led by senior members of the profession, NHS managers and the diagnostic industry.

The course has evolved to include recent changes within healthcare provision in the

UK and will look at the NHS, its changing structure, its finance and staff groups. It will provide sessions on the psychology of organisation structures, managing budgets and demand, laboratory organisation, training, employment legislation, ethics, appraisal and people management. Sessions on clinical leadership, procurement and change management will also be included.

The programme, registration and payment details can be found here: http://www.acb.org.uk/whatwedo/events/management_courses.aspx

For ACB Members the course cost, inclusive of accommodation and meals, is £695. The price for non-Members is £850. ■

ACB Retired Members' Meeting

Registration is now open for those wishing to attend the next ACB Meeting for Retired Members on Monday 13th May 2019 at the ACB Office, Tooley Street, London.

12.00-13.15	Registration, networking and sandwich lunch
13.15	Welcome
13.20-14.05	Outcomes-based laboratory medicine <i>Mr Mike Hallworth, Shrewsbury</i>
14.05-14.50	Big data and machine learning in medicine <i>Dr Dennis Wright, London</i>
15.00	Tea and close

For full details on how to register online, or to print out and complete a registration form and send to the ACB office, please visit: http://www.acb.org.uk/whatwedo/events/national_meetings.aspx

Payment of £10 per person can also be made by debit/credit card, cheque or cash on the day but should you wish to attend pre-registration is required for room and catering purposes. Online registration will close on Thursday 9th May 2019. We hope to see you there in May!

Ruth Lapworth MBE ■

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Biologic Drug Therapy

Biologic therapies used in the treatment of patients, with cancers and inflammatory conditions, have rapidly expanded in recent years, revolutionising patient management. The cost to the NHS is currently over 1 billion pounds per year and although extremely effective in the majority of patients, some will lose response due to development of Anti-Drug Antibodies. Therapeutic drug monitoring to identify these individuals is essential to avoid both adverse side effects and the significant expense of prescribing high cost, ineffective treatment.

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We are a national referral service currently providing Adalimumab and Infliximab testing for more than 150 hospitals across the whole of the UK and Ireland, performing greater than 17,000 tests per year.

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Golimumab free anti-drug-antibody	4 weeks	£29.50
Vedolizumab drug	4 weeks	Please contact laboratory for price
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Those were the days! – 36 year reunion of MRC staff

I recently received an e-mail from Dr Fred Mitchell who, at 97, is probably our eldest Founding Member. I found this correspondence fascinating and I would like to share it with our readers:

Dear Mr Hanning,
Over breakfast I have just been musing that the ACB News might be interested in a reunion organised by my old staff 36 years after we closed the MRC Division of Clinical Chemistry at the Clinical Research Centre in 1982. It was such a long time ago and there were so many of us there (25) it really was quite a remarkable lovely event last year at the Hallmark Hotel, Derby. Many of our present ACB Members will remember, or know, quite a few of the faces there. Our activities and even our existence may have faded into the past so

a little background information is as follows.

Why is all this relevant to the ACB? I am reluctant to add the following because there is an element of trumpet blowing which I don't usually indulge in, but it is relevant.

The MRC formed the Clinical Research Centre and Division at the newly built Northwick Park Hospital (850 beds) in 1968 because Clinical Chemistry was in a crisis – work overload, computers in their infancy, automation very crude and quality control just about heard of. The MRC wisely



From left to right: Alex Lawson (mass spectrometry); Ken Setchell (now professor, USA); Adel Ismail, Fred's son-in-law Jonathan; Ali Lawson, Fred's daughter Anne; Sarah Clark; Bobbie Ward (now professor, Belgium); John Pickup; Janet Setchell (Divisional secretary); Cedric Shackleton (now professor, USA); Fred Mitchell; Pat Stoll; Mark Stoll; Howard Worth; Norman Taylor; Christi Worth; Ruth Bartlett; Bill Bartlett; and Stan Brown. Cedric Shackleton, Ken Setchell and Bobbie Ward are still active in research and hold professorial chairs overseas*

**Sadly, Alex Lawson died a few months after the reunion. He had just retired from running a mass spectrometer service for the MRC as a whole.*

thought it a good idea to put considerable funds to help sort it out in their new CRC. We closed in 1982 when the crisis was pretty well over. We had a staff for research and service for the hospital of around 80, divided into 5 subdivisions: hospital service, instrument and computer research and development, mass spectrometry, radioimmunoassay and steroid study and assay.

