

# Euromedlab News



## EUROMEDLAB Amsterdam 2007

17<sup>th</sup> IFCC-FESCC European Congress of Clinical Chemistry and Laboratory Medicine

60<sup>th</sup> National Congress of the Netherlands Society for Clinical Chemistry and Laboratory Medicine  
Amsterdam, RAI Congress Centre

3 - 7 June 2007

### WHAT IS EUROMEDLAB NEWS?

*Euromedlab News* is a periodical issue that reports on the developments of the scientific programme and of the organisation of the Congress;

*Euromedlab News* will be sent to IFCC National Representatives, to all Officers involved in IFCC and NVKC, to IFCC Corporate Members and other Companies, and to everyone who has shown interest in the Congress;

*Euromedlab News* may be freely quoted in journals or newsletters and even photocopied, provided the editor (Euromedlab Amsterdam 2007 Organising Secretariat, Milan, Italy) is mentioned.

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Dear colleagues,

This time of the year days are short, the evenings long. Traditionally it is the time to reflect on the past year. But not only this. It is the right moment as well to make plans for 2007: an upgraded laboratory, more sophisticated analyzers, new research to start, ...

But whatever you are up to, **Euromedlab 2007** may not be missing on your calendar: **3-7 June in Amsterdam**. There you will find the information to support your plans. The scientific programme is ready and a large exhibition will show the activities of our sponsors. Part of the good intentions for 2007 may consist of submitting an abstract; mind the date: 31<sup>st</sup> January 2007.

We have told you before that Amsterdam not only means clinical chemistry, but also culture in general. Architecture, museums, music, atmosphere in the streets and along the canals and many more attractions. To get yourself in the mood, try the recipe for "kroketten" (page 6), the ideal treat for this season.

So, this issue of Euromedlab News again is full of interesting information for you. Most important is our Website to register:  
[www.ams2007.org](http://www.ams2007.org).

On behalf of Organising Committee I wish you a **Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!**

*Gerard Sanders*  
President, Euromedlab 2007 Organising Committee.

### - C O N T E N T S -

Registration .....	p. 2	Abstracts Book .....	p. 3
Hotel and travel.....	p. 2	Concert & Party locations .....	p. 4
Skyteam .....	p. 2	Short History of Amsterdam ...	p. 5
Personal Invitation.....	p. 2	Music in Amsterdam.....	p. 5
Visas .....	p. 2	Croquette on bread .....	p. 6
Bursaries .....	p. 2	List of Sponsors.....	p. 7
From the Scientific Committee	p. 3		

## Registration

If you would like to register to the EUROMEDLAB Amsterdam 2007 Congress you will find three possibilities:

- 1) **paper Form** (inside the Preliminary Programme)
- 2) **.pdf form** ([www.ams2007.org](http://www.ams2007.org))
- 3) **online registration** ([www.ams2007.org](http://www.ams2007.org))

The *paper form* as well as the *.pdf form* will allow you to submit your registration by **regular mail** or by **fax**. Make sure to fill in all the fields and then send in your form as indicated on the form itself. The easiest and quickest way to register is anyhow the **ONLINE REGISTRATION** system which is available on the web site of the Congress: visit **[www.ams2007.org](http://www.ams2007.org)** now and you will realise how quick, easy and secure it is to register to the Congress!

And as usual, our advise is...

*...be early: register soon!!!*

The **reduced rate** is available for those colleagues registering **within 15 March 2007!**

	BEFORE 15/03/2007	AFTER 15/03/2007	ON SITE
FULL REGISTRATION	€ 480	€ 690	€ 720
DAY REGISTRATION	€ 160	€ 230	€ 230
REGISTRATION ON THURSDAY	€ 100	€ 170	€ 170
ACCOMP. PERSON	€ 200	€ 200	€ 200

## Personal Invitation

To facilitate attendance to the congress a **personal invitation letter** can be sent on request. This invitation does not discharge one from registering and paying the proper congress fee. Please refer to the Organising Secretariat for personal invitations.

## Visas

Foreign attendees may need a **visa** to enter The Netherlands. Whether a visitor requires a visa depends on the nationality and how long he/she intends to stay in The Netherlands. Information on visas to enter The Netherlands can be found at the following web address:  
<http://www.minbuza.nl/>

## Bursaries

A limited number of free full registrations to the congress is available for **young scientists born after 1972**. Candidates will have to submit an application in which they motivate their request (no more than one A4 text). The application must be accompanied by:

- a scientific CV;
- a proof of age (such as a copy of a degree certificate);
- a letter of recommendation from the National Society concerned.

A Bursary Commission will decide on granting these free registrations. Applications must be addressed to the Organising Committee [euromedlab@nvkc.nl](mailto:euromedlab@nvkc.nl) **before 1 January 2007**.

