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SESSION 9.
Round Table: Accreditation of Microbiological Laboratories

9.1
ACCREDITATION - BENEFIT AND CHALLENGE IN MICROBIOLOGICAL LABORATORIES

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Introduction: Institute for Accreditation of the Republic of Macedonia - IARM is the National Accreditation Body of the Republic of Macedonia. IARM performs the tasks and operations according the Accreditation Law and IARM Statute and has established and implemented a quality management system in accordance with the requirements of MKS EN ISO/IEC 17011 - International Standard that specifies general requirements for accreditation bodies.

Aim: Institute for Accreditation of the Republic of Macedonia provides accreditation of testing and calibration laboratories, certification and inspection bodies. Microbiological laboratories can be accredited if met the requirements of MKS EN ISO/IEC 17025. If they perform testing of human samples, they can be accredited in accordance with MKS EN ISO/IEC 15189 – International Standard that specifies requirements for quality and competence particular to medical laboratories.

Discussion and Conclusion: The benefit of accreditation is of providing formal recognition of competence and expertise of laboratories that comply with appropriate standard. Accreditation represents effective commercial tool and gives opportunity for international laboratory's recognition, which means acceptance of results of their test reports in other countries.

At the same time, government bodies and regulators use accredited microbiological laboratory for making quality decisions, taking care of protection of human health and environment, compliance with regulatory and legal requirements, eliminating redundant examinations and improving the efficiency of the control process.

Keywords: accreditation, MKS EN ISO/IEC 17025, MKS EN ISO/IEC 15189

9.2
ACCREDITATION OF ISO 15189 IN CLINICAL MICROBIOLOGY LABORATORIES

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In 2001, CDC publicated that every year 44 000-98 000 patients were lost due to medical errors in USA. A good part of this fearsome fact was that most of these errors were preventable. On the other hand, it was known that, approximately 70% of diagnostics in medicine are performed with laboratory results. So, qualification of the medical laboratory services is very important in the health field. If someone asks