



IFCC Programmes for Personal Support

Distribution:

IFCC Full, Affiliate and Corporate Members

November 2018

Dear IFCC Member,

This letter informs you about the work of the newly created IFCC Working Group for Personal Support (WG-PS) and **asks for your assistance in spreading the news among your membership.**

The WG-PS brings together two previous IFCC programmes that offer one-to-one support to individual laboratory medicine specialists. A brief description of each programme is given. Further details of WG-PS can be found on the IFCC website by using the following link: <http://www.ifcc.org/ifcc-education-division/working-groups-special-projects/wg-ps/>

1. Register of Experts:

IFCC has established an international database of experts from around the world who have offered to share their scientific or management expertise with senior trainees or newly qualified laboratory medicine practitioners. The collaboration will be short-term and will relate to a specific topic raised by the enquirer.

Practitioners wishing to contact an Expert should visit the WG-PS site and complete a short form, which is submitted to the IFCC Office. The WG-PS will then arrange an introduction to the most appropriate Expert.

IFCC is keen to expand the number of Experts on its database. Therefore, senior practitioners with expertise in one or more areas of laboratory medicine are invited to visit the WG-PS site and complete a short form, which is submitted to the IFCC Office for consideration by WG-PS.

2. Mentoring Programme

Mentoring is defined as a voluntary process in which an experienced individual helps another person develop his or her goals and skills through a series of time-limited, confidential, one-on-one conversations and other learning activities. Therefore, mentoring is more broadly based and is likely to take longer than contacting an Expert on a specific topic.

The experienced individual in a mentoring relationship is known as the Mentor. The individual seeking support is known as the Associate (or Mentee).

The IFCC Mentoring programme is intended to support Associates who are in the final stages of their training as laboratory medicine specialists or who are newly appointed clinical laboratory directors who are seeking to improve the quality of their laboratory with the aim of laboratory accreditation. Typically, Associates are based in developing countries whilst Mentors are experienced, including recently retired, laboratory medicine specialists.

Associates wishing to apply to access the Mentoring programme should visit the WG-PS site and complete a short registration form. The WG-PS will evaluate the application and then arrange an introduction to the most appropriate Mentor.

IFCC is keen to expand the number of Mentors on its database, including those who speak languages other than English. Therefore, the WG-PS invites senior laboratory directors, including recently retired persons, to visit the WG-PS site and complete a short form, which is submitted to the IFCC Office for consideration by WG-PS.

To be effective the services of WG-PS need to be known to individual laboratory medicine specialists who may wish to use them. Therefore, **IFCC requests you to promote WG-PS to your membership** using your normal channels of communication. **Appendices 1 and 2** to this letter suggests text that you could use (translated to your local language) for email or social media messaging or as an article in your society or company newsletter.

Thank you for reading this letter. I shall be pleased to receive any comments that you may have about WG-PS. You can contact me directly at gbeastall@googlemail.com

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Graham H Beastall', with a horizontal line drawn underneath it.

Graham H Beastall
(Chair, WG for Personal Support)

Appendix 1

Suggested text for promoting WG-PS by email or social media



IFCC programmes for personal support

IFCC is promoting the availability of two programmes that provide one-to-one support to laboratory medicine specialists:

- The IFCC Register of Experts
- The IFCC Mentoring Programme

These two programmes are being facilitated by the IFCC Working Group for Personal Support (WG-PS). Details of the programmes are available from: <http://www.ifcc.org/ifcc-education-division/working-groups-special-projects/wg-ps/>

Appendix 2

Suggested text for promoting WG-PS through society / company newsletters



IFCC Programmes for Personal Support

The new IFCC Working Group for Personal Support (WG-PS), chaired by Past President Graham Beastall, brings together two previous IFCC programmes that offer one-to-one support to individual laboratory medicine specialists. A brief description of each programme is given below. Further details of WG-PS can be found on the IFCC website at:

<http://www.ifcc.org/ifcc-education-division/working-groups-special-projects/wg-ps/>

1. Register of Experts:

IFCC has established an international database of experts from around the world who have offered to share their scientific or management expertise with senior trainees or newly qualified laboratory medicine practitioners. The collaboration will be short-term and will relate to a specific topic raised by the enquirer.

Practitioners wishing to contact an Expert should visit the WG-PS site and complete a short form, which is submitted to the IFCC Office. The WG-PS will then arrange an introduction to the most appropriate Expert.

IFCC is keen to expand the number of Experts on its database. Therefore, senior practitioners with expertise in one or more areas of laboratory medicine are invited to visit the WG-PS site and complete a short form, which is submitted to the IFCC Office for consideration by WG-PS.

2. Mentoring Programme

Mentoring is defined as a voluntary process in which an experienced individual helps another person develop his or her goals and skills through a series of time-limited, confidential, one-on-one conversations and other learning activities. Therefore, mentoring is more broadly based and is likely to take longer than contacting an Expert on a specific topic.

The experienced individual in a mentoring relationship is known as the Mentor. The individual seeking support is known as the Associate (or Mentee).

The IFCC Mentoring programme is intended to support Associates who are in the final stages of their training as laboratory medicine specialists or who are newly appointed clinical laboratory directors who are seeking to improve the quality of their laboratory with the aim of laboratory accreditation. Typically, Associates are based in developing countries whilst Mentors are experienced, including recently retired, laboratory medicine specialists.

Associates wishing to apply to access the Mentoring programme should visit the WG-PS site and complete a short registration form. The WG-PS for will evaluate the application and then arrange an introduction to the most appropriate Mentor.

IFCC is keen to expand the number of Mentors on its database, including those who speak languages other than English. Therefore, the WG-PS invites senior laboratory directors, including recently retired persons, to visit the WG-PS site and complete a short form, which is submitted to the IFCC Office for consideration by WG-PS.

Comments regarding the activities of WG-PS are invited and should be directed to Silvia Cardinale in the IFCC Office (ifcc@ifcc.org)