

Internet Connection

www.ifcc.org

Serving Laboratory Medicine Worldwide

by Craig Webster

As discussed in the feature article by Renze Bais (see page 10, the International Federation of Clinical Chemistry and Laboratory Medicine (IFCC) is an organization dedicated to the performance and development of high-quality laboratory medicine. IFCC achieves its goals by publishing information and guidelines on education; by defining principles and recommendations for the standardization of analytical procedures; by promoting meetings through congresses, symposia, and workshops; and by encouraging dialogue with clinicians on matters of common interest.

One way it accomplishes these goals is through its versatile Web site <www.ifcc.org>. The site, which is the main portal to the organization's activities, news, and associated conferences, features a number of useful resources:

- an online bookstore at <www.ifcc.org/store> that features IFCC publications, international collaboration publications, proceedings from a variety of conferences, and Spanish language documents
- the IFCC media database, <www.ifcc.org/media/default.asp>, which allows users to download royalty free images of laboratory activities
- the IFCC documents database, <www.ifcc.org/documents/database.asp>, which provides an easy way to search all of the IFCC publications
- *IFCC News*, a bi-monthly newsletter that reports on the organization and its members' activities, the latest version of which can be found at <www.ifcc.org/news/subscribe.htm>

The site also has extensive sections on each functional division of the IFCC: scientific, communications and publications, congress and conference, and education and management.

The Congress and Conference Division section of the site provides an online meetings database at <www.ifcc.org/divisions/CCD/meets/Default.asp>, which enables users to search for meetings relevant to their areas of interest. Users can also advertise their meetings by adding them to this database using the online forms. The most important forthcoming congresses can be found at <www.ifcc.org/products/IFCCAwards/Congresses%202002-2003.html>. This section also includes information and guidelines for organizing conferences.

The Communications and Publications Division publishes the *Journal of the International Federation of Clinical Chemistry and Laboratory Medicine*, which can be found at <www.ejifcc.org>.



Any feedback on the IFCC's work or its Web site is welcome. Contact:

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