REPORT OF THE FOR WORKING GROUPS AND SPECIAL INTEREST GROUPS
Hyeoun-Ae Park

Part III: Work Group and Special Interest Group Reports

The following are the reports of each WG/SIG as either updated in May 2011, or as indicated that there is no update to the 2011 IMIA Board Meeting report. For each, I have indicated whether an update has been received, or whether no report has been received, despite several requests.

Special Interest Group Nursing Informatics (Updated May 2011)

Website: http://www.imiani.org

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Objectives

- Explore the scope of Nursing Informatics and its implications for health policy and information handling activities associated with evidence based nursing practice, nursing management, nursing research, nursing education, standards and patient (or client) decision making and the various relationships with other health informatics entities.
- Identify priorities or gaps and make recommendations for future developments in nursing informatics.
- Support the development of nursing informatics in member countries and promote nursing informatics worldwide.
- Promote linkages and collaborative activities with national and international nursing and health informatics groups and nursing and health care organisations globally.
- Provide, promote and support informatics meetings, conferences, and electronic communication forums to enable opportunities for the sharing of ideas, developments and knowledge.
- Participate in IMIA working groups and special interest groups to present a nursing perspective.
- Develop recommendations, guidelines, tools and courses relating to nursing informatics.
- Encourage the publication and dissemination of research and development materials in the field of nursing informatics.
- Support and work with patients, families, communities and societies to adopt and manage informatics approaches to healthcare.

Recent Activities

MEDINFO 2010

An excellent nursing informatics world congress met on MEDINFO 2010. Dr Hyeoun-Ae Park, IMIA-NI Rep, for Korea participated in the Scientific Committee and Dr. Heimar F. Marin in the Editorial Committee. The IMIA NI Board and the IMIANI GA was hold at this conference and we thank IMIA for their continued support of the Nursing Special Interest Group.
ACENDIO 2011

For the first time, IMIA NI joint ACENDIO conference as a formal partnership. At this meeting, held in Madera, Portugal, we had the IMIANI GA 2011. This decision was taken at the GA in 2010 when members voted for the location of the GA in 2011. Dr. Heimar was also invited as the opening keynote of the conference. A Panel was set up joining ACENDIO and IMIA NI Board where some initiatives were agreed by the members to conduct such as: organize a pre-conference in NI2012 related to standards and terminology, disseminate news and information in the websites and ACENDIO newsletter.

Working Groups

The currently Working Groups are: NI Consumer/Client Health Informatics, NI Evidence Based Practice, NI Education, NI Standards. IMIA-NI national members (26) undertake a wide range of activities that support nursing informatics in member countries. Reports in full are available on the Web Site from National Members and WG.

Future Activities

Participation appears weak in IMIA-NI currently. Thus, need to look at how to assist with Country representations especially from countries without IMIA representatives and discuss with IMIA about more integration and joined activities among WGs. Board will discuss the strategic plan and whitepaper. IMIA-NI is 30 years old in 2012. Need to investigate how to celebrate this at NI2012 that will be held 23-27 June 2012 in Montreal, Canada. Theme is "Advancing Global Health through Informatics". Committees are set up. Venue has been selected for post conference. Submission of Papers/Posters/Workshops etc are due in August 2011.

Biomedical Pattern Recognition and Interpretation (Updated May 2011)

Website: http://www.imia-medinfo.org/new2/node/136

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Objectives
To promote applications in medicine and biology focusing on methods of pattern recognition and interpretation.

Recent Activities

September 2010: The meeting of the IMIA Working Group 7 was held in Cape Town during the MEDINFO 2010 Conference. The newly elected and the past Chairs presented the activities of WG and delineate strategy and future plans. They also identified possible initiatives in terms of organization of events, workshop, publications and joint activities in collaboration with other IMIA and EFMI Working groups.
Methods of Information in Medicine published a special issue (Vol. 49, Issue 5, 2010) consisting of 20 selected papers from the IMIA-IFMBE-EMBS 6th International Workshop on Biosignal Interpretation (BSI) held at Yale University in New Haven, Connecticut, USA in June 2009. In line with the mission of the Workshop, the papers deal with the most recent advances in medical informatics and biosignal processing methods that can be applied to biological and physiological systems so that interpretation of the results can lead to better detection, diagnosis and treatment of various diseases.