There is no appeal against decisions of the Bursary Commission.

## SkyTeam



The airlines of **SKYTEAM**, Official Alliance Network for our event, offer attractive airfares for participants.

To benefit from these special offers, link up with [www.skyteam.com/globalmeetings](http://www.skyteam.com/globalmeetings) and quote the Identifier Code 0022S.

## Hotel and travel



Visit [www.ams2007.org/hotel.php](http://www.ams2007.org/hotel.php) to view and reserve your hotel & travel ONLINE.

RAI Hotel & Travel Service also offers you:

- Airfares to and from Amsterdam
- Car rental
- Excursions in and around Amsterdam
- Airport transfers

### DEADLINES:

- **early registration**  
**15 March 2007**
- **abstracts submission**  
**31 January 2007**

## **From the Scientific Committee**

The scientific programme has been well received so far. As with all congresses, some changes are inevitable. Also a number of lectures for which the speaker could not be announced yet have now been confirmed. Below is a list of **changes** adopted as per this newsletter.

- ◆ The symposium "**Evidence in Action**", the joint session of the IFCC Committee on evidence-based laboratory medicine and the IFCC global campaign on diabetes mellitus task force, which was originally scheduled for Thursday, June 7<sup>th</sup>, will now be held on Monday, June 4<sup>th</sup>. As a consequence, the symposium "**Laboratory responses to changing clinical practice**" will be held on Thursday, June 7<sup>th</sup>.
- ◆ The **Pre-congress workshop on EBLM** will NOT be held at the VU University Medical Center. The new location will be announced on the web site of the congress.
- ◆ In the symposium on **Bleeding disorders** (Wednesday, June 6<sup>th</sup>) the lecture on inherited and acquired factor XIII deficiency will be presented by **prof. László Muszbek**, from Debrecen, Hungary.
- ◆ In the symposium **Frontiers in Technology and Methods - II** (Tuesday, June 5<sup>th</sup>) the lecture on "Metabolomics in the context of systems biology" will be presented by **Prof.dr. J. van der Greef**, from Zeist. The Netherlands
- ◆ In the symposium on "**Disease of aging / Biomarkers for neurodegenerative disease**", the lecture on "Assay and significance of biomarkers for Alzheimer's disease" will be presented by **Prof. K. Blennow**, Gothenburg, Sweden.

One element of the congress which is still under construction, are the **lunch round tables** (LRT's). From the suggestions for topics received, the selection of the LRT's will be made shortly. The LRT's can be booked on the congress website by the end of January 2007. They are booked on a first come - first serve basis. The organising committee reserves the right to cancel an LRT, should there be less interest than anticipated, or to organise a second LRT on the subject should there be sufficient interest to warrant this. The deadline for booking LRT's through the web site will be May 15<sup>th</sup>,

2007. Should tickets remain after this deadline, these will be offered on site.

A substantial number of **abstracts** has been received already since the opening of the electronic abstract submission system in september. Please bear in mind that the *absolute* deadline for submission of your abstracts is January 31<sup>st</sup>, 2007. The abstract evaluation crew is eager to see your abstracts and is willing to put in some overtime, so do not hesitate to submit your recent work for evaluation. Please do not forget to indicate whether you wish your abstract to be considered for oral presentation.

Finally, the companies organising **Industry Sponsored Workshops**, (ISW's; 32!) are currently submitting the programme of their workshops to the scientific committee. The ISW programme will also be available on the web site shortly.

December 2006

*Rien Blankenstein*

*Chairman Scientific Programme*

**DEADLINE FOR ABSTRACTS  
SUBMISSION**

**31<sup>st</sup> January 2007!!**

**DO NOT MISS IT!**

### **Abstracts Book**

The abstracts of the congress will be published in the journal **Clinical Chemistry and Laboratory Medicine** (CCLM) and the abstracts will be included in the Index Services such as regular CCLM issues (CAS, BIOBASE, EMBASE, MEDLINE).

### **CD ROM**

A **CD Rom** containing all the abstracts presented at the Congress will be produced by RANDOX and provided to all delegates at the moment of registration.

## Concert and Party location in landmarks of Amsterdam

We have done our utmost to offer you memorable social events in very special and characteristic buildings of Amsterdam. The traditional **Monday evening concert** will be held in the famous '**Concertgebouw**' and the **congress party** on Wednesday evening, combined with the celebration of the 60<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Netherlands Society for Clinical Chemistry and Laboratory Medicine (NVKC), will take place in the '**Beurs van Berlage**'. To bring you already in the right atmosphere, please allow us to inform you about the characteristics of these buildings, both constructed in the late 19<sup>th</sup> century during a period of economic revival, but very different in style.