During the 14 years of the Division's life I was President and Chairman of the ACB, Secretary and Chairman of the then Professional Committee, for 5 years Chairman of the IFCC Expert Panel for Instrumentation and Chairman of the European Committee for Clinical Laboratory Standards. Stan Brown (Deputy Head) was ACB General Secretary and Mike Rinsler (Head of Service) was Registrar of the RCPATH. I was the first

non-medical member of the RCPATH Council. We held, on two occasions, week-long Advanced Courses in Clinical Chemistry for European heads of departments, at their request. With wives etc some 100 attended.

Yours sincerely, Fred Mitchell ■

- ◆ One of the attendees at the reunion was Dr Adel Ismail, a Retired Member (formerly Consultant Clinical Biochemist at Wakefield), who commented:
'I wish to add that Fred was one of the founding members of a clinical biochemists organisation which metamorphosed as ACB. Needless to say that Fred helped numerous Clinical Biochemists developing their careers and skills and I am proud to be one of them.' ■

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Team Wolves scoop Healthcare Excellence Award!

Mike Hallworth, Shrewsbury

A multi-disciplinary team from the Royal Wolverhampton NHS Trust led by Consultant Clinical Biochemist Clare Ford has won one of the first UNIVANTS of Healthcare Excellence awards for achieving measurably better healthcare performance.

The UNIVANTS of Healthcare Excellence programme is sponsored by Abbott Diagnostics and brings together a range of leading global healthcare organizations to recognise healthcare teams that have integrated across disciplines to lead best practices in the care delivery process and demonstrate measurably better patient outcomes as a result.

The UNIVANTS programme is intended to highlight best practices, inspire unity

and to encourage novel, avant-garde ways of thinking (the name UNIVANTS derives from 'unity' and 'avant-garde'). Abbott has partnered with the IFCC, AACC, the European Health Management Association (EHMA), Modern Healthcare magazine, the Healthcare Information and Management Systems Society (HIMSS), the US National Association for Healthcare Quality (NAHQ) and the Institute of Healthcare Economics to recognise and support healthcare teams that work together and break down silos for the sake of patient care. Tricia Ravalico, Abbott's Director of Scientific Leadership, said "Laboratory medicine can play a key role in improving patient flow throughout health systems, uncovering new insights



The Wolverhampton team with their awards. From left to right: Clare Ford, Kate Willmer, Simon Whitehead and Andy Morgan

and/or changing clinical care pathways. Regardless of discipline, if all stakeholders aren't at the table, information can be missed. Opportunities to work together are not only empowering but beneficial across the care continuum".

The Wolverhampton team consisted of Head of Clinical Chemistry Clare Ford, Consultant Acute Physician Kate Willmer, Principal Clinical Scientist Simon Whitehead and ED Consultant Andy Morgan. Together, they initiated a novel integrated clinical care project to optimize pathways for patients with Acute Coronary Syndrome (ACS). Identification of low risk patients using clinical assessment and high sensitivity troponin I (hs-cTnI) measurements reduced the number of patients admitted unnecessarily and ensured patient safety.

Safe rule-out of acute myocardial infarction (AMI) was based on low clinical risk and low levels of hs-cTnI on presentation. Rule-in of AMI was based on higher clinical risk assessment, elevated troponin values and serial troponin estimations on specimens collected on arrival and three hours later. Implementation of this strategy reduced the hospital admission rate from 60.9% to 38.4% and the mean length of stay from 23 hours to 9.6 hours. Crucially, the strategy was confirmed to be safe for patients by measuring the major adverse cardiac event rate (MACE) for patients who were discharged early at 30 days and nine months after presentation. The

negative predictive value for MACE was 99.6% at 30 days and 98.4% at 9 months.¹ Consultant Physician Kate Willmer said "Implementation of our novel ACS pathway has improved our confidence in safely discharging low risk patients while admitting high risk patients". The estimated annual cost saving for the Trust was approximately £788,000.

The Royal Wolverhampton team won one of four inaugural honorary UNIVANTS awards to mark the inception of the UNIVANTS programme. Other awards were won by teams in Tübingen, Germany; Christchurch, New Zealand and Chicago, USA. Clare Ford commented "We are proud to be amongst the inaugural, honorary winners of the UNIVANTS of Healthcare Excellence award. We believe that increased laboratory involvement in care pathways has considerable potential to benefit patient outcome and we look forward to being inspired by future winning collaborations".

The 2020 UNIVANTS of Healthcare Excellence awards will be accepting applications on 1st August 2019 – so get busy!

More details of the honorary awards and the UNIVANTS programme can be found at UnivantsHCE.com

1. Ford C. Benefits of high sensitivity cardiac troponin I at admission. Medical Lab Management (CLMA) 2017; 6(6); 20-24 <https://www.medlabmag.com/article/1394> ■

Re: MetBioNet article (December issue)

We are delighted to attach a letter from Professor Anne Green, former Head of Metabolic Biochemistry at Birmingham Children's Hospital, to Helena Kemp, Chair MetBioNet.