Related activities: The Conference the International Conference “Biosignal 2010: Advanced Technologies in Intensive Care and Sleep Medicine” was held from 14th – 16th July 2010 at Berlin, Germany and supported by the German Association of Biomedical Engineering, (DGBMT), German Sleep Society (DGSM), European Society of Intensive Care Medicine (ESICM), Deutsche Forschungsgemeinschaft (DFG). The Conference dealt with the study and use of models and techniques applied to biological systems and covers different topics ranging from physiological phenomenon for intensive care and/or sleep monitoring, biosignal processing, pattern analysis, data fusion and interpretation, medical decision support methods, medical informatics.

Future Activities

August 2011: A Joint Panel between EFMI WG MIP (Medical Image Processing) and IMIA WG7 titled: "Patient Empowerment and High-Tech Imaging and Biosignal-Based Procedures: Contradiction or Challenge?" will be held at the MIE 2011. (A. Horsch & L. Mainardi proponents). The panel aims at exploring the view of patients and their empowerment in healthcare settings involving high-tech imaging and biosignal-based procedures. Starting out from concepts of patient-centeredness, the panel will examine different types of application scenarios involving diagnostic, therapeutic and monitoring procedures such as, e.g., image-guided intervention, computer aided cancer screening, telemonitoring, behavioral change interventions based on physical activity biosensors. The panel addresses colleagues working in the fields of imaging and biosignals with interest in patient empowerment.

Year 2012 (final date to be defined yet): The 7th Biomedical Signal Interpretation (BSI) Workshop will be held in Italy (for the second time after the 2002 edition which was held in Villa Olmo, Como). The workshop will be co-sponsored by the IMIA, IFMBE and IEEE-EMBS.

Consumer Health Informatics (Updated October 2009)

Chair (2008-2011)
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Scope
The Consumer Health Informatics Working Group (CHIWG) became an official IMIA
Working Group in 2000. The CHIWG is concerned with electronic information related to
health care available to the public (e.g. Internet, wireless, standalone electronic media). For
its purposes, it defines Consumer Health Informatics as "the use of modern computers and
telecommunications to support consumers in obtaining information, analyzing unique health
care needs and helping them make decisions about their own health" (U.S. General
Accounting Office, 1996, p.1.), in which the consumer interacts with the applications directly
with or without the presence of health care professionals. The group's interests focus on,
but are not limited to, world wide web sites that offer advice about healthy living, research
findings, and recommendations on specific disease conditions, descriptions of products,
medications, and self-care health programs available to the public. Issues of concern may
be the evaluation of the quality of information, education of the public, ethical issues related
to the electronic information, and the effect on a person's health care and relationship with
health care providers.

Objectives for the next 3 years
The WG hopes to work with the IMIA leadership on strengthening the role of the Working
Groups within IMIA. We look forward to greater participation in key IMIA activities,
increasing the visibility and impact of CHI WGs in the world.

- Provide greater opportunities to share CHI related information from relevant and
  accessible sources such as the International Journal of Medical Informatics (IJMIA),
  and the Journal of Medical Internet Research (JMIR). Emphasis will be given to
  high-quality studies and randomized trials published in quality journals.

- The group plans to hold a business meeting at Medinfo 2007, and plans a tutorial
- The group will continue to liaise with counterparts in other countries, such as the
  AMIA WG CHI, EFMI, IMIA's NI-SIG(WG on CHI).
- A priority will be to expand our contacts with CHI interest groups in Asia and Africa.

Recent Activities
Thomas K Houston is pro tem chair of the group. Activities of the group include:

- We had our business meeting at Medinfo in 2007. Attendees for this meeting were
  attached. At Medinfo, we decided to have the leadership of the group fall to Tom
  Houston (Chair), and two Co-Chairs (Holly Jimison and Thomas Wetter).
- We have a facebook group – with 18 current members and ongoing discussions.
- Several WG members participated in the Medicine 2.0 conference in Toronto (see
  the associated crowdvine site).
- Thomas is planning on leading an effort to create a white paper.
- As per previous emails from Peter, we would request that you put a motion to the
  IMIA GA that JMIR be endorsed as a official journal of the IMIA CHI WG.
Members of the working group have also worked with the U.S. Society of Behavioral Medicine in August, 2008, to submit a panel discussion "Cyberinfrastructure for behavioral informatics" as it is relevant to consumer health informatics.

