

**To: IFCC Full and Affiliate Members
Presidents of IFCC Regional Federations**

Dear Colleague,

Labs Are Vital is “still” changing and we”still” want you to be involved.

We are pleased to tell you that the **Labs Are Vital** Members Board, with representatives from IFCC, WASPaLM (World Association of Societies of Pathology & Laboratory Medicine), ASCP (American Society of Clinical Pathology) and IFBLS (International Federation for Biomedical Laboratory Science), has successfully transitioned the program to one driven and managed by a consortium of global professional bodies.

We all stand by the original goals for the program, and are committed to making **Labs Are Vital** a powerful voice in support of the essential contribution laboratory medicine makes to our healthcare system.

The success of the new **Labs Are Vital** program depends on active engagement from large numbers of individual laboratory medicine specialists. Over sixty blogs have been posted on the **Labs Are Vital** website, www.labsarevital.com, on topics ranging from evidence of clinical value of lab and disease state management to patient safety and professional development. There are also LRV Facebook and Twitter accounts. We are seeking to expand involvement and invite you to help by promoting **Labs Are Vital** through your society. **(Please consider publishing this letter in your societies’ website and/or newsletter to further help promote the Labs are Vital program.)**

Individual specialists are actively encouraged to **register on the new program website** at www.labsarevital.com to:

- Post blogs and start discussions
- Comment on stories
- Share your own experiences and contribute to our online toolbox

As an IFCC Member society, you are encouraged to provide a link to www.labsarevital.com on your society website. Your society, or regional federation, is also invited to consider becoming an Affiliate Member of **Labs Are Vital**, which provides the opportunity to have a community page on the LRV website, in your native language, which can contain subject matter of unique interest to your area of the world. Please contact Ellis Jacobs (labsarevital@ifcc.org) for further information about becoming an Affiliate Member.

By working together, we can continue to spread the message that **Labs Are Vital**.

Graham Beastall
IFCC President

Ellis Jacobs
Labs Are Vital Board, IFCC Representative