



**IFBLS 2018**  
Firenze Italy

**2018**

**22-26 SEPTEMBER**

**PALAZZO DEI  
CONGRESSI**

**ITALY  
FIRENZE**

# THE 33<sup>RD</sup> WORLD CONGRESS OF BIOMEDICAL LABORATORY SCIENCE (IFBLS)

E-health, Gender Medicine, Personalised  
Medicine and Biomedical Laboratory Science

[www.ifbls2018.org](http://www.ifbls2018.org)

PRELIMINARY PROGRAM



# WELCOME

Dear Colleagues,

The 33rd World Congress of the International Federation of Biomedical Laboratory Science, will be held 22nd through 26th September 2018 in Florence, Italy. The Congress is jointly hosted by the International Federation of Biomedical Laboratory Science (IFBLS) and ANTeL Associazione Italiana Tecnici di Laboratorio.

As Presidents of IFBLS2018, we are delighted to invite you in Florence for this exciting and important meeting.

Florence, with its monuments, museums and its traditions, is pleased to welcome our international colleagues from all over the world for this meeting. The theme of the congress will focus upon the future development of Biomedical Laboratory Science.

The Congress venue will be at Palazzo dei Congressi of Firenze which is located near the main railway station in the historical centre of the city. Located in the middle of the country, Florence is easy to reach from the biggest cities of Italy.

The Scientific Committee is working diligently to invite Biomedical Laboratory Scientists who are experts in professional and scientific fields as speakers for the congress.

IFBLS2018 would like to give a different point of view in order to define the most important topics of Biomedical Laboratory Science of this century.

Congress participants will have the opportunity to learn new technologies, the role of biomedical laboratory science in the delivery of 'patient-centred' healthcare, 'personalised medicine', 'gender-medicine' and its impact on Biomedical Laboratory Science.

Students are invited to participate in the congress through activities and sessions provided by the Student Forum.

During the World Congress IFBLS will also be holding its biannual meetings: General Assembly of Delegates, Open Forum, Student Forum and the Chief Delegates meetings. Please join the IFBLS2018 World Congress and experience our hospitality while contributing to your professional development in Biomedical Laboratory Science.

IFBLS2018 Presidents

Alba Marzo



Fernando Capuano



# COMMITTEES

## CONGRESS PRESIDENTS

**Fernando Capuano, Italy**  
**Alba Marzo, Italy**

## CONGRESS ORGANISING COMMITTEE

**Fernando Capuano, Italy**  
**Alba Marzo, Italy**

## INTERNATIONAL SCIENTIFIC COMMITTEE

<i>Chair:</i> Alba Marzo	Italy
Fernando Capuano	Italy
Stefano Dugheri	Italy
Maureen Ellis	Canada
Claudia Finocchi	Italy
Vincent Gallicchio	United States
Kyoko Komatsu	Japan
Fabbio Marcuccilli	Italy
Catherine Otto	United States
Tom Stowe	Canada
Dionysis Vourtsis	Greece
Alan Wainwright	United Kingdom

## LOCAL SCIENTIFIC COMMITTEE

<i>Chair:</i> Alba Marzo	Italy
Lucia Baggiani	Italy
Claudia Finocchi	Italy
Olga Gioia	Italy
Fabbio Marcuccilli	Italy

## INTERNATIONAL BOARD

Marie Nora Roald - IFBLS President	Norway
Tom Stowe - IFBLS Past President	Canada
Anne Berndt - IFBLS President Elect	Sweden
Alan Wainwright - IFBLS Board Member	United Kingdom
Alba Marzo - IFBLS Board Member	Italy
Catherine Otto - IFBLS Board Member	United States
Hironori Katayama - IFBLS Board Member	Japan
Leila Florento - IFBLS Board Member	Philippines
Chuan Liang Kao - Member at Large	Taiwan
Dionysis Vourtsis - Member at Large	Greece
Janna Malseed - Executive Administrator	Canada
Janie Hames - Executive Administrator	Canada

