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To: *Presidents and National Representatives of EFLM National Society Members*

17 October 2016

Call for nominations for the EFLM Working Group on Patient Focused Laboratory Medicine

Dear President and National Representative,

Patient Focused Laboratory Medicine is recognised through a range on international projects recognizing the key role of Information Technology (IT) in medicine. Patients can have their DNA checked for disease risk with no referral through a physician, yet it is often impossible for patients to access commonly utilized disease markers. Why? Patients are only vaguely aware of the laboratory, they get their information from their physician; feedback may be poor; patients being told e.g. "the results are normal" but not the what and why of investigations being performed. Patients are increasingly being given right of access to their results; in this "Age of Information" they want to know what the tests are for and what they mean. There is no doubt that such a change in role will be fundamental and challenging, yet in the information age where knowledge is key this is the direction Laboratory Medicine must go if it is to remain relevant to the patient experience. The aim of the EFLM WG on Patient Focused Laboratory Medicine, chaired by Dr. Ian Watson, is to explore and promote the engagement of patients and professionals in enabling patients to receive individualised support in understanding what their results mean for them.

Due to an internal reorganization of the WG membership, a vacancy arises from January 2017 and we are calling nominations for: **1 Full Member position**

Here below the WG Terms of Reference:

1. To explore and promote the engagement of patients and professionals in enabling patients to receive individualised support in understanding what their results mean for them.
2. To develop surveys and projects that support the above.

The term of office will be for 2 years ending on 31 December 2018.

The position could be renewable for other two more terms upon advice of the Committee Chair and continuing support from the National Society.

The work is mainly conducted by e-mail and teleconferencing, the WG usually meets once per year.

Procedure for applications

Each EFLM National Society Member in good standing with the membership fee can submit one nomination through the attached application form. A brief plan of the applicant's contribution to the aims and objectives of the relevant Working Group has to be included in the form. Together with the application, a short CV should also be submitted underlining the qualifications and prior experience and publications in the relevant area. Candidates have to be officially recommended by their National Society through a formal letter of support. Applicants who are not selected as full members may be eligible for corresponding membership.

Nominations have to be electronically submitted to the EFLM Office: Silvia Cattaneo - e-mail: silvia.cattaneo@eflm.eu within the deadline of **30 November 2016**.

We look forward to hearing from you.

With kindest regards,

Eric S Kilpatrick

Chair of the EFLM Science Committee

cc: Dr. Ian Watson – WG-TE Chair