**Future Activities**

Report from pro tem vice-chair of the group (Thomas Wetter) regarding future activities

1. There seems to be an adhoc kind of activity at NLM/Lister Hill associated with the name Keselman about CHI terminology. I suggest that we hook up to this and beyond, to get CHI listed as a MeSH term.
2. More Book Publishers are subscribing to CHI:
   - IGI is publishing one edited by Vance Wilson
   - Springer is publishing the one I'm writing.

We might take this opportunity to initiate a CHI competencies gathering activity.

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**Critical Care Informatics (Updated May 2011)**

**Website:**

**Chair (2010 – 2013)**

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**Vice-Chair (2010 - 2013)**

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**Objectives**

To bring the critical care community and the medical informatics community together as many subjects such as quality registries, benchmarking, prognostic models, terminological systems, clinical decision support and clinical information systems are of interest for both communities.

**Recent Activities**

- Development of a discussion group and identification of several topics for discussions on health informatics forum.
- Recruiting and inviting members (presently 33).
- Offering an informatics course titled "Data, Information and Knowledge management", at the Emirates Critical Care Conference in Dubai, April 23rd 2011
  http://www.eccc-dubai.com/courses.aspx
  This course has been designed and developed for Critical Care clinicians involved in Quality Improvement and research as well as the critical care managers and IT
professionals involved in selection, implementation and operation of Clinical Information Systems.

Future Activities

- A workshop titled ‘Generating a research and education agenda for Critical Care Informatics’ at the International Conference of the European Federation for Medical Informatics (MIE 2011) in Oslo, Norway, August 28th to 31st 2011 http://www.mie2011.org/. Based on this agenda a working plan for the next three years will be defined.
- Development of the working group web site.

Dental Informatics (Updated May 2010)

Website: http://www.ecs.gannon.edu/IMIA

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Objectives
To bring the small, but rapidly growing community of dental informaticians around the world into closer contact.

Recent Activities
The Dental Informatics Working Group was reactivated in 2009. We are in the process of possibly moving our current hosting to a new website that will offer more functionality to our members, but we are not ready to announce it since we need to check several technical details.

Health and Medical Informatics Education (Updated May 2011)

Web sites:
http://www.imia.org/wg1
http://imiawged.pbwiki.org/

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Objectives
- To disseminate and exchange information on Health and Medical Informatics (HMI) programs and courses
- To promote the IMIA HMI database of programs and courses on HMI education
- To produce international recommendations on HMI programs and courses
- To support HMI courses and exchange of students and teachers
- To advance the knowledge of:
  - How informatics is taught in the education of health care professionals around the world
  - How in particular health and medical informatics is taught to students of computer science/informatics
  - How it is taught within dedicated curricula in health and medical informatics

Recent Activities
During MEDINFO 2010 at Cape Town a IMIA WG on Education Business Meeting was carried out on Sept. 13 that covered the following topics:

- **Publication of educational recommendations and follow-up**
  - John Mantas gave an overview of the recommendations, their publication (freely available on the Methods of Information in Medicine web site), and their translation into other languages. Those wanting to translate into other languages should contact John before doing so.
  - Currently the translation to Spanish is being done by the Department of Health Informatics at the Hospital Italiano de Buenos Aires

- **Development of the space at IMIA web site for the WG**
  - There are new tools to put content on the IMIA web site, including the portion devoted to the Education Working Group. Two issues aroused regarding the maintenance of the site and the desire to not duplicate efforts if other site provide similar information. Among the contents that could be included we suggested that it could be useful to evaluate other sites and links, develop also a facebook page and the possibility of adding videos and podcasts

- **Next working group meeting**
  - There was some discussion about the next meeting of the working group, following on the successful meetings in Portland (2003), Athens (2005), and Buenos Aires (2008). As the 2008 meeting worked well to collocate with the IMIA LAC meeting, there was some discussion about doing likewise with a meeting in May, 2010 in Guadalajara, although some expressed concern this was too soon after Medinfo and did not provide enough time to allow people to write papers to get organized so the proposal was discarded
  - It is important that there is value in collocating with other IMIA events, including the General Assembly. The next opportunity to do that will be at the MIE 2011 meeting in Oslo, Norway in late August, 2011. The discussion will continue on the working group email list.
The following were the people that were present at the meeting
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For the 2011 edition of the IMIA Yearbook of Medical Informatics that has the theme “Towards Health Informatics 3.0”, the WG was invited to contribute. Dr Otero and Dr. Hersh wrote an article entitled “Education in Biomedical and Health Informatics in the Web 3.0 era: Standards for Data, Curricula, and Activities” which describe a new scenario in education and training known as “Education 3.0” that can help in the promotion of learning in health informatics in a collaborative way. Because the Web 3.0 can propose new approaches to building the Biomedical and Health Informatics workforce so there is a need to build tools as knowledge infrastructure to leverage it. The usefulness of standards in the content and competencies of training programs in Biomedical and Health Informatics needs more experience and research so as to promote the interoperability and sharing of resources in this growing discipline