Dear Helena,

I just wanted to say I was delighted to see and read the article in the ACB News last December about MetBioNet.

It was so good to read not only how the Network has been maintained but how it has developed as a forum for specialist laboratories and clearly is a most useful resource both nationally and internationally. Congratulations to you all.

I was especially heartened to read that all the Higher Specialist Trainees had obtained their FRCPATH and were all working in Clinical Biochemistry and mostly in specialist laboratories.

I still vividly remember arguing the case for the funding for these trainees at a meeting at the Department of Health.

There was considerable opposition from some quarters about the need for these posts – let alone why so many!

I remember my feeling of delight when the argument was won and all posts were funded. It is a credit to all the laboratories who provided the training that all this was achieved and the future for metabolic biochemistry services secured.

At a time when there is so much negativity about aspects of the NHS – it is heartening to read of the success of MetBioNet. A lesson in true collaboration and networking. An example for other services. Long may it continue.

Very best wishes,

Professor Anne Green



EuroMedLab 2019

19th-23rd May

Barcelona International Convention Centre

EuroMedLab, the IFCC-EFLM European Conference for Clinical Chemistry and Laboratory Medicine sees the 23rd edition of this major conference, this time to be held in Barcelona, Spain from the 19th-23rd May.

EuroMedLab is the most important European event in laboratory medicine and is a unique opportunity to exchange academic knowledge and visit one of Europe's largest commercial exhibitions of *in vitro* diagnostic products.

Professor Eric Kilpatrick is Scientific Programme Chairman so an exciting programme is assured. For further information please visit:

www.euromedlab2019barcelona.org/2019/home

Officers of the Association Council

2018-2019

Meeting three times a year, the ACB Council serves as the governing body and is responsible for managing all the affairs of the Association. Further details about the ACB can be found in the Annual Reports.

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If you would like to contact anyone on the Committee you can do so here:

<http://www.acb.org.uk/contact-the-acb>

Please enter the Committee and position of the person you wish to contact in the 'For attention of' field. ■

The Diggle Microbiology Challenge

These multiple-choice questions, set by Dr Mathew Diggle, are designed with Trainees in mind and will help with preparation for the Microbiology Part 1 FRCPATH exam.

Question 12 from February's ACB News

Which disease is associated with faecal monocytosis?

- A) Infantile gastroenteritis due to *E. coli* 0119 B) *Salmonella typhimurium* gastroenteritis
C) Shigellosis D) Typhoid fever
E) Staphylococcal enterocolitis

Answer

D) Typhoid fever is typically characterised by a predominantly mononuclear infiltrate as the Vi antigen downregulates the TLR-mediated host response that normally leads to neutrophil invasion. A polymorphonuclear leucocytosis is typically observed in *E. coli*, *Salmonella*, *Shigella* gastroenteritis.

Question 13

Clavulanic acid:

- A) Inhibits *B lactamase*
B) Is synergistic with bacitracin
C) Can be combined with ampicillin in treatment
D) Acts at the ribosome level
E) Extends the spectrum of action of some penicillins

The answer to Question 13 will appear in the next issue of ACB News – enjoy! ■

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Deacon's Challenge Revisited

No 1 - Answer

a) Calculate the hydrogen ion concentration of blood with a pH of 7.12.

$$\text{pH} = \log_{10} \frac{1}{[\text{H}^+]}$$

where $[\text{H}^+]$ = hydrogen ion concentration in mol/L

Substitute pH = 7.12 and solve for $[\text{H}^+]$:

$$7.12 = \log_{10} \frac{1}{[\text{H}^+]}$$

$$\text{antilog } 7.12 = \frac{1}{[\text{H}^+]}$$

$$[\text{H}^+] = \frac{1}{\text{antilog } 7.12} = \frac{1}{1.318 \times 10^7} = 7.6 \times 10^{-8} \text{ mol/L}$$

To convert to the more familiar nmol/L multiply by 10^9 to give 76 nmol/L.

b) Treatment with bicarbonate halves the hydrogen ion concentration, what is the new pH?

$$\text{New } [\text{H}^+] = 76/2 = 38 \text{ nmol/L} = 3.8 \times 10^{-8} \text{ mol/L}$$

$$\text{New pH} = \log_{10} \frac{1}{[\text{H}^+]} = \log_{10} \frac{1}{3.8 \times 10^{-8}} = \log_{10} 2.63 \times 10^7 = 7.42$$

Exam tip: Fully familiarize yourself with your calculator beforehand. It is not much fun trying to find out how to do antilogs in the exam!

