Dear Colleagues, dear Friends,

On behalf of the French Society of Clinical Biology (SFBC) and of the Congress Organising Committee, it is a great pleasure to invite both academics and specialists in laboratory medicine and partners to attend the 21st IFCC – EFLM European Congress of Clinical Chemistry and Laboratory Medicine (Euromedlab Paris 2015). This unique event, including the Journées Internationales de Biologie (JIB) 2015, will be held in Paris, France, on June 21-25 2015 in the Palais des Congrès de Paris, one of the capital’s legendary venues.

Euromedlab Paris 2015 will be an innovative and invigorating EU and International congress reflecting the direction of Laboratory Medicine in the 21st century with an intellectually stimulating combination of presentations, symposia, discussions, sessions and exhibitions. Well-known European and International speakers and colleagues will address their vision and current challenges in the field of Laboratory Medicine in the context of a changing health environment taking account medical and scientific innovations. We are confident that they will spark the minds of both young and established Laboratory Medicine professionals, scientists, researchers, clinicians as well as all relevant stakeholders in the health care and Laboratory Medicine sectors.

Paris is a major international centre for research in life sciences and a creative cultural destination in perpetual renewal being one of the highest ranking cities in terms of tourism attraction. We are sure that both the scientific and social programmes will provide opportunities to help foster exchanges between EFLM/IFCC members, to forge new collaborations and to connect with the leaders of the diagnostic industry at the largest IVD product show in Europe linked to the three-days conference/workshop program.

Euromedlab 2015 will provide ideal surroundings for participants to leverage knowledge, promote education and build awareness about the future of Laboratory Medicine placing the patient at the heart of all our efforts and discussions.

Euromedlab Paris 2015 is everything you have ever wanted in a Laboratory Medicine congress. We look forward to your participation in the fascinating scientific networking event and welcoming you all for a memorable and enjoyable experience!

The Congress Presidents,

Prof. P. Gillery
Prof. J. Goudable
Dr. B. Gouget
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Congress Highlights

Aim of the scientific programme will be to provide attendees with the most up-to-date information on a wide variety of topics related to the Laboratory Medicine and its clinical application. It will include an opening lecture, four plenary lectures, 17 Symposia organized by the Scientific Programme Committee and 6 organized by IFCC and EFLM, 39 Educational workshops and a poster session.

Plenary lectures. Each day of the congress, from 11.45 to 12.30 Plenary lectures related to a specific disease or pathophysiological condition will combine clinical laboratory, research, future developments and clinical experience in a very attractive way.

Symposia. The 17 Symposia organized by SPC will cover a list of important topics, including new areas of research and development. They will consist of three invited lectures and 2 presentations selected from the posters’ abstracts.

Posters. The programme will give ample time to poster viewing and discussion. The posters will really represent the core part of each congress day.

Educational workshops. Organized with the substantial support of Diagnostic Industry, they will become integral part of the Congress.

Satellite meetings. A number of Satellite Meetings will be organized before and after the main Congress in collaboration with other Scientific Societies both French and from neighbouring countries.
Palais des Congrès

Leading venue for international congresses
Paris XVII district, Porte Maillot, a stone’s throw from the Champs-Elysées

32 000 sqm ... including 19 000 sqm exhibition areas
...4 auditoriums on 3 levels, 20 breakout rooms, 85 meeting rooms, a VIP Club for your most prestigious customers. And, 2 TV studios and 1 teleport equipped with 11 dishes.

The Palais des Congrès is an emblematic site at the core of Paris’ business activities. An active participant in the economic life of the city, it has promoted Paris’ cultural interests since its creation in 1974 by the Paris Chamber of Commerce and Industry. Its 41,000 sq.m and four amphitheatres are the site of many conferences, trade shows, corporate events and shows.

How to get to Paris

By plane
With its two international airports, Paris - Charles-de-Gaulle (23 km to the north) and Paris - Orly (14 km to the south), the capital has daily connections to more than 526 cities in more than 136 countries. Aéroports de Paris (ADP) is the operator for continental Europe's leading air transport hub and receives more than 14,000 flights each week.

