

# FIMLS NEWSLETTER



ISSUE 9- MAY 2023

## FIMLS MINI SEMINAR 2023

The Fiji Institute of Medical Laboratory Science held the Mini-Seminar at the Holiday-Inn on the 20th of May. The theme for the Mini-Seminar was "The Importance of Medical Laboratory Science in Medicine: Case Study Reflections". There were many interesting presentations from laboratories around the country. Ms Shalini Singh of Fiji CDC and Ms Shweta Kumar of Aspen Medical Lautoka got the awards for best presentation.



### CONTACT US

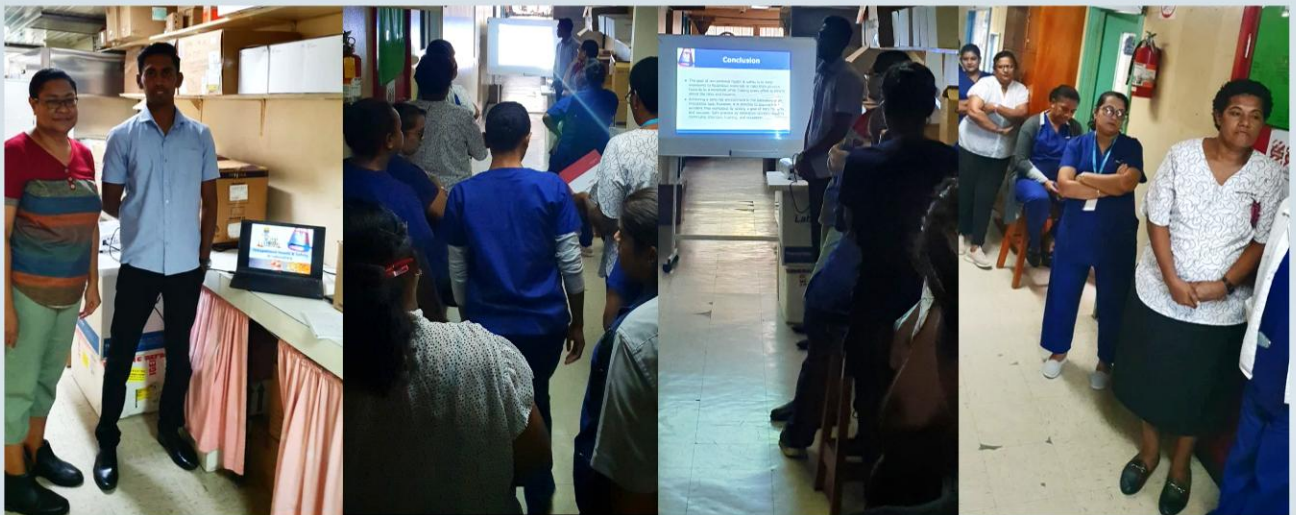
If you want to share ideas, news or stories regarding our field, feel free to contact your respective representatives in each division or email us at [info@fimls.org.fj](mailto:info@fimls.org.fj). Happy reading from the FIMLS newsletter team.

## FIMLS WEBINAR 2023

The Fiji Institute of Medical Laboratory Science requires its members to gain CPD points, and CME's are one of the ways to gain points easily. FIMLS have begun with CMEs for its members to gain CPD points by introducing FIMLS webinars which is carried out every month which began from May 2023. The May webinar was conducted by Mr Jignesh Sharma and the topic for the session was "Ways to obtain CPD points, reaching 100 CPD points". All members who attend these webinars are provided with a certificate for attendance with the points gained.

## LAUTOKA LABORATORY'S FIRST CME OF 2023

Continuing Medical Education (CME) is an important program that should be carried out by all medical departments in order to stay up-to-date with the recent medical upgrades and information. Aspen Medical Laboratory Staff also held their first laboratory CME on Occupational Health and Safety (OHS) which was conducted by the OHS officer for Lautoka Laboratory, Mr Amitesh Nand and Lautoka Laboratory Pathologist, Ms Lusiana Boseiwaqa.



## BAND F MOVEMENT

Congratulations to all Medical Laboratory Scientists on the Band F movement for Medical Laboratory Scientist

It was a great achievement for our Medical Laboratory Scientist, who are now formally recognized by Scientist as Ministry of Health and Medical Services, changed their Job titles, it was also a significant achievement as now Medical Laboratory Scientist which be starting from Band F. As previously, they were sitting on Band E, and the staff have been given deployment letters , and 94 positions have been advertised by the Ministry. This was done as it is the civil service procedure to readvertise positions if their job titles are changed on Job Descriptions.

