

THE GLOBAL CREATION AND MONITORING OF THE TRACEABILITY  
OF TEST RESULTS IN THE MEDICAL LABORATORY

## Symposium

### *The Global Creation and Monitoring of the Traceability of Test Results in the Medical Laboratory*

*Hybrid symposium on the retirement of Dr. Cas Weykamp*

*Tuesday, 28 September 2021, 12:00 – 18:00. Theatre De Storm, Winterswijk, The Netherlands*

This year, Dr. Cas Weykamp will be retiring after 20 years of service as Network Coordinator of the IFCC HbA1c Network. To mark the occasion, the European Reference Laboratory is organizing a symposium on the analyte of yours and his specific interest: HbA1c, placed in the context of metrological traceability.

#### **HbA1c and Metrological Traceability**

Metrological traceability has recently gained a lot of interest, especially in the European Union where, according to IVDR it will be mandatory as from 2022. In fact, HbA1c is a pioneer, the first analyte for which the whole metrological traceability chain is in place. From the first link (the IFCC Reference Method), via commutable calibrators, EQA/PT programmes with commutable samples, to the last link (the EurA1c trial, the aggregated results of many national EQA/PT programs). This will ensure that an optimal laboratory service (and maximum use of laboratory tests) can be achieved.

In the words of Prof. Greg Miller, former president of the AACC: *"The purpose of a medical laboratory test is to provide information on the pathophysiologic condition of an individual patient as an aid in diagnosis, therapy, or assessment of risk for a disease. For optimal laboratory service, results from different measurement procedures (MPs) for the same measurand should be equivalent (harmonized) within stated specifications, enabling the results to be used reliably for medical decisions"* (1).

Prof Miller is one of the speakers at this symposium, organised under auspices of the IFCC. Along with Prof. Garry John (former chair of the IFCC Working Group on Standardization of HbA1c, now secretary of the IFCC Scientific Division), Prof. Christa Cobbaert (vice-chair of the IFCC Scientific Division), Prof. Marc Thelen (Director of the Dutch EQA organiser SKML) and of course Dr. Cas Weykamp as well as his successor as director of his laboratory, Dr. Eline van der Hagen. For the details of the programme, we kindly refer you to the attachment.

1) W Greg Miller, Neil Greenberg. *Harmonization and Standardization: Where Are We Now?* J Appl Lab Med 2021;6(2):510-521.

#### **Symposium in Covid-19 time?**

Although the situation is improving, a lot of uncertainties remain. Therefore, we will be organising a "hybrid" symposium. Depending on the corona measures that are in place, professionals from our region (the Netherlands) will either participate in person or online. Like all crises, Covid-19 generates new ideas. Classical symposia are limited to a region, but the online option of a hybrid symposium removes the geographical barriers for participation outside the region: professionals from anywhere in the world can easily attend. Of course, there are certain requirements: English as language, a relevant scientific programme, and adjusted dynamics in presentation. All this has been put in place for this event in collaboration with the professional event and congress organiser "PINO". Therefore, we invite all EQA organisers and their participants collaborating with us in the EurA1c trial to consider this symposium.

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### Exhibition

The hybrid concept also applies to the exhibition. Manufacturers can choose for a live exhibition in the theatre's foyer (see attachment) and/or an online exhibition. The exhibition will be open during the whole programme from 12:00-18:00.

### Information/Contact

[www.HbA1c-MetrologicalTraceability.nl](http://www.HbA1c-MetrologicalTraceability.nl)

\*It is advised to open the website in Google Chrome.

Secretary of the symposium:

Carla Siebelder [c.siebelder@skbwinterswijk.nl](mailto:c.siebelder@skbwinterswijk.nl)

Phone: +31 (0)543 544153 (9:00 – 16:00)

### Registration

You can register on [www.HbA1c-MetrologicalTraceability.nl](http://www.HbA1c-MetrologicalTraceability.nl)

Costs are €100 (VAT not included), after 15 September €125