Dear colleagues and friends

With this second announcement we are proud to present to you the (almost) final version of the programme for Swiss MedLab 2004, the International Congress of Laboratory Medicine to be held from 5 to 9 October 2004 in Lucerne.

True to our slogan «Birds of a Feather Flock Together» we have assembled a scientific program that aims at interdisciplinary approaches to a series of topics and developments that are of common interest to members of the various participating societies, representing clinical chemists, biologists, geneticists, hematologists, immunologists and public health specialists, to name just a few.

Each day begins with a plenary session during which invited speakers present the basis for the «topic of the day», i.e., «Heart Failure», «Host-Parasite Interactions», «Benefits of Laboratory Medicine», «Ageing & Lifestyle» and «Cancer». Afterwards, workshops and parallel sessions cover selected aspects of these topics which are also the objects of the daily poster show. Throughout the week, industrial exhibitors allow you to familiarise yourself with the latest equipment and techniques in laboratory medicine. Special meetings of national and international societies (e.g., Consortium Alps Adria, Sino-Swiss Laboratory Society and others) are being scheduled, and a series of social events prevents you from feeling lonely after a hard day’s work.

We are convinced that Swiss MedLab 2004 offers a unique opportunity for «brushups» in various disciplines of laboratory medicine, for interdisciplinary discussions and to meet colleagues and friends. We are looking forward to welcoming you soon in Lucerne.

Prof. Dr. med. Max Hess
President Scientific Committee
Prof. Dr. med. Andreas R. Huber
President Organizing Committee

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