## CHAIR AND SPEAKERS

Andresen Susanne	DENMARK
Barcellini Lucia	ITALY
Bernardini Sergio	ITALY
Berndt Anne	SWEDEN
Bettarelli Giorgio	ITALY
Bonari Alessandro	ITALY
Cabrini Alessia	ITALY
Cadei Moris	ITALY
Camaggi Anna	ITALY
Capitanio Arrigo	SWEDEN
Cappelletti Piero	ITALY
Capuano Fernando	ITALY
Cirillo Daniela Maria	ITALY
Como Fabio	ITALY
Conti Matteo	ITALY
Cortelazzo Alessio	ITALY
D'Agostini Matteo	ITALY
Davoli Enrico	ITALY
De Clercq Nicolien	THE NETHERLANDS
Dugheri Stefano	ITALY
Ellis Maureen	CANADA
Finocchi Claudia	ITALY
Fonseca Kevin	CANADA
Galai Tiziana	ITALY
Gallicchio Vincent	USA
Griffiths Matthew	ENGLAND
Gunsolus Brandy	USA
Guzzetti Stefano	ITALY
Hwa-Jeong Ha	KOREA
Jürs Martina	DENMARK
Komatsu Kyoko	JAPAN

Lippi Giuseppe	ITALY
Macera Mascitelli Erminia	ITALY
Marcuccilli Fabbio	ITALY
Marzo Alba	ITALY
Masoni Marco	ITALY
Maule Warren	SOUTH AFRICA
May Sarah	ENGLAND
Mendes Fernando	PORTUGAL
Morandini Margherita	ITALY
Nielsen Christine	CANADA
Nygård Line Nilsen	NORWAY
Okanya Patrick	KENYA
Otto Catherine	USA
Panning Rick	USA
Perno Carlo Federico	ITALY
Pezzati Paola	ITALY
Purwati Armand	INDONESIA
Roald Marie Nora	NORWAY
Sanguinetti Maurizio	ITALY
Santarcangeli Davide	ITALY
Shirwan Haval	USA
Stankovic Ana	USA
Stowe Tom	CANADA
Tallini Giovanni	ITALY
Troncone Giancarlo	ITALY
Ugolini Clara	ITALY
Večerić-Haler Željka	SLOVENIA
Vidali Matteo	ITALY
Viji Vijayan	SINGAPORE
Vourtsis Dionysis	GREECE
Wainwright Alan	UK

## KEYNOTE LECTURES

Adriana Velazquez Berumen	SWITZERLAND
Pazzagli Mario	ITALY
Pillon Sergio	ITALY
Plebani Mario	ITALY
Rossolini Gian Maria	ITALY
Zecchi Sandra	ITALY



# TIMETABLE

## SATURDAY 22 SEPTEMBER

ROOM	AUDITORIUM	VERDE	ONICE	ROOM 4
9.00-15.00		IFBLS General Assembly of Delegates Open Forum		Introduction to IFBLS and student forum 1
15.00-19.00	Opening registration desk			
17.30-20.00	Opening Ceremony Welcome Addresses Awards Cerimony Flags Ceremony Opening Lecture			

