



International Federation of Biomedical Laboratory Science

On behalf of the IFBLS Board of Directors I wish to extend our gratitude for all the hard work and dedication you, your colleagues and professional association networks have shown this year in dealing with the ongoing Covid pandemic and new variants that further challenge our resilience.

Biomedical Laboratory Scientists across the world continue to demonstrate ingenuity, inventiveness and collaboration, not just to deal with pandemics but the wider and longer-standing challenges of healthcare that bring with them the realisation of how adaptable our profession is.

As Covid testing becomes more entrenched in our daily work, we will undoubtedly see expansion of point of care services now that PCR testing has been miniaturised and can be made readily available outside the laboratory. Our profile will continue to rise, and patients will have a chance to see what we do

But there are also other areas that will undoubtedly come to the forefront of our thinking, for instance, the growing awareness and concern of the impact of the carbon footprint of our resource intensive laboratories. The focus will turn on us for new reasons; we need to ensure we respond positively, and use our knowledge and expertise to inform and guide our policy-makers and governments.

This is the time of year when we look to the future with hope and expectation. Our profession has the power to turn hope into reality by continuing to review, adapt and improve as we dedicate ourselves to delivering the highest standards of laboratory practice.

So let us celebrate all that our profession has achieved this last year, celebrate the opportunities that raising our profile have provided, and most of all, look forward to what our future will bring.

My wish to you all is that you are able to take time to rest, to spend time with your loved ones, and have time to enjoy peace and happiness.

Alan Wainwright
IFBLS President

The 'Key to the Cure' since 1954