Question 2

During the course of treatment of a patient with diabetic ketoacidosis, 6 litres of physiological saline (0.9%) and 3 litres of dextrose (5%) were infused before the patient's urine output became equal to the rate of infusion. By this time the cumulative urinary output since starting treatment was 2.0 litres of fluid containing 70 mmol sodium. The patient had been catheterized on admission and the residual urine discarded. **Estimate the extracellular fluid deficit at the time treatment was begun, indicating any assumptions that you make.**

MRCPath Nov 1999 – modified

Prepare for a great visit to Glasgow!

Kevin Deans NHS Grampian

Final preparations are now being made for Focus 2019, when Glasgow becomes, for the first three days in May, the place to be if you work in Laboratory Medicine. You can find your own printed copy of the Scientific Programme in this edition of ACB News. Led by Scientific Chair, Bernie Croal, our Scientific Committee has worked hard to put together a programme which we believe will be of interest and relevance to all who work in Laboratory Medicine. As you hopefully know by now, we'll have a "Focus on Service and Science." The "Focus on Service" stream will cover topical areas including external quality assessment and accreditation. Nigel Coles, a Fellow of the Institute of Biomedical Science and a

Chartered Scientist, currently employed at Birmingham Women's & Children's NHS Foundation Trust as the Quality Manager and Clinical Governance lead for the West Midlands Regional Genetics Service, will examine to what extent accreditation adds value to medical laboratories, to clinical services and ultimately the patient experience.

Meanwhile, the parallel "Focus on Science" stream will address topical issues such as novel psychoactive substances and in what circumstances acidification of urine is required. The question of how best to adjust serum calcium in relation to albumin will be addressed by Emma Ritchie, a Principal Clinical Scientist based



at Aberdeen Royal Infirmary and an Honorary Lecturer at the University of Aberdeen. Currently, most laboratories use a single adjustment equation regardless of patient age or gender. Pathology Harmony has recommended using adjustment equations normalised to a mean calcium concentration of 2.4 mmol/L, with a reference interval of 2.2 to 2.6 mmol/L. The session will examine approaches to calcium adjustment, using big data to generate age- and gender- appropriate calcium adjustment equations. The presentation will discuss the implications of these data for Clinical Biochemistry laboratories.

There are many other highlights in the Scientific Programme, including Focus favourites such as the ACB Medal Award and Clinical Cases, and you can find all the details online at www.acb.org.uk/focus

While you're in Glasgow, there will also be the opportunity to relax and mix with

colleagues. On the Wednesday evening, the Welcome Evening will be held in the Rotunda, a popular venue by the River Clyde. Whether you're a trainee relaxing after an enthralling Training Day, or a delegate arriving ready for the start of the Scientific Programme the following morning, come and join us for an enjoyable evening where you can mix with colleagues from across the country. You can also try your hand at this year's Focus Quiz, which is sure to be a big hit!

On the Thursday evening, we're looking forward to the conference dinner at the Tall Ship, one of only five Clyde-built ships still afloat in the world. Moored on the River Clyde, the Tall Ship promises to be a unique venue for a memorable and enjoyable conference dinner.

So hopefully by now we've persuaded you that Glasgow is the place to be from 1st to 3rd May! We're looking forward to welcoming you. ■

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- ⇒ adalimumab (e.g. Humira®)
- ⇒ golimumab (e.g. Simponi®)
- ⇒ vedolizumab (e.g. Entyvio®)
- ⇒ ustekinumab (e.g. Stelara®)

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- ⇒ adalimumab (e.g. Humira®)
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Focus 2019 Training Day

Katie Hadfield, Airedale NHS Foundation Trust

The Focus Training Day is organised annually by the ACB Education Committee and is one of the key training and education opportunities offered by the ACB

The day is aimed at both medical and healthcare scientist members of the profession who are preparing for FRCPath exams or those within the STP programme who would like to broaden their knowledge outside of the MSc lectures. Teaching is delivered in interactive, hands-on sessions (a mixture of lectures and workshops) which aim to cover topics not well taught in the textbooks. Delegates are provided with practical advice and experience which can be

incorporated into the individual's routine laboratory practice as well as aid with exam preparation. The day also offers a great opportunity for trainees from across the country and in different specialities to meet each other, swap training anecdotes and form networks with colleagues that they otherwise might not have the chance to get to know.

This year's Focus Training Day has been organised in collaboration with Sense About Science and the Immunology Professional Committee. We are really excited to share the programme with you and hope to see lots of you there in May.

The morning session, entitled 'Making sense of science and evidence' is being delivered by Sense About Science, an independent campaigning charity that challenges the misrepresentation of science and evidence in public life. This includes the provision of workshops on representation of science in the media and



peer review to scientists in the early stages of their career. The workshop will be led by Dr Hamid Khan, who leads the Voice of Young Science (VoYS) programme in the UK, a unique and growing network of over 3,000 early-career researchers who are committed to playing an active role in public discussions about science.