## SUNDAY 23 SEPTEMBER

ROOM	AUDITORIUM	VERDE	ONICE	ROOM 4
9.00-10.30	Plenary Lectures: G.M. Rossolini, A. Velazquez Berumen			
10.30-11.15	Break time			
11.15-12.45	STRENGTHENING GLOBAL BIOSAFETY Editor: M.Ellis V. Viji - P. Okanya	THE MICROBIOME DISEASE AND APPLICATIONS FOR THE FUTURE Editor: F. Marcuccilli N. De Clercq - M. Sanguinetti	QUALITY IN LABORATORY MEDICINE: TOOLS AND SUPPORT Editor: D. Santarcangeli P. Pezzati - M. Vidali	OPEN EDUCATIONAL RESOURCES AND SIMULATION: A STEP TOWARDS STANDARDIZATION OF BIOMEDICAL LABORATORY SCIENCE CURRICULUM? Editor: A.Marzo C. Nielsen - M. Masoni
12.45-14.30	Poster session / Free time for lunch			
14.30-16.00	MYCOBACTERIA AND MYCOBACTERIAL DISEASES Editor: A. Camaggi D.M. Cirillo - L. Barcellini	STEM CELLS 1: ADVANCES IN ENGINEERING AND TRANSLATIONAL USE Editor: V. Gallicchio Z. Veceric-Haler	Student forum Meeting 2: communicating our profession	IFBLS Chief Delegate Meeting (14.00-16.00)
16.00-16.30	Break time			
16.30-18.00	VIROLOGY Editor: T. Stowe K. Fonseca - C.F. Perno	STEM CELLS 2: ADVANCES IN ENGINEERING AND TRANSLATIONAL USE Editor: V. Gallicchio H. Shirwan - A. Purwati	LABS BEYOND WALLS Editor: C. Finocchi S. Andresen A. Bonari - A. Cortelazzo	THE GROWING SIGNIFICANCE OF CPD Editor: A. Wainwright M. Jurs - S. May - W. Maule

# TIMETABLE

MONDAY 24 SEPTEMBER

ROOM	AUDITORIUM	VERDE	ONICE	ROOM 4
9.00-10.30	Plenary Lectures: M. Plebani, M. Pazzagli			
10.30-11.15	Break time			
11.15-12.45	INNOVATIONS TO IMPROVE LABORATORY TEST UTILIZATION Editor: C. Otto B. Gunsolus - R. Panning	INTERNATIONAL EXCHANGE OF CYTODIAGNOSTIC SKILLS Editor: K. Komatsu F. Mendes - H. HwaJeong	SYNLAB Workshop THE TRANSPORT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIALS: A PROPOSAL FROM THE ITALIAN FEDERATION OF THE SOCIETIES OF LABORATORY MEDICINE (FISME LAB)	THE HARMONIZED ROLES OF BIOMEDICAL LABORATORY SCIENTISTS AND PATHOLOGISTS IN MODERN PREDICTIVE MEDICINE Editor: G. Troncone C. Ugolini - G. Tallini
12.45-14.30	Poster session / Free time for lunch			
14.30-16.00	PRE-ANALYTICAL PHASE Editor: D. Vourtis G. Lippi - A. Stankovic	IBM Symposium BIOMEDICAL SCIENCES IN THE ERA OF ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE AND BIG DATA A. Belardinelli - D. Scaramuccia	TELEPATHOLOGY Editor: M. Cadei A. Capitanio - S. Guzzetti	Student Forum Meeting 3: communicating across the generations
16.30-18.00		IFBLS Workshop: future trends in Biomedical Laboratory Science A. Berndt - M. Roald		

## TUESDAY 25 SEPTEMBER

ROOM	AUDITORIUM	VERDE	ONICE	ROOM 4
9.00-10.30	Plenary Lectures: S. Zecchi, S. Pillon			
10.30-11.15	Break time			
11.15-12.45	BIOMEDICAL LABORATORY AND ITS KEY ROLE IN PAEDIATRIC ONCOLOGY Editor: C. Finocchi M. Griffiths - M. D'Agostini	HYPHENATED TECH- NIQUES AND THEIR APPLICATIONS Editor: S. Dugheri E. Davoli - M. Conti	ITALIAN WORKSHOP: PUT ORDER IN THE HEALTHCARE PROFESSIONS' REGULATION F. Capuano, E. Macera Mascitelli	Student forum Meeting 4: conclusions and follow-up
12.45-14.30	Poster session / Free time for lunch			
14.30-16.00	LABORATORY EMER- GENCY AND POCT Editor: F. Marcuccilli S. Bernardini - S. Andresen	CODE OF ETHICS Editor: A. Cabrini A. Berndt, A. Cabrini	TRAINING OUTCOMES Editor: G. Bettarelli T. Galai - A. Wainwright	A DIAGNOSTIC NETWORK FOR BETTER APPROACH TO ACS Editor: F. Como P. Cappelletti - M. Morandini
16.30-18.00		IFBLS Workshop: discussing ethical dilemmas using reflection model A. Berndt - M. Roald		
Starting from 20.00	Social dinner			

