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*News from the Society of  
Medical Biochemists of Serbia*

**16th NTK – ACCREDITED LABORATORIES  
CONFERENCE-SOCIETY OF MEDICAL BIOCHEMISTS OF SERBIA  
INTERNATIONAL CONVENTIONS ON QUALITY IN THE ORGANIZATION OF THE  
UNITED ASSOCIATION OF SERBIA FOR QUALITY (UASQ), BELGRADE, SERBIA**

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Under the auspices of Society of Medical Biochemists of Serbia (SMBS), the 16th NTK – Accredited Laboratories Conference was held on September 08, 2021. This Conference was traditionally held within International Conventions on Quality in the organization of the United Association of Serbia for Quality (UASQ), Belgrade, Serbia. Lectures within the Conference were accredited by the National Accreditation Body of Serbia, held via the online platform Cisco webex, and lasted 6-hours. The Conference was chaired by Prof Nada Majkić-Singh (SMBS), Belgrade, Prof Zorica umarac, Center for Medical Biochemistry, Clinical Center of Serbia, Belgrade and Assistant Professor, Neda Milinković, Department of Medical Biochemistry, University of Belgrade - Faculty of Pharmacy, Belgrade, Serbia.

The 16th NTK-Accredited Laboratory Conference was dedicated to innovations and trends in the implementation of overall quality management in routine medical biochemical laboratories, which contributes to the development of safe laboratory diagnostics. The first lecture was given by Tamara Gojković, Teaching Assistant at the Department of Medical Biochemistry, University of Belgrade-Faculty of Pharmacy, Belgrade, Serbia. Topic of this presentation was »Validation of chromatographic methods in biochemical laboratories«. This lecture was dedicated to the process of validation of specific chromatographic techniques in the bio analytical laboratory. The challenges in quality control of individual phases of chromatographic techniques were discussed. The complexity of the criteria and guidelines that are an integral part of the validation protocol of pre-analytical and analytical procedures of chromatographic technique was one of the topic. The second lecture was given by Miron Sopić, Assistant Professor at the Department of Medical Biochemistry, Uni-

versity of Belgrade-Faculty of Pharmacy, Belgrade, Serbia. The topic of this lecture was »Pre-analytical and analytical quality control qPCR«. It was dedicated to the explanation of quality control management in the preanalytical and analytical phase of specific molecular diagnostic tests, with reference to the qPCR technique. It was discussed of the importance of the qPCR method for a wide range of testing and diagnostic areas. The review was also on the current guidelines and requirements of the ISO 20395:2019 standard, which must be followed in order to obtain reliable results. The third lecture was given by Dr Vera Lukić, from the Institute for Health Protection of Serbian Railway Workers, Belgrade, Serbia with the topic »Hemolysis index: current recommendations and concerns«. It was dedicated to the explanation of the most common causes of laboratory errors that occur in the pre-analytical phase of laboratory testing. Participants were acquainted with the requirements of ISO 15189:2014 standards related to quality control, especially in the pre-analytical phase of laboratory testing, as well as how to objectively and reliably could detect possible interferences from the quality of the sample composition being analyzed. Automatic measurement of hemolysis index in routine conditions was presented, what were advantages and possible challenges. The fourth lecture was presented by Neda Milinković, Assistant Professor at the Department of Medical Biochemistry, University of Belgrade-Faculty of Pharmacy, Belgrade, Serbia. The topic of this lecturer was »Bias in medical biochemistry – what laboratory staff should know?«. This lecture was dedicated to explaining the correct assessment of bias, what are the possible principles of determination and practical application in routine medical laboratories. It was explained what available data the laboratory staff can use from the test manufacturer. The practical application of bias in relation

to the interpretation of laboratory results was discussed. The importance of knowing bias regarding the challenges in standardization and harmonization of routine measurement methods was also topic of this Conference.

The participants of this conference are extremely satisfied with the content of the lectures and presentations, which was confirmed by the average grade of 5.0, which was given to the all lecturers and presentations.