

**12th Congress of the Croatian Society of Medical
Biochemistry and Laboratory Medicine with
international participation**

SCIENTIFIC program

15th – 18th October 2026

Srebreno, Croatia

15 October 2026

14.00-17.00 PRE-CONGRESS SYMPOSIUM

Artificial intelligence in laboratory medicine (*Chair: Željko Debeljak*)

1. From text to tables: using large language models-generated structured outputs to answer scientific questions (*Johannes Elias, Berlin, Germany*)
2. The 21st century biochemist: how practical AI applications improve and simplify laboratory work (*Mario Štefanović, Zagreb, Croatia*)
3. Large language models-based clinical decision support (*William van Doorn, Maastricht, The Netherlands*)
4. False discovery rate corrections in routine laboratory diagnostics and biomarker discovery (*Ivana Marković, Osijek, Croatia*)
5. Deep learning-based classification of urinary sediment particles (*Glynis Frans, Leuven, Belgium*)
6. Single-cell analysis via machine and statistical learning of mass spectrometry images (*Željko Debeljak, Osijek, Croatia*)

18.30-19.15 OPENING CEREMONY

19.15-20.00 HONORARY LECTURE

Biochemistry and the Philosophy of Man (*Stribor Marković, Rijeka, Croatia*)

16 October 2026

9.00-9.45 PLENARY LECTURE 1

Research vs. clinical laboratory methods and regulations: understanding the key differences

(Tomáš Zima, Prague, Czech Republic)

10.15-12.00 SYMPOSIUM 1

Life-threatening bleeding: diagnosis and contemporary management (Chair: Marija Milić)

1. Laboratory diagnosis in massive hemorrhage *(Slavica Kvolik, Osijek, Croatia)*
2. The role of viscoelastic testing in assessing hemostasis *(Marija Milić, Osijek, Croatia)*
3. Challenges in the laboratory diagnosis of acquired hemophilia *(Desiree Coen Herak, Zagreb, Croatia)*
4. Updated definition and scoring of disseminated intravascular coagulation in 2025 *(Jecko Thachil, Manchester, United Kingdom)*

10.15-12.00 SYMPOSIUM 2

Modern approach to therapeutic drug monitoring (TDM) (Chair: Mila Lovrić)

1. Different faces of therapeutic drug monitoring *(Mila Lovrić, Zagreb, Croatia)*
2. Clinical use of therapeutic drug monitoring for psychoactive drugs - from retrospective problem solving to clinical decision support *(Tore Haselmo, Oslo, Norway)*
3. Clinical application of therapeutic monitoring of immunosuppressants – is there a place for improvement? *(Matea Ivić, Zagreb, Croatia)*
4. Complementary use of TDM and PGx - focus on drugs for which we lack TDM *(Lana Ganoci, Zagreb, Croatia)*

12.00-13.00 EDUCATIONAL WORKSHOP 1

12.00-13.00 EDUCATIONAL WORKSHOP 2

14.00-15.00 ORAL PRESENTATIONS OF THE SELECTED POSTERS from categories Hematology, Hemostasis, Cardiovascular Diseases, Endocrinology and Bone Diseases, Chronic Diseases, Autoimmune Diseases, Pediatric Laboratory Medicine, Laboratory Toxicology, Molecular Diagnostics *(chair: Jasenka Wagner Kostadinović)*

15.00-16.00 EDUCATIONAL WORKSHOP 3

15.00-16.00 EDUCATIONAL WORKSHOP 4

**16.30-17.30 SYMPOSIUM OF THE WORKING GROUP LABORATORY
HEMATOLOGY** (*Chair: Vanja Radišić Biljak*)

Platelets: small players, big challenges (*Ivana Lapić, Brankica Šimac, Branka Krešić,
Valentina Vidranski*)

17 October 2026

9.00-9.45 PLENARY LECTURE 2

Medical biochemist in the educational system (*Lada Rumora, Zagreb, Croatia*)