## WEDNESDAY 26 SEPTEMBER

ROOM	AUDITORIUM	VERDE	ONICE	ROOM 4
9.00-11.00		IFBLS General Assembly of Delegates		
11.30-12.30		Closing Ceremony and Awards Ceremony		
14.00-17.00	Lab Tour			

# SCIENTIFIC PROGRAM

SATURDAY 22 SEPTEMBER

**9.00-15.00** IFBLS General Assembly of Delegates Open Forum  
Introduction to IFBLS and Student Forum, Meeting 1

VERDE  
ROOM 4

**17.30-20.00** Opening Ceremony:  
Welcome Addresses, Award Ceremony, Flags Ceremony, Opening Lecture

AUDITORIUM

SUNDAY 23 SEPTEMBER

AUDITORIUM

**9.30-10.30**  
**Plenary Lectures**  
*G.M. Rossolini*  
*A. Velazquez Berumen*

**11.15-12.45**  
**Biosafety**  
*M. Ellis*

BSL3 Laboratory Design and Biosafety Practices in Singapore  
*V. Viji*

Strengthening Biosafety and Biosecurity Systems in Resource Limited Settings: The role of Biosafety Professional Certification in East Africa  
*P. Okanya*

Oral Communications

**14.30-16.00**  
**Mycobacteria and Mycobacterial diseases**  
*A. Camaggi*

In collaboration with 

Update: identification of nontuberculous mycobacteria  
*A. Camaggi*

Molecular tools for TB Diagnosis and TB surveillance  
*D. M. Cirillo*

Latest news on latent TB infection detection  
*L. Barcellini*

Oral Communications

**16.30-18.00**  
**Virology**  
*T. Stowe*

Zika Virus: a celebrity global traveler  
*K. Fonseca*

Diagnosis of resistance to antivirals: when molecular biology overcomes phenotypic tests  
*C.F. Perno*

Oral Communications

VERDE

**11.15-12.45**  
**The Microbiome, disease and implications for the future**  
*F. Marcuccilli*

The role of the gut microbiota in cancer: a step towards personalized medicine  
*N. De Clercq*

Microbiota and infectious diseases: role of the Fecal Microbiota Transplantation  
*M. Sanguinetti*

Oral Communications

**14.30-16.00**  
**Stem cells 1: Advances in engineering and translational use**  
*V. Gallicchio*

Advances in Engineering and Translational Use  
*TBD*

Advances in Clinical Use of Hematopoietic and Mesenchymal Stem Cells  
*Z. Večerić-Haler*

Oral Communications

**16.30-18.30**  
**Stem cells 2: Advances in engineering and translational use**  
*V. Gallicchio*

Advances in Engineering and Translational Use  
*H. Shirwan*

Advances in Clinical Use of Hematopoietic and Mesenchymal Stem Cells  
*A. Purwati*

Oral Communications



# SCIENTIFIC PROGRAM

SUNDAY 23 SEPTEMBER

## ONICE

**11.15-12.45**

### **Quality in Laboratory Medicine: tools and support**

*D. Santarcangeli*

Accreditation and analytical quality

*P. Pezzati*

Informatic tools

*M. Vidali*

Oral Communications

**14.30-16.00**

Student Forum, Meeting 2: communicating our Profession

**16.30-18.00**

### **Labs beyond walls**

*C. Finocchi*

The mobile laboratory unit (MLU): Reducing hospitalization and readmission of elderly citizens

*S. Andresen*

Mobile Laboratory testing in critical care medicine of the Italian Red Cross Military Corps: analytical solutions and perspectives from the theater of operations to mass disasters management.

