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

10 October 2016

Call for nominations for the EFLM Working Group on Test Evaluation

Dear President and National Representative,

Clinical utilization and reimbursement for laboratory tests should move from a cost-based towards a value- and evidence-based approach. Laboratory tests have clinical value only if they provide benefit to patients at acceptable costs. Translational research aims to decrease the gap between the identification of new biomarkers and proving that these are clinically effective and improve patient-centred, organizational or economic outcomes. Nevertheless, new laboratory tests are often released to market with little evidence supporting their value or impact in clinical practice. Since resources are finite, evidence-based decisions about the use of diagnostic interventions should depend on well-designed and conducted test evaluation studies and technology appraisals. The aim of the EFLM WG on Test Evaluation, chaired by Prof. Christa Cobbaert, is to set standards and develops practical tools for designing studies for the evaluation of the clinical value and impact of new biomarkers.

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 develop frameworks for evaluation of the clinical effectiveness and impact of medical tests, including mass spectrometry-based targeted proteomics tests for personalized medicine;
2. To develop practical toolboxes which support the design and conduct of clinical research trials for the above purposes and for evaluating the added clinical value for personalized medicine;
3. To give guidance on how to position clinically relevant biomarkers, including emerging biomarkers for personalized medicine, in current clinical pathways and/or clinical guidelines;
4. Education and training of biomarker researchers, IVD- and/or mass spectrometry-industry, lab professionals and clinicians by means of international courses, webinars, social media, ect on how to design test evaluation studies, also for emerging biomarkers and -omics technologies, including quantitative proteomics;
5. Collaboration with epidemiologists, industry and regulatory authorities in setting standards for clinical evaluation of new biomarkers and new technologies in general as well as for personalized medicine.

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: Prof. Christa Cobbaert – WG-TE Chair