## **Editorial**

Mario Plebani

## CCLM Award for the Most Cited Paper Recently Published

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The CCLM Award for the Most Cited Paper Recently Published was initiated in 2008, and since 2014 the prize has been awarded at the EFLM-UEMS Conferences. Clinical Chemistry and Laboratory Medicine (CCLM) is the official journal of the European Federation of Clinical Chemistry and Laboratory Medicine (EFLM). The award honors the most cited original article published in the last 2 years and rewards the authors of articles that generate high interest among the journal's readership.

This year's award winning manuscript is the Routine use of the Ion Torrent AmpliSeq<sup>TM</sup> Cancer Hotspot Panel for identification of clinically actionable somatic mutations (Clin Chem Lab Med 2014;52:707-14), by Gregory J. Tsongalis, Jason D. Peterson, Francine B. de Abreu, Christopher D. Tunkey, Torrey L. Gallagher, Linda D. Strausbaugh, Wendy A. Wells and Christopher I. Amos. This was one of the first published papers to highlight analytical validation processes for next generation sequencing (NGS) of a cancer hotspot panel. As somatic mutation analysis in human cancer was becoming critical in the selection of appropriate therapies for patient management, the Dartmouth group implemented NGS for a 50 gene cancer hotspot panel and established a validation protocol to assess performance characteristics of these highly complex assays. They showed that by monitoring traditional performance metrics, NGS assays could be routinely used in a clinical laboratory setting.

This year's award was presented during the Opening Ceremony of the 4th EFLM-UEMS Congress 2016 "Laboratory Medicine at the Clinical Interface" in Warsaw (September 21–24, 2016). Dr. Tsongalis and his colleagues will get a 1-year free online subscription to CCLM, and Dr. Tsongalis – as the first author – receives an award certificate and a monetary prize.

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