*A. Bonari, A. Cortelazzo*

Oral Communications

In collaboration with



## ROOM 4

**11.15-12.45**

### **Open Educational Resources and Simulation: a step towards standardization of Biomedical Laboratory Science curriculum?**

*A. Marzo*

Effective use of simulation in medical laboratories professionals' education in Canada

*C. Nielsen*

Open Educational Resources in BLS: opportunities and challenge

*M. Masoni*

Oral Communications

**16.30-18.00**

### **The Growing Significance of CPD, Continuous Professional Development**

*A. Wainwright*

CPD on the job

*M. Jürs*

Is your CPD fit for purpose?

*S. May*

CPD for Medical Technologists in South Africa: its implementation and challenges ahead

*W. Maule*

Oral Communications

# SCIENTIFIC PROGRAM

MONDAY 24 SEPTEMBER

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## AUDITORIUM

**9.30-10.30**

### Plenary Lectures

Liquid Biopsy: technologies and applications in clinical oncology

*M. Pazzagli*

Quality and safety in medical laboratories

*M. Plebani*

**11.15-12.45**

### Innovations to Improve Laboratory Test Utilization

*C. Otto*

Innovations to Improve Laboratory Test Utilization

*B. Gunsolus*

Total Cost of Care a New Perspective on Laboratory Utilization Management

*R. Panning*

Improvement of Laboratory Quality in Norway

*L.N. Nygård*

Oral Communications

**14.30-16.00**

### Pre-analytical phase

*D. Vourtsis*

Preanalytical uncertainty: causes and solutions

*G. Lippi*

Phlebotomy competency assessment: a novel approach

*A. Stankovic*

Oral Communications

## VERDE

**11.15-12.45**

### International exchange of cytodiagnostic skills

*K. Komatsu*

FORS antigen expression in gastric, lung and intestinal patient cancer population and its impact on treatment outcome

*F. Mendes*

Fine Needle Aspiration Cytology of Parathyroid Lesions; a potential source of diagnostic pitfalls distinguishing thyroid lesions

*H. Hwa-Jeong*

Oral Communications

**14.30-16.00**

### IBM Symposium: Biomedical Sciences in the era of Artificial Intelligence and Big Data

*A. Belardinelli, D. Scaramuccia*

Big Data and Artificial Intelligence: enemies or helpers for our professions

*R. Alexander*

A day in the life of a Data Scientist

*C. Retico*

IBM Research and biomedical projects

*M. Manica*

**16.30-18.00**

### IFBLS Workshop: Future trends in Biomedical Laboratory Science

*A. Berndt, M. Roald*

# SCIENTIFIC PROGRAM

MONDAY 24 SEPTEMBER

## ONICE

**11.15-12.45**

### **SYNLAB Workshop:**

**The transport of biological materials: a proposal from the Italian Federation of the Societies of Laboratory Medicine (FISMeLab)**

*F. Curcio, C. Ottomano*

Introduction: *M. Zaninotto*

The point in:

Clinical Chemistry and Haematology

*V. Miconi*

Microbiology

*E. Magliano*

Genetic tests (Cytogenetic and molecular genetic)

*S. Stioui*

Surgical Pathology

*R. Giardini*

Citofluorimetry

*B. Brando*

**14.30-16.00**

### **Telepathology**

*M. Cadei*

Whole Slide Imaging of histological and cytological samples for primary diagnosis and digital management: from project to validation

*A. Capitanio*

Telepathology in low-resource settings: a balance between opportunities and difficulties