Dr Khan will share some of the organisation's inspiring experiences of working with scientists to challenge misrepresentation of healthcare and medicine in the media and the public consciousness. The workshop element of the session will allow participants to gain practical insight into how to engage effectively with the public and non-scientific healthcare professionals. Delegates will reflect, through small group discussions, on how to effectively communicate complex or sensitive scientific information related to the medical care received by a patient. This will include, for example, explaining uncertainty associated with a measurement or the clinical utility of a diagnostic test. Delegates will leave this

session with new tools and skills to approach these sorts of discussions and greater confidence in the effectiveness of their communication with patients, clinical users and the public.

The afternoon 'Help! Do I need a Biochemist or an Immunologist?' will be dedicated to topics which intersect the laboratory boundaries between Clinical Biochemistry and Immunology. The focus will be on tests which may be undertaken by either discipline or where input from both specialties is required in order to make a diagnosis or monitor patients appropriately. Teaching will be delivered in a more traditional lecture format and will include sessions covering: the diagnosis of autoimmune disease, immunoglobulins and the differential diagnosis of type 1 diabetes. This session is aimed at trainees in both Biochemistry and Immunology specialities who should come away with a better understanding of the work being undertaken over the laboratory wall.

The full programme and registration details can be found at:

<http://acb.org.uk/focus/trainingday> ■

Programme

The Training Day will be held on the 1st floor of the Meeting Academy.

1000-1300 **Morning Session**

Organised by Sense About Science

Making sense of science and evidence

1300-1400 Lunch

1400-1700 **Afternoon Session**

Organised by the ACB Education Committee in partnership with the Immunology Professional Committee

Help! Do I need a Biochemist or an Immunologist?

1400-1500 **The role of the laboratory in the diagnosis of autoimmune liver disease**

Dr Adrian Heaps

1500-1600 **Immunoglobulins: why we test them and how to interpret them**

Dr Elizabeth Bateman and Dr Ross Sadler

1600-1700 **The differential diagnosis of type 1 diabetes: auto-antibodies and beyond**

Professor Ewan Pearson

Focus Programme

ACB News welcomes speakers, delegates and exhibitors to Focus 2019

Thursday 2nd May

0845-0900	Opening Ceremony	<i>Alsh</i>
0900-0945	ACB-AACC Transatlantic Lecture Immunoassay interferences and their impact on patient care <i>Dr Carmen Wiley, President, AACC</i>	<i>Alsh</i>
0945-1045	Break & Industry Sponsored Workshops	
0955-1035	Company tbc Title tbc <i>Speakers tbc</i>	<i>Boisdale 1</i>
0955-1035	Company tbc Title tbc <i>Speakers tbc</i>	<i>Boisdale 2</i>
1045-1215	Parallel Sessions Challenging Service <i>Chair: Dr Bernie Croal</i>	<i>Carron</i>
1045-1115	What's wrong with accreditation? <i>Nigel Coles, Birmingham Women's and Children's NHS Foundation Trust</i>	
1115-1145	What's wrong with External Quality Assessment? <i>Dr David James, Taunton and Somerset NHS Foundation Trust</i>	
1145-1215	Discussion and Q&A <i>Chaired by Dr Bernie Croal, Chair, Focus 2019 Scientific Programme</i>	
	Challenging Science <i>Chair: Dr Ian Godber</i>	<i>Alsh</i>
1045-1115	Adjusted serum calcium <i>Dr Emma Ritchie, NHS Grampian</i>	
1115-1145	Urine acidification: a preanalytical requisite or requiescat in pace? <i>Dr Ravinder Sodhi, University Hospitals of Morecambe Bay NHS Foundation Trust</i>	
1145-1215	Novel psychoactive agents <i>Dr Duncan Stephen, NHS Grampian</i>	
1215-1415	Exhibition, Posters & Lunch	
1320-1400	Industry Sponsored Workshops Immundiagnostik AG Optimising patient management in IBD: PANTS study outcomes and new perspectives for therapeutic drug monitoring <i>Tariq Ahmad & Mandy Perry, Royal Devon and Exeter NHS Foundation Trust</i> Chromsystems Instruments & Chemicals GmbH Title tbc <i>Speakers tbc</i>	<i>Boisdale 1</i> <i>Boisdale 2</i>