By train
Paris can be reached by train in a matter of hours from elsewhere in France and all major European cities. All 7 stations bring you right into the heart of the city. Centrally located and each with specific destinations, they offer smooth connections with the public transport network (metro, RER, bus).

By car
Several autoroutes (expressway, motorway) link Paris with the rest of France: A1 and A3 to the north, A5 and A6 to the south, A4 to the east and A13 and A10 to the west. Not surprisingly, traffic jams are significantly worse during French school holidays. The multi-lane highway around Paris, called the Périphérique (BP), is probably preferable to driving through the centre. Another beltway nearing completion; L’A86 (also A186 and A286) loops around Paris about 10 km further out from the Périphérique. A third, incomplete beltway is much further out and called La Francilienne (N104). It is advised not to drive in the Paris Metro Area. It is better to drive to a suburban train station with a parking lot and then use the train to continue your trip throughout Paris. Most of Paris’ roads were created long before the invention of cars. Traffic inside the city tends to be heavy, especially at rush hour.

Easy access from the airports

By Bus: Air France Shuttle buses from Charles de Gaulle airport and direct to the Palais des Congrès every 15 minutes (12€ one way and 18€ return).

By car/ taxi: (cost approx. 35-45€)
A dedicated exit from the Parisian ring road leading directly to the motorway
Two taxi stations at the Palais des Congrès
Christmas in Paris

Christmas in Paris may not be snowy white, but it’s hard to not be filled with holiday cheer if you’re in Paris in December. The City of Lights lives up to its name in a big way, as the trees that line the Champs-Élysées are among the many trees in Paris that get covered with strings of lights, and the Eiffel Tower often becomes the focal point of the nighttime skyline with its shimmering lights.

Another Christmas in Paris tradition is the temporary ice skating rinks that get set up around the city. The locations each year may vary, but there are often rinks put up in the square near the Paris City Hall, also known as the Hotel de Ville, and near Montparnasse. They tend to go up in mid-December and stay open through March.

Attending a service in one of Paris’ many churches can be a really wonderful way to spend Christmas Eve, even if you’re not a super-religious person at home. And you don’t even have to speak French to get the most out of a service – there are several English-language services around the city you can take part in. In addition to attending Christmas mass in Paris’ churches, you may also want to make a tour of the churches during non-service times in order to see the many nativity scenes they’ve erected for the season.

Christmas in Paris, as well as the rest of France, tends to be a family holiday – which means that rather than dining out and partying with friends, Parisians are more likely to be eating big meals in cozy apartments with family and partying privately. Still, for a traveler, Paris at Christmastime can still be magical – there’s a sense of quiet that you may not find in Paris at any other time of year, and there’s something about the way a city feels when it’s preparing for a family holiday that makes it feel warm… No matter what the temperature is outside.

Paris Christmas food

The main meal eaten during the holiday season in Paris – and throughout France – is called Réveillon, and it’s a long meal served either after Christmas Eve Mass or just after you ring in the New Year – or both! The word réveillon comes from the French word réveil, meaning to wake, because part of the tradition of this meal is that it doesn’t begin until midnight or soon after. Eating in Paris any time of the year can be an incredible experience, but at Christmastime there are certain treats you shouldn’t miss. Many of these foods seem to be just as focused on keeping you warm as they do tempting your taste buds, but they accomplish both tasks handily.

Vin Chaud – or hot wine, is exactly what it sounds like. It’s a mulled wine served warm, and meant to heat up your hands as well as your tummy. Roast Chestnuts – Whereas vin chaud is the beverage that’ll keep your hands warm as you’re sipping it in a chilly Parisian night, hot roasted chestnuts are the snack equivalent. Oysters – Christmas dinner in many Parisian homes begins with oysters. That may not seem strange, but the fact that these fresh French oysters are served with little sausages might.
The Congress Organising Committee and the International Scientific Committee together with the Organising Secretariat wish you a Merry Christmas!