*S. Guzzetti*

Oral Communications

## ROOM 4

**11.15-12.45**

**The harmonized roles of Biomedical Laboratory Scientists and Pathologists in modern predictive medicine**

*G. Troncone*

Molecular Pathology and Predictive Medicine

*C. Ugolini*

The molecular pathology laboratory for the analysis of solid tumors in the era of next generation sequencing

*G. Tallini*

Oral Communications

**14.30-16.00**

Student Forum, Meeting 3: communicating across the generations

In collaboration with



In collaboration with



Associazione Italiana Tecnici Istologia Citologia

# SCIENTIFIC PROGRAM

TUESDAY 25 SEPTEMBER

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## AUDITORIUM

**9.30-10.30**

### Plenary Lecture

Role of innovation and advanced technologies in biomedical education

*S. Zecchi*

The network of medicine

*S. Pillon*

**11.15-12.45**

### Biomedical Laboratory and its key role in paediatrics oncology

*C. Finocchi*

The histological assessment of Wilms' tumor - the laboratory contribution to patient care

*M. Griffiths*

Differential diagnosis between the acute lymphoblastic leukemia and infectious mononucleosis in paediatric patients

*M. D'Agostini*

Oral Communications

**14.30-16.00**

### Laboratory emergency and POCT

*F. Marcuccilli*

Critical Care Laboratory Medicine

*S. Bernardini*

Quality assessment of POC instruments: Organization in hospital wards and General Practitioners (GP)

*S. Andresen*

Oral Communications

## VERDE

**11.15-12.45**

### Hyphenated techniques and their applications

*S. Dugheri*

To be defined

*E. Davoli*

Liquid Chromatography - Mass Spectrometry in the Clinical Laboratory

*M. Conti*

Oral Communications

**14.30-16.00**

### Code of Ethics

*A. Cabrini, C. Finocchi*

Taking the lead in the work place- establishing ethical reflection for Biomedical Laboratory Scientists

*A. Berndt*

The deontological code of ANTel Association: principles and standards regulating BLSs in Italy and a comparison with other International Organizations

*A. Cabrini*

Oral Communications

**16.30-18.00**

### IFBLS Workshop: Discussing ethical dilemmas using reflection model

*A. Berndt, M. Roald*

# SCIENTIFIC PROGRAM

TUESDAY 25 SEPTEMBER

ONICE

**11.15-12.45**  
**Italian workshop:**  
**Put order in the Healthcare professions' regulation**  
*F. Capuano, E. Macera Mascitelli*

New vision and adding value for Italian healthcare professions' regulation  
*La vision multidisciplinare: un valore aggiunto per l'Ordine multialbo della FNO TSRM e PSTRP*  
*A. Cabrini*

Institutional Representation and regulation of Italian Diagnostic, Prevention, Rehabilitation Healthcare profession (TSRM PSTRP)  
*La Federazione Nazionale degli Ordini TSRM PSTRP nello scenario della rappresentatività istituzionale e le opportunità per i professionisti*  
*A. Beux*

How to register in the Professional list  
*Il processo di iscrizione all'albo professionale: la nuova piattaforma TSRM e PSTRP*  
*L. Capaccioli*

**14.30-16.00**  
**Training Outcomes**  
*G. Bettarelli*

The Value of Learning Outcomes in the clinical practice training of a Biomedical Laboratory Scientist  
*T. Galai*

Learning Outcomes and Competent Practice  
*A. Wainwright*

Oral Communications

ROOM 4

**11.15-12.45**  
 Student Forum, Meeting 4: conclusions and follow-up

**14.30-16.00**  
**A diagnostic network for better approach to ACS, Acute Coronary Syndrome**  
*P. Cappelletti*

In collaboration with



Recommendations for an effective network for ACS diagnosis  
*F. Como*

hs-cTn impact on ACS diagnostic network  
*M. Morandini*

Oral Communications

WEDNESDAY 26 SEPTEMBER

**9.00-11.00** IFBLS General Assembly of Delegates

VERDE

**11.30-12.30** Closing Ceremony and Oral Communication Award Ceremony

VERDE

**14.00-17.00** Lab tour

## REGISTRATION

### AFTER 15 JUNE 2018

IFBLS Member	€ 671
ANTeL Member	€ 366
Non-Member	€ 854
Student IFBLS Member	€ 280.60
Low and middle income Countries	€ 341.60
Low and middle income Countries Student IFBLS Member	€ 219.60