- 1415-1600 **Parallel Sessions**
Demand Optimisation *Carron*
Chair: Dr Bernie Croal
- 1415-1500 Getting it right first time
Dr Martin Myers, GIRFT Pathology Team
- 1500-1545 Scottish Demand Optimisation Programme
Dr Bernie Croal, NHS Grampian and Ms Claire Lawrie, NHS National Services Scotland
- 1415-1600 **ACB Medal Awards** *Alsh*
Chair: Prof Ian Young, ACB President
 Can neuron specific enolase levels predict death in ITU patients post out-of-hospital cardiac arrest?
Dr Frances Palmer, University Hospitals Bristol NHS Foundation Trust
 Severe hypoglycaemia due to insulin autoimmune syndrome: diagnostic difficulty due to anti-insulin IgA
Dr David Church, Cambridge University Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust
 Quantification of testosterone, androstenedione and 17-hydroxyprogesterone collected using Mitra Micro sampling devices
David Marshall, Manchester University Foundation Trust
 Development of a novel laboratory costings model and visual management dashboard
Sarah Curtis, Liverpool Clinical Laboratories
 Impact of Peninsula-wide roll-out of faecal immunochemical testing in colorectal cancer in primary care
Dr Angie Cooper, The Royal Devon & Exeter NHS Foundation Trust
- 1615-1700 **ACB Foundation Lecture** *Alsh*
 Harmonisation and standardisation in proteins and immunology
Dr Joanna Sheldon, St George's University Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust

Friday 3rd May

- 0900-0945 **RCPATH Flynn Lecture** *Alsh*
 Lies, damned lies and statistics in research – improving efficiency in research and reducing the impact of misconduct – examples from vitamin D research
Prof Alison Avenell, University of Aberdeen
- 0945-1045 **Break & Industry Sponsored Workshops**
- 0955-1035 Company tbc *Boisdale 1*
 Title tbc
 Speakers tbc
- 0955-1035 Company tbc *Boisdale 2*
 Title tbc
 Speakers tbc

1045-1245	Parallel Sessions	
	Laboratory Informatics	<i>Carron</i>
	<i>Chair: Dr Lance Sandle</i>	
1045-1115	Future pathology information standards: an NHS digital perspective	
	<i>Mr Jay Kola, NHS Digital</i>	
1115-1145	Pathology IT developments in Wales	
	<i>Dr Jonathan Kell, Cardiff and Vale University Health Board</i>	
1145-1215	Pathology IT developments in Scotland	
	<i>Mrs Charlotte Syme, NHS Greater Glasgow and Clyde</i>	
1215-1245	Results to patients	
	<i>Mr Stuart Jones, Barking, Havering and Redbridge University Hospitals NHS Trust</i>	
	Clinical Nutrition and Lipids	<i>Alsh</i>
	<i>Chair: Dr Kevin Deans</i>	
1045-1125	Management of obesity	
	<i>Dr Jennifer Logue, University of Glasgow</i>	
1125-1205	What's new in lipid lowering	
	<i>Dr Kevin Deans, NHS Grampian</i>	
1205-1245	Parenteral nutrition update	
	<i>Dr Ruth McKee, NHS Greater Glasgow & Clyde</i>	
1245-1445	Exhibition, Posters & Lunch	
1300-1400	Annual General Meetings	
1300-1320	Federation of Clinical Scientists	<i>Boisdale 2</i>
1320-1400	Association for Clinical Biochemistry & Laboratory Medicine	<i>Boisdale 2</i>
1445-1615	Parallel Sessions	
	Lab re-configuration	<i>Carron</i>
	<i>Chair: Mr Jim Allison</i>	
1445-1530	Pathology consolidation: the state of the nation	
	<i>Mr David Wells, NHS Improvement</i>	
1530-1615	NHSScotland's National Laboratories Programme: towards a distributed service model	
	<i>Dr Bill Bartlett, NHS National Services Scotland</i>	
	Clinical Cases	<i>Alsh</i>
	<i>Chair: Dr Danielle Freedman</i>	
1615-1630	Closing Ceremony	<i>Alsh</i>

Industry Insights: Quarter of the way through the year!

Doris-Ann Williams, Chief Executive, BIVDA

While Christmas feels like months ago, paradoxically it feels like 2019 has hardly started but here we are through the first quarter of the year already. Much activity at BIVDA has been overshadowed by Brexit and specifically preparations for leaving the EU without a deal (at the time of writing we were waiting to hear the outcome of Parliament's indicative voting). For BIVDA, this has been largely related to logistical planning to ensure a continuity of IVD products, reagents and spare parts but also how we can meet regulatory conformity moving forward. We've also been much focussed on making sure that Government understands the issues for the IVD sector around products with short shelf life or requiring special shipping conditions as well as focus on supplying

timely information to members. Government has been very supportive and pragmatic with the MHRA being particularly organised and keeping things as straightforward as they can be. But Brexit does feel like a heavy cloud lingering over us and I hope the downpour we expect economically and socially is less torrential than anticipated.

