



International Federation of Biomedical Laboratory Science

IFBLS Statement to the Seventy-third World Health Assembly

Agenda Item 3: Address by WHO Director-General devoted to the COVID-19 pandemic response

Statement:

The International Federation of Biomedical Laboratory Science (IFBLS) represents a global workforce that is pivotal to delivering successful testing strategy for COVID-19.

IFBLS is concerned that whilst much progress has been made with regard to criteria, capacity and co-ordination of testing for COVID-19 in many countries, a vast amount still remains to be done globally if consensus on a testing regime that can be described as fit for purpose can be accomplished.

We would like to highlight the important role that Biomedical Laboratory Scientists have in this if the implementation and sustainability of reproducible, quality-assured testing procedures that are within acceptable sensitivity / precision parameters are to be achieved. Without Biomedical Laboratory Scientists to provide accurate, reliable screening and diagnostic information this could result in incorrect or delayed results that could have a detrimental impact on patient management and ultimately prolong COVID-19 as a global epidemic.

IFBLS therefore want to highlight the importance of ensuring laboratory testing services use a qualified biomedical laboratory science workforce to make sure that **they get it right, first time, every time.**

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