Health Informatics for Development (Updated May 2011)

Website: http://hi4dev.iomsasian.net

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Objectives
- define the sub-domain of “health informatics for development” as it pertains to its parent “biomedical and health informatics” and as it relates to specific issues in low-to-medium income countries (LMICs)
- characterize the unique issues in health informatics experienced by LMICs such as those found in the social, political, and economic contexts
- identify best practice and lessons learned in health informatics that LMICs can adopt in order to build cost-effective health information systems
- connect developed and developing country health informatics experts for possible partnerships and collaborations
- redefine standards and interoperability in the context of the needs of LMICs
- identify innovations such as mobile health that make it possible for LMICs to design and implement health information systems at a cost they can afford

Recent Activities
- May 2010: Global Public Health & Technology Conference: Moving Beyond the Technology (www.globalphat.com) (participant)
- September 2010: Back-to-back presentation with the Open Source Working Group at MEDINFO 2011 in Cape Town, South Africa (organizer)
- Feb 2011: International Symposium on eHealth and Telemedicine, Manila, Philippines (organizer)
- April 2011: Regional Workshop on Standards, Interoperability and Health Information Systems (participant)
- April 2011: Fourth PANACeA Annual Workshop, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia (participant)
- May 2011: Infolac2011, Guadalajara, Mexico (participant)

Future Activities
- Virtual Conference of eHealth Networks (GHIP, PANACeA, AMAUTA, INDEHELA, RAFT)
- Inter-networking of existing eHealth networks through the hi4dev website
- eLectures between node members of eHealth networks

Health Information Systems (Updated May 2011)

Website: http://www.imia-medinfo.org/new2/node/141

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Objectives

- Promote interoperability of systems, at human, technological and semantical levels;
- Promote systematic development and research in the field of health information systems;
- Promote research and efforts on efficiency and cost-effectiveness of health information systems for the healthcare, health delivery and access to health;
- Promote research and development in the domain of sustainability in health information systems;
- Promote evaluation, identify and assess problems and success factors of health information systems.
- Promote education for professionals in health information systems

Recent Activities

- 2010 is a very important date for the IMIA Health Information Systems (HIS) WG, and Cape Town a very special place. In 1979, the first HIS working conference was held in Cape Town, South Africa. As a result of that conference the International Medical Informatics Association (IMIA) created a working group on hospital information systems. That working group has since organized a series of working conferences (Nijmegen, Gottingen, Durham, Heidelberg, Oeiras, …) of which the proceedings have been published.
- The IMIA Health Information Systems Working Group organized a two day workshop on "Health Information Systems - 30 Years of Evolution". The event was held on September 10-12, 2010 in Le Franschoek, South Africa, just before the Medinfo 2010 Conference in Cape Town, South Africa under the organizational leadership of John Tresling and his team, and the Program committee, co-chaired by Ab Bakker and Christian Lovis and their committee. A very successful conference with invited participants from all part of the world.

- Le Franschoek, Nov 12, 2010

- A Facebook group has been created, “IMIA HIS Working Group 2010” by Vicky Moloi
- A position paper with 13 authors has been prepared for the IMIA 2011 Yearbook addressing all major challenges in the topic of Health Information Systems

Future Activities

- Several work are in preparation, such as a “cookbook” for health Information systems
- Discussions about how to create a community around improving knowledge in the topic in Wikipedia
**Human Factors Engineering for Healthcare Informatics (Updated May 2011)**

**Chair (2009-2012)**
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**Objectives**
- To promote methods and techniques devoted to the study of human factors in the field of Biomedical Informatics.
- To coordinate studies and actions in this particular domain and to develop standardization initiatives for usability studies and user-centered design in the healthcare domain. This international group of experts will confront state of the art methods, models, innovations and results.
- To disseminate rigorous scientific principles for performing formal usability evaluations to improve their degree of efficiency, acceptability and safety of health informatics applications.
- To support emerging teams in this field in Europe and Northern America: an IMIA Working group will be the opportunity for newcomers to benefit of the support of experts in this domain.