On the brighter side, we have had our first general meeting for Members in March with the AGM and have a new Chairman in Darren Stenlake, Director of Technical Service at Sysmex UK Ltd. Darren is from South Africa originally but trained in the NHS as an MLSO before going back to South Africa in 1989. He returned to the UK in 2001 after working in the IVD industry in a variety of roles.

From left to right: Jag Grewal (Treasurer), the new Chairman Darren Stenlake and Doris-Ann Williams





Outgoing Chairman, Simon Richards, reporting on activities at the BIVDA AGM

Darren has been an enthusiastic member of our Board and is very much a participant in any committees he engages in, so we think BIVDA will be in good hands for the next three years!

I also recently attended the launch event for a new initiative, the Manchester University NHS Foundation Trust (MFT) Diagnostics and Technology Accelerator or DiTA, which has been created to catalyse evidence generation for commercial IVDs and medtech through delivering support to industry. The origins for this were from an unsuccessful bid from Manchester to have an NIHR Medtech and IVD Co-operative (MIC). The partners were so invested in their plan they have decided to go ahead anyway and have created a fifth centre to support laboratory and point of care diagnostics alongside the existing four NIHR MICs in Leeds, London, Oxford and Newcastle. Early in April I will be speaking at the second Diagnostics North East Conference, another excellent initiative bringing the various local strengths for diagnostics in the NE together. So the landscape to support the creation of better innovation to answer clinical needs is being developed to give clear direction for IVDs.

The global challenge of Antimicrobial Resistance remains, and while the Chief Medical Officer, Professor Dame Sally Davies, will be stepping back from her role in September after 8 years, Dame Sally will continue to be a significant voice for the UK in global plans and actions. BIVDA feels we have benefitted enormously from having a CMO who understands diagnostics as well as Dame Sally who has helped push laboratory science on the health agenda, not just with AMR and all her work creating NIHR, but also with her support for genomics. Speaking of which, we are really delighted to welcome Angela Douglas MBE as the new Deputy Chief Scientific Officer at NHS England.

So many other activities ongoing here to mention but hopefully I will be able to bring more news over the year as things unfold. Sadly this year I won't be able to attend the ACB Focus meeting in Glasgow, for which I am very sad having missed very few since 1991. I am sure it will be a very successful conference and send my best wishes to the 2019 organising committee. ■

ACB News Crossword

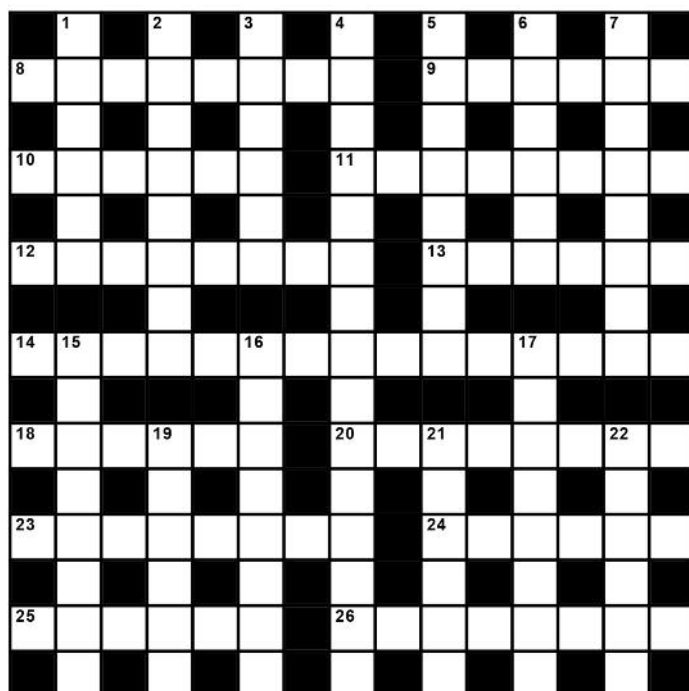
Set by Rugosa

Across

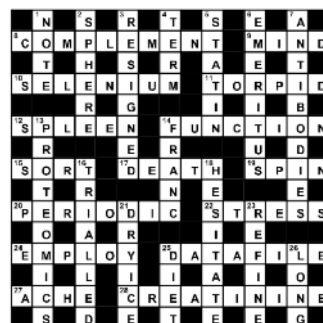
- 8 Molecular combination or muscle pulling towards the mid-line? (8)
- 9 Midday, after a very small volume, give the least amounts possible (6)
- 10 After hard work, Lawrence returns for washing and changing (6)
- 11 Answer is to avoid cant during difficult consultation (8)
- 12 It's a deficiency condition? Every other sign is, to a man, viral! (8)
- 13 Introduce an idea that describes how to use eye drops (6)
- 14 Angry emotional article about body topology (8,7)
- 18 Smooth well-organised delegation dine out (6)
- 20 Stricture about street noises (8)
- 23 Rate can't involve chemical on left of equation (8)
- 24 Particle set right on top (6)
- 25 Caress or hit? (6)
- 26 Sides reorganised after hockey second team becomes rusty (8)