The '**Concertgebouw**', the concert building best known for its superior acoustics, is located in Amsterdam 'Oud-Zuid' (Old South) near the 'Rijksmuseum'. When visiting the 'Concertgebouw', just realise that when architect Adolf Leonard van Gendt started building in 1883, it was located outside the Amsterdam-city boundaries in an empty polder. During the opening in 1888, the inauguration-concert was performed by 120 musicians and a choir of 500 persons, playing music



composed by Wagner, Händel and Bach. Considering the design and construction of the building, Van Gendt was obviously inspired by the two years older (but in 1943 destroyed) 'Neue Gewandhaus' in Leipzig: flowing lines, rounded curves and concert halls enclosed by spacious corridors. The Monday evening concert will be situated in the Main Hall, having a size of 44 x 27,8 x 17,50 meter and marvellous acoustics brought about by a mysterious combination of different indefinable factors.

While waiting for the concert with 2000 fellow Congress participants, just enjoy the neoclassic splendour of the hall and notice that you are surrounded by the names of composers famous and admired at the time the building was constructed. Since the Main Hall can host only about 2000 people, we would like to remind you that the (free of charge) tickets for the Monday evening concert will be distributed on a 'first register, first get' basis.



For the Wednesday evening party we are very happy to offer the '**Beurs van Berlage**' as its location. This

architecturally spectacular former stock exchange, designed by Hendrik Berlage, is situated in the very centre of the city between the Central Station and the Dam. This makes it the perfect site for the Euromedlab 2007 congress party combined with the celebration of the 60<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Netherlands Society for Clinical Chemistry and Laboratory Medicine.

The 'Beurs van Berlage' offers the perfect venue for a delicious dinner buffet, followed by a spectacular after dinner dance party in the main hall, combined with catching up with old friends, and making new ones, in the Berlage café or the foyers surrounding the main hall. When walking through the building, notice the frieze showing the development of human mankind from Adam to stockbroker (till the present clinical chemist?). The architecture of the 'Beurs van Berlage' is a combination of neoclassicism and Art Nouveau, and in fact representing a new form of rationalized construction ('Amsterdamse School'). In 1999, the 'Union Internationale des Architects' placed it on a list of the 1000 most important buildings of the 20<sup>th</sup> century. In its early days, the building was mainly used for stock exchange and the trade of goods and grain. Since the 1980's, the building is mainly used for exhibitions (e.g. of 600 real size photographs of all Rembrandt van Rijn paintings celebrating the 400<sup>th</sup> birthday of this world famous artist), design and architecture expositions, events and congresses. Even Royal weddings (on 02-02-2002) are solemnized here...



## A short history of Amsterdam

Amsterdam was founded in the 13<sup>th</sup> century as a fishing village and got its city rights in 1275. Its original name was "Aemstelredamme", meaning "dam in the Amstel". The Amstel is the well-known river that comes floating from the south to end its course in the river "IJ", the large water behind the central station. In the early days the river IJ had an open connection with the North sea and the land around the Amstel was flooded by salt water at high tide. Building a dam thus protected the farmland. (Naming cities after a dam in the river is not uncommon in our country, e.g. Rotterdam being named after a dam in the Rotte river).

When in the 16<sup>th</sup> century freedom of religion was proclaimed many people who suffered from the religious wars in Europe looked for a safe haven. That led to the influx of Jewish families from Spain and Portugal, merchants from Antwerp, "Huguenots" from France and many others looking for a place to practice their religion in freedom.

With these new citizens trade became even more important and it was the driving force for the 17<sup>th</sup> century to become Amsterdam's Golden Age. Merchant ships sailed the world and brought exotic goods from everywhere. In this climate arts could flourish; we all know Rembrandt and the other important painters of this time. The enlargement of the city that went parallel with international trade brought us the canals, the horseshoe-shaped "grachten" pattern. The "Herengracht", Keizersgracht", and Prinsengracht"

are a must to visit.

In the 18<sup>th</sup> and 19<sup>th</sup> centuries Amsterdam paid its toll to the shift in balance of World power. Trade was lost to London. When the industrial revolution reached Amsterdam, it was already towards the end of the 19<sup>th</sup> century. A new enlargement of the city then occurred where Berlage was the central architect in the so-called "Amsterdamse School".

The Netherlands were not involved in the First World War. Still, industry and trade suffered from it. But the Second World War brought great sufferings to the Netherlands and Amsterdam, where for example, the nearly complete Jewish population, comprising 10% of its inhabitants, was wiped out.

Since the sixties of the last century, Amsterdam is known as the ideal city for the "hippy generation". The city's hospitality and hence the tolerance to soft drugs may be well-known, but bear in mind its possession is still a crime. So, avoid the so-called coffee-shops since it is not the place to go for a cup of coffee.