**Focus**

Human factors can be the difference between systems that function well in the clinical environment and systems that function poorly. The Physician-Patient relationship has now become the Physician-Computer-Patient relationship. Human factors engineering is the field of study which deals with the cognitive aspects of the human computer interaction. This working group will discuss methods for studying the computer-human interaction in health. New research and methods are needed to evaluate the complex systems facing both clinicians and patients today. Further, this proposed working group will engage in discussions regarding optimal interface designs for health informatics software to make the computer a welcome partner with both the clinician and the patient in the empowered longitudinal care of the individual.
Potential Overlap with other IMIA WGs

The major overlap is with the IMIA Evaluation WG where human factors are only a small part of their agenda. We will plan to liaise closely with the evaluation WG to ensure that overlap is minimized and that the output of the HFE WG is made available to the members of the evaluation WG. As the methods in human factors are quite particular to this field of study and with a large agenda, the discussions necessary to move the field of HFE forward are not possible within the evaluation WG. We also propose a strong relationship with the Organizational Issues IMIA WG.

There has been a joining of the EFMI Organizational Factors In Medical Informatics (OFMI) group with human factors to make the EFMI HOFMI working group. The group is led by Jos Aarts and Marie-Catherine Beuscart and will have a strong liaison with the IMIA HFE working group.

Lastly, an effort to form a coordinate group at AMIA will be undertaken to complement the European effort and to bring the work of these two organizations forward to IMIA via the proposed working group. This will be accomplished through the symposiums and through ongoing dialog. IMIA will help to coordinate various cultural and regulatory differences between and among members that could not reasonably be understood in the context of a single nation or region.

Recent Activities

Year 1

A first workshop took place in May 2006 in Lille (France):

The objectives of this workshop were:

- To welcome newcomers and support their efforts in building a usability lab and/or create a team competent in Human Factors Engineering. This took the form of basic training and tutorials on usability studies in the Evalab environment, including demonstrations and technical explanations regarding the minimal necessary devices.
- To confront experts latest studies on a particular Human Factors (HF) related problem in Biomedical Informatics such as:
  - users requirement for a proper “overview” of medical data
  - impact of usability of healthcare applications (HER, CIS, CPOE) on medical error
- To initiate the standardization reflection on usability methods and their adaptation to the specific domain of Biomedical Informatics

This workshop constituted an opportunity to start the international network in this HF engineering domain. Such a network would closely cooperate with other networks or working groups such as the European HISEVAL network or the WG 13 (Organizational and social issues) and 15 (Technology Assessment and Quality Improvement). There were forty attendees from Europe and the United States. The meeting was well received and participants were engaged and the feedback from the meeting showed that it was an overwhelming success. The following day a symposium was held where there were 120 participants. This event was also very successful. A special Issue of the International Journal of Medical Informatics features articles from this symposium, edited by Drs. Beuscart-Zephir and Elkin.

A second symposium was held in Rochester, MN, USA on August 23-25th. Speakers included: Peter L. Elkin, MD, Marie-Catherine Beuscart, PhD, Regis Beuscart, MD, PhD, Ted Shortliffe, MD, PhD, Don Detmer, MD, Paul Tang, MD, Ed Hammond, PhD, Randy Miller, MD, Zak Kohane, MD, PhD, Denis Cortese, MD, Robert Kolodner, MD, Karen Bell, MD, Steven Brown, MD, Trent Rosenbloom, MD, Hank Rappaport, MD, Matt Puffer, MD. This was a tremendous success. Human factors issues captivated the discussions which
centered on the role of human factors and Usability studies on the certification of intelligent electronic health records. The meeting had sixty participants and initial feedback has been very positive.

In year one, we will put up a web site with a semantic wiki for the purpose of furthering discussion in this area.

Liaison with other IMIA working groups such as the evaluation group will be developed and joint meetings planned.

Liaisons with EFMI and with AMIA working groups in the area of human factors and evaluation will be developed during the first year of the working group. This will include the dynamics of interchange between the various stakeholders and methods of recognizing work by EFMI and AMIA in the IMIA working group.