*VAT 22% included*

### REGISTRATION FEE INCLUDES:

Admission to full scientific program  
Congress Kit  
Certificate of Attendance

### DAILY REGISTRATION:

IFBLS Member	€ per day 200
ANTeL Member	€ per day 100
Non-Member	€ per day 280

*VAT 22% included*

### **The day registration fee includes, for the day of registration only (23 or 24 or 25 September):**

Admission to full scientific program for the day  
Congress Kit  
Certificate of Attendance for the day

#### **Pre congress walking city tour**

September 22 h.13.00  
Please note that lunch is not included. No breaks are scheduled.

#### **Social Dinner**

September 25  
Palazzo Borghese  
€ 100 vat included

#### Extra Activities Program Fee

#### **Laboratory Tour**

September 26

Please visit the website  
[www.ifbls2018.org](http://www.ifbls2018.org)

## REGISTRATION

### REMITTANCE

Registration fees shall be paid by credit card or bank transfer through the on-line system.

When paying by bank transfer, a copy of the transfer receipt must be sent to [registration@ifbbs2018.org](mailto:registration@ifbbs2018.org).

Registrations without proof of payment will not be accepted.

The organising secretariat will send registration receipt upon receipt of payment, by e-mail.

Please be sure your e-mail address is filled in correctly.

### PERSONAL INVITATION FOR VISA PURPOSES

To facilitate congress attendance a personal invitation can be sent on request. This invitation does not exempt the recipient from registering and paying the proper congress fee. Please inform the congress secretariat if you need a personal invitation letter.

### CURRENCY

Registration fees and charges for all events related to the IFBLS 2018 Congress as well as hotel cost must be paid in euros.

### CANCELLATION AND REFUND

Cancellations must be sent to [registrations@ifbbs2018.org](mailto:registrations@ifbbs2018.org).

The amount equal to 50% of the fee paid will be refunded for cancellations received by 30 June 2018.

After 30 June 2018 no refunds will be issued.

All refunds will be paid in euros after the congress.

### CANCELLATION OF THE CONGRESS

The congress secretariat reserves the right to cancel the congress, shift venue, or change dates without notice, in case of "force majeure". Neither MZ Congressi nor the Congress Organising Committee shall be liable for any damage claims.

### LIABILITY AND INSURANCE

Registration fees do not include the insurance of participants against personal accidents, sickness and cancellations by any party, theft, loss or damage to personal possessions. Participants are advised to take out adequate personal insurance to cover travel, accommodation, cancellation and personal effects.

## POSTER

Poster must be on display from Sunday 23 to Tuesday 25 September.

In order to encourage discussions about posters, the presenter must be at the assigned poster panel from 12.45 to 14.30.

## CERTIFICATE OF ATTENDANCE

The certificate of attendance will be sent by e-mail after the end of the Congress.



A network of more than

**1.000**

medical experts

Present in more than

**40** countries on  
**4** continents



Areas of expertise: human,  
veterinary, environment, pharma



Approx.

**500 million**

test results per annum



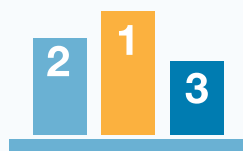
Sales revenues of approx.

