

15th April

Health minister to address conference of laboratory scientists

The Minister for Health, Leo Varadkar, will address 'LabCon Ireland 2015' in Kilkenny on Friday next, 17th April.

The event, organised by the Academy of Clinical Science and Laboratory Medicine (ACSLM) in partnership with the Medical Laboratory Scientists Association (MLSA) will take place in the Lyrath Estate Hotel, Kilkenny on Friday 17th and Saturday 18th April.

The keynote address entitled "Error Proofing the Patient Experience - the Laboratory's Role" will be delivered by Mr Brendon Sato, United Blood Services, South Dakota, USA.

Mr Sato will discuss the emerging trends in the US which indicate that the three top killers of US citizens are heart disease, cancer and preventable medical errors. It is estimated that medical errors cost the US economy up to \$1 trillion annually.

Over two days, the conference will also be addressed by several leading exponents, including in Cellular Pathology, Clinical Chemistry, Haematology, Virology and Transfusion and Transplantation Science.

Among the speakers are Professor John O'Leary, Chair of Pathology, Trinity College, Dublin, who will speak on the 'Future of Clinical Science and Laboratory Medicine' and Professor Martin Cormican who will address the conference on the Ebola crisis in a lecture entitled "The Virulence of Equality and Fear".

The MLSA annual conference on Saturday will debate motions on pay restoration for medical scientists, working hours and safe staffing levels.

For further information contact:

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Note to editors: A number of speakers are available for interview before and at the conference. This can be arranged by contacting me at the number above, Frank Connolly.