**Year 2 and beyond**

We held a meeting with 109 participants in Aarhus, Denmark in June, 2007 held at Skybe hospital. The meeting by all rights was a complete success. Six or Seven papers are being submitted as a special focus issue in JAMIA. We have all agreed that there are two important next tasks for the working group:

1. To create a standard for how HFE and in particular Usability Testing should be employed in the process for certification of electronic health records. We believe this can and will insure more usable and safer EHR systems.
2. To create an international registry of Usability studies to hold the topic, scenarios, results and conclusions from the studies. This will enable meta-analyses and minimize the need for repetition of studies to prove the same point.

The results of the working group will be published at the end of year two or the early part of year three. These are currently submitted as a special focus issue in JAMIA.

The next meeting is planned to be held in the Netherlands in Amsterdam on December 18th and 19th of 2008. The scientific program chair for the meeting was Monique Jaspers. We held a masters class in conjunction with the scientific program.

The working group will develop a research agenda for human factors in health informatics. This work will lead to a white paper by the end of year three or the beginning of year four.

A conference was held in 2009 in conjunction with the AMIA annual symposium where we held a meeting at the Sonoma Mission Inn. There was international attendance and we had a fantastic group of about 36 participants. It was a huge success.

We have started an effort to extend the STARE-HI criteria to include the features needed for human factors engineering. This effort is led by Linda Peute and Monique Jaspers from the Netherlands.

**Future Activities**

- Our next meeting is hosted by Dag Svagnes in Trontheim Norway in advance of the MIE 2011 meeting in Oslo. This promises to be an excellent event.
Informatics in Genomic Medicine (Updated May 2011)

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Objectives:
Opportunities arise within the discipline of biomedical informatics to facilitate the advancement of genomic and individualised medicine. To effectively link the genotype and phenotype a bi-directional flow of data, tools and methods between two traditionally separate areas of informatics (clinical informatics and bioinformatics) must be ensured.

These interests include, but are not limited to:
- Integrating molecular and genomic information (genetic testing, mutation analysis, gene and protein expression) into health information systems and tools (electronic health records, computerised protocols and clinical guidelines, clinical trials in the context of pharmacogenetics, molecular imaging).
- Generating structured, standardised, anonymous clinical data sets (phenomic data) to be used in the context of post-genomic research (for annotation and validation of experimental results).
- Facilitating new approaches for the integration and analysis of different levels of information (molecular, cellular, tissue, organ, patient, population) about diseases (grid, biobanks, disease modelling and simulation, mapping of clinical and genetic databases and ontologies).

The IGM WG aims to:
- Provide a forum to enhance collaboration, share experiences, and promote research in this field.
- Increase communication with other working groups at IMIA, AMIA and other organizations relevant to IGM including groups with an emphasis on genomic medicine and informatics from the biomedical community, computing research and bioinformatics as relevant.
- Establish itself as a scientific reference on issues related to information technology projects in genomic medicine.

Recent Activities:
- Invited conference at the Brazilian Conference on Health Informatics CBIS-2010 October 2010, Recife. Brazil.
- Review article on Informatics in Genomic Medicine for a Journal.
- To formalize relationship with the AMIA GEN-WG (Genomics)
- To set up collaborative information services and tools (Wiki, mailing list, forum)
- To start conversations with other relevant stakeholders in Biomedical Informatics (ISCB, HL7)
- Introduction of the WG in the International Workshop on Medical Image celebrated in A Coruna, Spain between March 2nd and 3th 2011 supported in part by GE and Genome Spain among others.

Future Activities:
- Development of a new web page
- Consolidation of a web 2.0 (social networks, blog) community of scientists interested in the application of Informatics to facilitate individualised healthcare
- Participation in the Infolac 2011 to be held from May 17th to 19th 2011 as an invited
Intelligent Data Analysis and Data Mining (Updated May 2011)

Website:  http://magix.fri.uni-lj.si/idadm/

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Objectives

- To increase the awareness and acceptance of intelligent data analysis and data mining methods in the biomedical community.
- To foster scientific discussion and disseminate new knowledge on AI-based methods for data analysis and data mining techniques applied to biomedicine. To promote the development of standardized platforms and solutions.
- To provide a forum for presentation of successful intelligent data analysis and data mining implementations in biomedicine, and for discussion of best practices in introduction of these techniques in medical and health-care information and decision support systems.