10.15-12.00 SYMPOSIUM 3

Allergic diseases – pandemics of the future (*Chair: Adrijana Dorotić*)

1. Laboratory diagnostics of allergies using modern technologies (*Gordana Fressl Juroš, Zagreb, Hrvatska*)
2. Exploring the latest innovations in laboratory diagnostics of anaphylaxis: towards personalized approaches and biomarker development (*Urška Bidovec Stojković, Golnik, Slovenija*)
3. The role of laboratory diagnostics in identification, monitoring and treatment of patients with allergies (*Branko Pevec, Zagreb, Hrvatska*)
4. New diagnostic biomarkers in allergology: the path towards personalized allergy diagnostics (*Adrijana Dorotić, Zagreb, Hrvatska*)

10.15-12.00 SYMPOSIUM 4

Women in sports – a multidisciplinary challenge (Chair: Vanja Radišić Biljak)

1. Can a single hormone define sex: fair play or illusion in sport? (*Lana Ružić Švegl, Zagreb, Hrvatska*)
2. Female athlete ≠ male athlete: the impact of the menstrual cycle on sports performance (*Damir Pekas, Zagreb, Hrvatska*)
3. HEMSTER study: the role of medical biochemist in sports medicine (*Vanja Radišić Biljak, Zagreb, Hrvatska*)
4. Beyond "bikini" fitness: effective exercise programming for women's health (*Nebojša Trajković, Niš, Srbija*)

12.00-13.00 EDUCATIONAL WORKSHOP 5

12.00-13.00 EDUCATIONAL WORKSHOP 6

14.00-15.00 ORAL PRESENTATIONS OF THE SELECTED POSTERS from categories Point of Care Testing, Sports Medicine, New Biomarkers, New Technologies, Case Report, Pre- and Postanalytical Phase of Laboratory Work, Biostatistics, Laboratory Management, Method and Test Validation, Other (Chair: Ivana Lapić)

15.00-16.00 EDUCATIONAL WORKSHOP 7

15.00-16.00 EDUCATIONAL WORKSHOP 8

16.30-17.30 SYMPOSIUM OF THE WORKING GROUP LABORATORY ENDOCRINOLOGY (Chair: Adriana Bokulić)

National recommendations of the Croatian Society of Medical Biochemistry and Laboratory Medicine: Thyroid function tests from the laboratory point of view (*Adriana Bokulić, Ivana Kulaš, Domagoj Marijančević*)

18 October 2026

9.00-9.45 PLENARY LECTURE 3

Genetics and epigenetics: where are we today in translational research and clinical application (*Daria Pašalić, Zagreb, Croatia*)

10.00-11.45 SYMPOSIUM 5

miRNA in germ cell tumors (*Chair: Ivana Čelap*)

1. Germ cell tumors (*Monika Ulamec, Zagreb, Croatia*)
2. miRNA-371 in testicular cancer – a laboratory perspective (*Ivana Čelap, Zagreb, Croatia*)
3. Results of miRNA-371 in patients with testicular cancer (*Borna Vrhovec, Zagreb, Croatia*)
4. The role and value of miRNA-371 in patients with germ cell tumors – an oncologist's perspective (*Marijana Jazvić, Zagreb, Croatia*)

12.00-13.00 SYMPOSIUM OF THE WORKING GROUP TUMOR MARKERS

(*Chair: Ljiljana Mayer*)

Tumor markers in contemporary oncology: from laboratory to clinics

1. Tumor markers in laboratory medicine: preanalytical requirements necessary for appropriate test interpretation (*Sanja Langer*)
2. Analytical reliability and challenges in measurement of tumor markers: standardization, interferences and quality control (*Milica Vrbančić*)
3. Clinical use of tumor markers: when to use and when to avoid? (*Robert Šeparović, Ljubica Vazdar*)

13.00-14.00 CLOSING CEREMONY