The Amsterdam Historical Museum at the Nieuwezijds Voorburgwal 357 tells the compelling story of the growth and heyday of this unique city ([www.ahm.nl](http://www.ahm.nl)). The museum reflects the tolerance, enterprising spirit and individuality that have attracted people from the four corners of the earth. So, with its architecture, museums, canals, and terraces, in June next year Amsterdam will have many more attractions for you than science only.

## Music in Amsterdam

“ Amsterdam, feel the rhythm- music & dance  
Amsterdam's official theme for 2007!

Popmusic ? Jazz? Classical? World music ?  
Plenty of it all !

Why do most young people in the Netherlands want to live for at least a couple of years in Amsterdam? Well, because everything seems to happen there. Two universities, the art academy, the famous conservatory attract students who want to combine city life with culture: music is a part of both. You have the opportunity to visit the "Concertgebouw", temple of classical music, on Monday June 4<sup>th</sup>. This is part of the Euromedlab social program, but do you

know the "*Muziekgebouw aan het IJ*", the beautiful newly built music building situated at the IJ (say: I) river, the harbour of Amsterdam Specialized in jazz and world music. Check the program for June 2007 on [www.muziekgebouw.nl/uk/](http://www.muziekgebouw.nl/uk/). Many interesting performances take place in the Euromedlab period in the famous Holland Festival ([www.hollandfestival.nl](http://www.hollandfestival.nl)). For pop try De Melkweg (=Milky way), [www.melkweg.nl](http://www.melkweg.nl) and Paradiso (=Paradiso) [www.paradiso.nl](http://www.paradiso.nl) both near the Leidseplein, the city's centre for a night out. Nearby is the Vondel Park with its open air concertos. Don't miss our street organs and other public music. Chamber music lovers can enjoy this in the churches and other beautiful intimate localities of old Amsterdam. The Music Theatre [www.stopera.nl](http://www.stopera.nl), so splendidly situated near the former Jewish quarter at the river Amstel, for the opera fans. Thus for beautiful views and excellent music: come to Amsterdam!

## ***Croquettes on bread***

One of the typical Dutch, but very tasteful, dishes is '*croquettes on bread*'. During receptions the croquettes are sometimes served in ball-form, called '*bitterballen*'. Let us warn you: since they are deep fried in oil, the contents of the '*bitterball*' may be sizzlingly hot!!!



For those of you wishing to prepare themselves before the Congress, here is the recipe:

### Ingredients (4 servings):

- |                       |                            |
|-----------------------|----------------------------|
| - 250 g boneless veal | - 1 egg yolk               |
| - 400 ml water        | - 4 tbsp cream             |
| - 100 ml white wine   | - 6 tbsp dry bread crumbs  |
| - ½ carrot (chopped)  | - oil for deep-frying      |
| - ½ leek (chopped)    | - 8 slices of bread        |
| - ½ onion (chopped)   | - butter for spreading     |
| - 125 g butter        | - mustard                  |
| - 125 g flour         | - salt and pepper          |
| - nutmeg              | - 3 tbsp parsley (chopped) |

- Bring the veal to a boil in a pan with the water, wine, carrot, leek and onion. Let simmer for 20 minutes. Remove the veal and let cool. Chop finely. Strain the cooking liquid.
- Melt the butter and stir the flour, blending thoroughly. Fry the mixture 2 minutes, until the flour is cooked. Add 150 ml of the cooking liquid and keep stirring until mixture is smooth. Add the remaining cooking liquid, until you have a thick ragout. Season.
- Stir the veal, parsley, egg yolk and cream into the ragout. Chill for at least 2 hours, but preferably overnight, to stiffen.
- Divide the cold ragout into 8 equal portions and roll these in the bread crumbs. Store them in the refrigerator for 30 minutes.
- Heat the oil to 180 °C and fry the croquettes in the hot oil until golden brown. Drain on kitchen paper.
- Butter the slices of bread and lay a croquette on each slice. Serve with mustard.
- Enjoy !!

If you think this is too much work: in the Netherlands every snack counter sells them, and you can even buy them in so called '*automatieken*'.....

The Organising & the Scientific Committees  
as well as the Organising Secretariat  
wish you all

***BEST SEASON'S  
GREETINGS!!!***

# LIST OF SPONSORS

as of 15<sup>th</sup> December 2006

## PRINCIPAL



SPONSORS

## MAJOR



SPONSORS

## OFFICIAL



SPONSORS

The companies enlisted above have already confirmed their participation in  
EUROMEDLAB Amsterdam 2007 .

We wish to thank them and all the other companies that will support the Congress.  
Any information regarding sponsorship will be published on the web site of the congress

[www.ams2007.org](http://www.ams2007.org)

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**EURO MEDLAB**

**2007**

**AMSTERDAM**

*Your future in patient care*