Recent Activities

- Niels Peek and Ameen Abu-Hanna (University of Amsterdam) presented the tutorial “Essentials of Data Mining in Clinical Applications: Development, Evaluation, and Use” at Medinfo 2010. There were 13 participants.
- Niels Peek, Tze-Yun Leong (National University of Singapore) and Ameen Abu-Hanna presented the panel “Automatic Data Analysis in Biomedicine: Applications and Challenges” at Medinfo 2010. John Holmes (University of Pennsylvania) assisted with the development of the panel. There were 40 attendees.
- The Intelligent Data Analysis in bioMedicine and Pharmacology (IDMAP) 2010 workshop was held on November 12, 2010 at the American Medical Informatics Association Annual Symposium (AMIA-2010) in Washington DC. The program chairs were Stephen Swift from Brunel University (UK) and Kirk Phillips, Iowa Health System. There were 30 attendees.

Future Activities:

- The WG will focus on specific topics of interest for the scientific community. In particular, the following issues will be explored:
the exploitation of predictive data mining in clinical medicine,
knowledge-based functional genomics,
IDA of molecular phenotypes,
Data Mining models for the assessment of clinical risk,
temporal data mining in medicine and bioinformatics, and
evolutionary computation in biomedical knowledge discovery.

- Yearly organization of the Intelligent Data Analysis in bioMedicine and Pharmacology (IDAMAP) workshop. This year, the workshop will be presented at AIME 2011 in Bled, Slovenia, in July 2011.
- Organization and support of tutorials and master classes on all topics related to intelligent data analysis and data mining, at national and international medical informatics meetings. John Holmes will present the tutorial “Clinical Data Mining” at AIME 2011 in Bled, Slovenia, in July 2011.
- Further enrichment of the WG’s web site, in order to offer a list of most relevant publications, technical notes and recent results to the general audience.
- Continued linkage with the American Medical Informatics Association through the Knowledge Discovery and Data Mining Working Group.

Medical Concept Representation (Updated May 2011)

Website of the WG: http://www.imia-medinfo.org/new2/node/145

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Objectives
The goal is to provide a forum for state of the art dialogue and collaboration on medical concept representation in healthcare applications. IMIA's Medical Concept Representation Working Group is the international forum for issues related to informatics in the classification and coding of health data. Since its formation, the working group was charged with: (1) Reviewing health data nomenclature and classification needs for the world community; (2) Evaluating information processing technology in meeting these defined needs; and (3) Recommending methods for future classification and nomenclature systems.

Recent Activities
The WG convened at MedInfo 2010 in Cape Town to plan further activities. This LinkedIn group (http://www.linkedin.com/groups?mostPopular=&gid=3680642) is one of the decided steps to reach out to the professional/scientific community with an interest in the medical concept representation domain.

Goal and operations of this LinkedIn Group:
The aim of the IMIA LinkedIn Group on Medical Concept Representation (LI WG MCR) is to provide a platform neutral, high level forum to discuss emerging professional issues, to promote relevant events and publications, to connect interested individuals to influential people in the domain. We hope that the LI WG MCR will grow to an orientation point for professionals on this network in the area of medical concept representations. As a starting set we
would like to compose a list of most influential papers in 2010 in our area. Ideas, suggestions are more than welcome!

Future Activities
The IMIA WG6 is a sponsor of the upcoming International Conference on Biomedical Ontology (ICBO 2011), University at Buffalo, NY, USA, July 26-30, 2011 (http://icbo.buffalo.edu/)

Mental Health Informatics (Updated May 2011)

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Goals & Objectives:
Background: The MHWG of IMIA has been in existence since 2000. For a variety of reasons, the Work Group has not been able to garner the resources to achieve its mission.

During this time, the world of informatics in mental health has exponentially changed. Now consumers can use the web for actual therapy. Clinicians can peek into functioning of the brain during cognitive tasks. They search for evidence-based information while taking care of patients. Patients can be seen by their clinicians via tele-psychiatry. Yet, we have not developed ways that informatics can reduce the disease burden of psychiatric disorders, increase collaboration between medical and mental health clinicians, or shared best practices in research, practice, or policy. If an international body can make a difference, it should be in transforming the burden of mental health disorders worldwide and being an international best practices exchange group.

There exist today unlike three years ago, a critical mass of informatics innovators who function as researchers, developers, and policy leaders who have no forum to share perspectives and shape the future of mental health informatics.

