



South African Association for Clinical  
Biochemistry Newsletter  
July 2011

Paediatric Laboratory Medicine Education Day

January 2011, Durban

The SAACB in its endeavour to ensure that the member's interests are maintained and that the activities are reflective of current issues, hosted the above event earlier this year. This well attended forum placed focus on paediatric biochemistry. The presenter's highlighted the clinico-biochemical interface that chemical pathology provides. Speakers included paediatricians, geneticists & chemical pathologists

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IFCC

Berlin, May 2011



This international meeting had excellent representation from SAACB members. Dr V.Gounden presented a poster co authored with Dr JA George, titled Multi Point of care instrument evaluation for assessment of biochemical parameters in ARV clinics in South Africa.

Members of the SAACB Council who were present in Berlin had a meeting with the IFCC Congress Organizers to discuss the IFCC meeting to be held in Durban in 2017.



### Newsflash

1. Durban, South Africa will be the venue for the IFCC Congress in 2017
2. SAACB Council member, Dr Jocelyn Naicker was appointed to Chair the Expert Committee in Chemical Pathology. The SAACB would like to congratulate her on this appointment.
3. The Path Tech & Blood transfusion congress will be hosted at the Sandton Convention Centre. The Laboratory Medicine Congress is on from the 31 August – 04 September 2011.

### South African Association for Clinical Biochemistry (SAACB) News Report

1. SAACB members Dr Zemlin, Dr George, Mr Hassan, Dr Hoffman and Prof Matsha as well as its president, Professor Erasmus were founding members of the newly established College of Pathologists of East, Central and Southern Africa.  
The College was inaugurated on the 16th September 2010 and a Council established. Professor Erasmus was elected to be its first Vice President.
2. The following SAACB members became corresponding members of various IFCC Committees
  - i. Dr Zemlin, Corresponding member,
  - ii. Prof Matsha, Corresponding member, Molecular Biology Committee
  - iii. Prof Erasmus, Corresponding member, Reference Range Committee
3. The following SAACB members became members of various IFCC Committees:
  - i. Dr V Gounden, Member, Young Scientists Committee for Developing Countries.
  - ii. Prof Pillay, Member, Public Relations Committee
  - iii. Prof Erasmus, Member, Laboratory Management Committee
4. Former president of the IFCC, Prof Steenkamp was elected to the IFCC Executive Board at the IFCC meeting in Berlin.
5. Professor Erasmus was invited by the IFCC to be part of a Laboratory Management Course to be held prior to the the Africa Federation of Clinical Chemistry Congress (AFCC) in Nairobi on 26<sup>th</sup> September, 2011.
6. SAACB was involved in the organization of the Academic Program for the Africa Health Medlab meeting at NASREC, Johannesburg from 10<sup>th</sup> to 12<sup>th</sup> May, 2011. SAACB would like to thank Prof Delport, Prof Erasmus, Jocelyn Naicker and Dr Zemlin for participating in this meeting. Each of them gave a talk. This meeting brought various health organizations and medical specialties including Surgery, Medicine, Obstetrics, Radiology under one roof.
7. SAACB sponsored Dr Megan Rensburg from Chemical Pathology Tygerberg Hospital to the Lean Management Course organized by Marcus Events at the Crown Plaza Hotel in Johannesburg

### Case

A 45 year old female is found to be comatose a few hours following surgery for acute appendicitis.  
U&E reveals no abnormality  
Glucose 6.3mmol/l  
The patient has had no history of recent head injury  
What is the appropriate work up & management for this patient?