**EUR 1.9 BILLION**

Ranked

**1<sup>st</sup> – 3<sup>rd</sup>**

in all key markets



More than

**20.000**

employees

## SYNLAB AT A GLANCE

SYNLAB offers a full range of medical laboratory services for patients, practising doctors, clinics and the pharmaceutical industry. Formed through the combination of Labco and synlab, the new SYNLAB Group is the uncontested leader on the European market for medical laboratory services.

## What we offer

SYNLAB provides a multidisciplinary approach for fast, high-quality, efficient and accurate diagnostics:



HUMAN  
MEDICINE



PHARMA



VETERINARY  
MEDICINE



ENVIRONMENTAL  
ANALYSIS

[www.synlab.com](http://www.synlab.com)



## GENERAL INFORMATION

### CONFERENCE VENUE

Congress and Exhibition Center  
Piazza Adua, 1 - FIRENZE  
[www.firenzefiera.it](http://www.firenzefiera.it)

Located in the heart of Florence, this is a unique conference and exhibition area.

It is only a few steps away from the Santa Maria Novella Railway Station and only 5 km from the Amerigo Vespucci Airport.

Firenze Fiera offers two venues which can satisfy any need: Palazzo dei Congressi and Palazzo degli Affari.

### PALAZZO DEI CONGRESSI

Located in the 19th century Villa Vittoria, Palazzo dei Congressi boasts a prestigious auditorium which can host up to 1,000 people, with 920 square meters available for exhibitions, as well as various halls with a capacity from 50 to 200 seats, located on the 4 floors of the villa.

Surrounded by a centuries-old park, Palazzo dei Congressi and the Limonaia (Lemon House) nearby are located in front of Palazzo degli Affari.

### ABOUT FIRENZE

In the basin crossed by the Arno River, stands the magnificent City of Florence, one of the most beautiful cities in Europe, filled with historical relics and artistic masterpieces by the greatest masters of Humanism and the Renaissance. Because of its monuments, churches and palaces, Florence historical center has an outstanding universal value and was classified as a World Heritage Site by UNESCO.

### CONFERENCE LANGUAGE

The official language of the Symposium is English. Simultaneous translation will not be provided.

### HOW TO REACH FLORENCE

#### ARRIVING BY PLANE

The international airport 'Amerigo Vespucci', is located in the north-west suburban area of Florence. There are many airlines arriving there and connecting the city to some of the most important European airports. The airport is only 4 km from the city center, which can be easily reached by taxi or with the bus shuttle service (around 15/20 minutes), connecting the airport to the main central railway station of Santa Maria Novella.

At the airport you can also find the main car rental agencies.  
[www.aeroporto.firenze.it](http://www.aeroporto.firenze.it)

The international airport of Pisa is located 80 Km from the city center of Florence and is connected to the Tuscan capital by train (every hour) and Terravision bus (full flight coverage with 18 return journeys).

For information about timetables and fares visit [www.terravision.eu](http://www.terravision.eu) [www.pisa-airport.com](http://www.pisa-airport.com)

#### ARRIVING BY TRAIN

The main central railway station of Santa Maria Novella (one of the most important railway junctions as well as an interchange point of the Florence public transportation) is located just a few steps (2 minutes on foot) from the main entrance of the conference-exhibition area and from the main reception of Firenze Fiera, located on the Palazzo degli Affari ground floor. Distances between Firenze Santa Maria Novella Station and three major Italian cities: 35 minutes from Bologna; 1 hour and 20 minutes from Rome and 1 hour and 50 minutes from Milan.

#### ARRIVING BY CAR

Florence is well connected to the main Italian cities through an efficient motorway network, which allows an easy access to the city center, where the conference and exhibition complex is located.

### HOTELS

Florence also means more than 1000 hotel rooms located within walking distance from the conference venue and spread in 3, 4 and 5 star hotels.

Accommodation fares are guaranteed and are equal or less expensive than those found on Booking.com

To get the best rates during the conference, please visit the Congress Web Site: [www.ifbls2018.org](http://www.ifbls2018.org)

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