## INTRODUCTION OF LEUKOCYTE REDUCED RED CELLS

Blood donor bags are used for collection of human blood and preservation of blood components. Aspen Lautoka Blood Bank is proud to be the FIRST to be introduced to Leukocyte Reduced Red Cells blood donor bags. It has taken >40 years to reach our shores. Leukoreduction is a process in which the white blood cells (WBCs) are intentionally reduced in packed red blood cells (PRBCs) hence improving quality of red cell. The use of leukoreduction is a major step to improve transfusion safety thanks to a significant reduction of patient adverse reactions and pathogen transmissions hence less transfusion reaction investigations. Currently, the literature supports leukoreduction of red blood cells as a means to reduce the risk of febrile nonhemolytic transfusion reactions, HLA alloimmunization, and cytomegalovirus infection.

The system uses a leuko-filter attached to the primary donor bag which contains whole blood. After a number of steps, the whole blood is separated into platelet rich plasma (PRP) and red cells (RC). The red cells undergo leukocyte filtration via which the WBC get trapped into the filter and red cells are filtered into the secondary bag. Cleaner red cells are achieved without breaking the sterility of the product.

The bags are currently on trial, and we are looking into the process of implementing this system. Thanks to the Macopharma team Ms. Jenny De Manielle and Mr. Xavier Farenc for providing validation of the new bags and enabling the Aspen Blood Bank staff to familiarize themselves with the new system. The Macopharma team was in Fiji from the 22nd May - 26th May 2023. A special thanks to our Lab manager Mr Charles Wetzel for bringing in this new development to Aspen Lautoka Blood Bank, Fiji.



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## Fiji Institute of Medical Laboratory Science MERCHANDISE 2023

**GLASS COFFEE CUP WITH LID**  
*Stylish yet practical*

**\$20 each**



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## Annual Seminar 2023

## Webinars

## FIMLS Scientific CME's

**2023 FIMLS Annual Seminar**

**EVENTS DETAILS**

Date: 30th September & 1st October, 2023  
Venue: Sheraton Fiji Golf & Beach resort  
Theme: Expanding Medical Laboratory Practice in the face of current Economic Realities; Innovations, Equipment and Manpower Development.

**REGISTRATION FEES**

- \$120 FJD- FIMLS Members
- \$180 FJD- Other Delegates
- \$150 FJD- Dinner Tickets (Includes Cocktail & Dinner)

**30th September, 2023**  
8am to 5pm- Seminar Day 1

**1st October, 2023**  
8am to 1pm- Seminar Day 2  
2pm to 3pm- Team Bonding Exercise  
6pm to 7pm- Cocktail  
7pm to 10pm- Presentation of Gifts & Dinner

**FIMLS BANK ACCOUNT DETAILS**

Account no: 8108593  
Account Name: Fiji Institute of Medical Laboratory Science  
Bank Branch: Pacific House  
BSB Code: 068002  
Swift Code: BOSPPFJFJ  
Bank of South Pacific (BSP)

**Registrations are due by 1st September, 2023**

**CONTACT US**

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+679 2827218  
www.fimls.org.fj

**FIMLS Members only event!**



**CPD Points to Grab**

**FIMLS**  
FUJI INSTITUTE OF MEDICAL LABORATORY SCIENCE

**FIJI INSTITUTE OF MEDICAL LABORATORY SCIENCE (FIMLS)**

**PRESENTS**

**FIMLS SCIENTIFIC CME (WEBINARS)**

**05** Per Session (Attendance)  
POINTS

**10** Per Session (Presenter)  
POINTS

**ONE SESSION PER MONTH, STARTING FROM MAY**

If you are interested to present  
email VP West on: vpwest@fimls.org.fj

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## LABORATORY HUMOUR

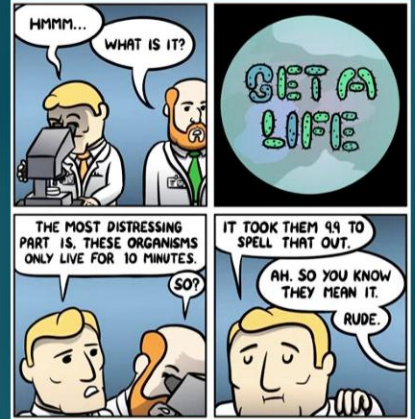
### MICROBIOLOGIST'S CELEBRATION



What you see



What the bacteria sees



## QUIZ CORNER

### LAB FACT #1

Danish scientist Hans Christian Gram developed the method of staining bacteria that bears his name in 1848.

Identify the parasitic ova

- a.) Enterobius    b.) Ancylostoma
- c.) Trichuris    d.) Ascaris

