



IFBLS

International Federation of
Biomedical Laboratory Science

**IFBLS Statement to the 144th WHO Executive Board
Agenda Item 5.8.2 Prevention and Control of Non-Communicable Diseases**

The International Federation of Biomedical Laboratory Science is a federation of National Organizations of Biomedical Laboratory Scientists (BLS). Presently, we represent 37 associations in 33 countries with more than 185,000 members. Our members are the scientists who perform, interpret and report results of routine and specialized laboratory procedures.

IFBLS acknowledges and supports the effort made by the World Health Organization and the Global Coordination Mechanism on the Prevention and Control of Noncommunicable Diseases (GCM/NCD), for the prevention and control of non-communicable diseases in the context of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.

Medical laboratory testing is vital for prevention, screening, detection, treatment and follow up of major groups of Non-communicable diseases. Proper use of and access to laboratory testing is an essential factor in management of NCDs such as cardiovascular diseases, cancer, chronic respiratory diseases and diabetes.

The profession of biomedical laboratory science globally forms one of the largest groups in the medical laboratories and are essential to ensure correct use of laboratory testing. Access to laboratory testing is impacted by a shortage of qualified Biomedical Laboratory Scientists throughout the world, and continued development and funding for global BLS educational programs is critical to achieve equal access to health services throughout the globe.

Respectfully submitted

Anne Lindgren Berndt
President
International Federation of Biomedical Laboratory Science

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