Down

- 1 Take part after promotion for neighbour (6)
- 2 Messenger translators once ill turn inaccurate (8)
- 3 Get out of attesting new drug (6)
- 4 Sir lost analytic process for a physicochemical purification (15)
- 5 Paint: not oil-based, not water-based, a mixture (8)
- 6 Joins iTunes organisation (6)
- 7 Radical new savoury taste with French name (8)
- 15 Men in steel work with such components (8)
- 16 New arrivals on Senate assembly (8)
- 17 Muscle protein end product released from badly torn point (8)
- 19 Secure North American broadcast coordinator (6)
- 21 Spirit of unorthodox priest (6)
- 22 Repair semi or similar structure (6)



Solution for February Crossword





Laboratoire national de santé
is recruiting an
EXPERIENCED BIOLOGIST

**(Medical or Pharmacist Biologist) (m/f),
specialized in biochemistry, hormonology and toxicology**

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The Department of Medical Biology offers a wide range of analyses in the following areas:

- ◆ Biochemistry/Specialized Hormonology
- ◆ Neonatal screening and metabolic diseases
- ◆ Medical Toxicology
- ◆ Prenatal screening
- ◆ Centralized sample reception
- ◆ The LNS is now looking for a biologist who will manage day-to-day activities of the lab, increase the scope of activities, develop laboratory capacity and dynamically involve our multidisciplinary team in national monitoring networks and research projects and who will support the Head of Department

Desired profile:

- ◆ You are a doctor or pharmacist biologist (m/f) specialized in biochemistry, hormonology and toxicology
- ◆ You have a general education in clinical biology, but you have an affinity for biochemistry and/or toxicology, as well as in quality assurance
- ◆ Experience in mass spectrometry and separative technics is an asset

We offer:

- ◆ Successful candidates will be offered a highly competitive salary, depending on qualification and experience, plus an annual premium
- ◆ An international and multidisciplinary environment
- ◆ Continuous training possibilities

If you wish to apply, please send your application via our website: <https://lns.lu>

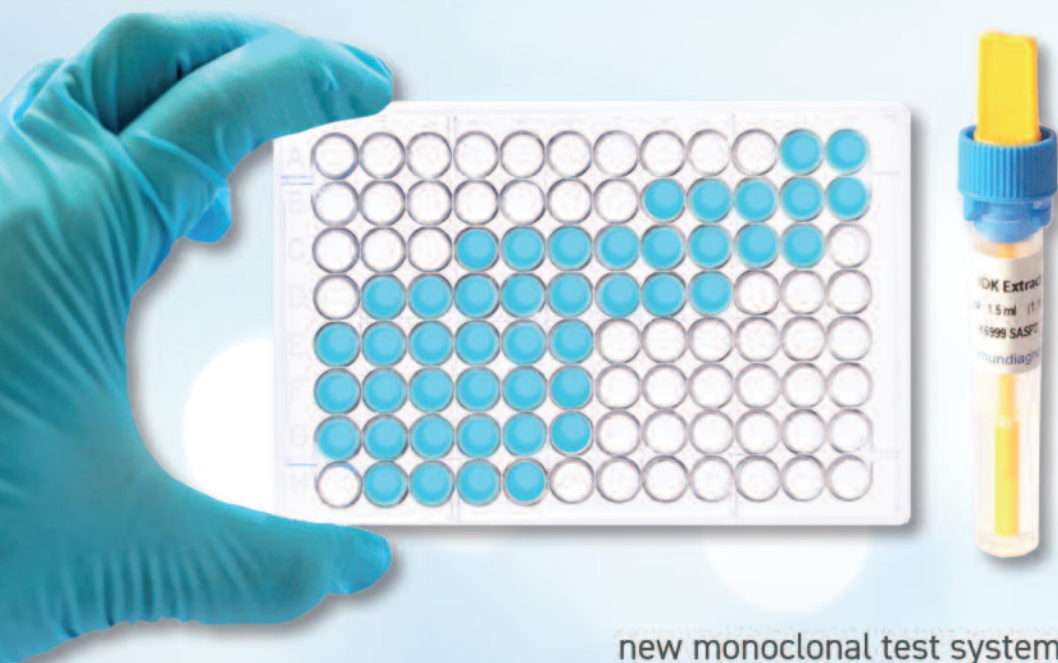
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