IMIA has already multiple corporate, academic, and governmental partners. The Mental Health Workgroup membership should be recruit members from existing partners. As a potential Mental Health Workgroup Chair I propose four goals to be achieved by 2009:

- Formal collaboration with the WHO mental health initiative
- An Annual Publication of International Best Practices in research, policy and practice in collaboration with Elsevier
- An Informatics Policy Framework that would allow medical and mental health clinicians to share information to the betterment of patients and society while protecting confidentiality and privacy.
- Corporate, Foundation, and Governmental Support to fund the functions of the IMIA Workgroup

**Open Source Health Informatics (Updated May 2011)**

**Website:** [http://www.medfloss.org/node/479](http://www.medfloss.org/node/479)

**Chair (2008 – 2011)**
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**Objectives**

IMIA OS WG has been formed in 2002 with the objective to focus on educational, promotional and ‘evangelistic’ activities to raise awareness of open source software in health care. The primary objectives of the IMIA OS WG are to:

- disseminate knowledge about the benefits and prospects of FLOSS in health care among IMIA members and outside of IMIA,
- provide a neutral collaboration platform for all stakeholders in health care in respect to FLOSS,
- to foster collaborations between FLOSS-HC projects and
- to lower the perceived barriers to the adoption of FLOSS in health care

**Recent Activities**

- Paper for IMIA yearbook 2011 (Karopka, T., Schmuhl, H., Marcelo, A., Dal Molin, J., Wright G.: Towards open collaborative health informatics - the role of free/libre open source principles)
- Workshop at MEDINFO2010, Capetown South Africa Thomas Karopka, Graham Wright, Chris Seebregts, Helen Betts: Free/Libre Open Source Software – Prospects, Challenges and Barriers in Healthcare IT
Launch of joint website and mailing list at Medfloss.org:
http://www.medfloss.org/node/479

Future Activities
- Joint Workshop with EFMI LIFOSS WG and Ambient Assisted Living Open Association (AALOA) at MIE2011 in Oslo
- Further community building at Medfloss.org

Organizational and Social Issues (Updated October 2009)

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Objectives
To investigate and evaluate organizational, social, ethical, and individual behavioral issues surrounding the introduction and use of informatics applications.
To determine strategies for systems and workflow analysis, product design and implementation, and technological and organizational change to support health care delivery through information and communication technologies.
To incorporate organizational change management and human concerns into information technology projects.

Recent Activities
CONFERENCE ACTIVITIES
- Co-sponsor of a workshop at the ACM Conference on Computer-Supported Collaborative Work titled “CSCW Research on Healthcare: Past, Present, and Future.” The conference was held Feb. 6-10, 2010 in Savannah, GA., USA.

OUTREACH and COLLABORATIVE ACTIVITIES
To raise awareness of organizational and social issues in health care, the chair
- is serving as a lead editor for a Special Issue of the International Journal of Medical Informatics on “Supporting Collaboration in Healthcare Settings”. The publish date is 2010.
- is serving on the steering committee for the Workshop on Interactive Systems in Healthcare to be held at the ACM Conference on Human Factors in Computing (CHI 2010) at Atlanta, GA, April 11, 2010.
- is the co-chair of the technical program committee for the ACM Conference on Supporting Group Work. Sanibel Island, FL, USA, November, 2010.
- Served as Associate Chair, Program Committee. ACM Conference On Computer Supported Cooperative Work 2010 (CSCW’10). Savannah, GA. Feb 6-10, 2010.
- Will be the invited speaker at the University of Michigan Health Informatics Grand Rounds. Ann Arbor, MI, December 10, 2009.
- Was a keynote speaker at the SIG-HEALTH Workshop held at the Americas Conference on Information Systems (AMCIS 2009). San Francisco, CA, August 6, 2009. The title of the talk was Publishing in Medical Informatics Journals: The Interdisciplinary Challenges
ON-GOING ACTIVITIES

- Nominate papers for the Diana Forsythe Award of the AMIA People and Organizational Issues WG.
- Co-Sponsoring for a Special Issue of the International Journal of Medical Informatics on “Supporting Collaboration in Healthcare Settings”. The publish date is 2010.
- Co-sponsor AMIA People & Organizational Issues WG Doctoral Symposium

Primary Health Care Informatics (Updated May 2011)

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Objectives
To promote primary care informatics by:
- Acting as a forum for exchange of ideas between its members.
- Providing information to its members to assist them in progressing primary care informatics in their own country.
- Increasing the understanding of primary care informatics issues with a view to publishing the results of these discussions.

Recent Activities
- At MEDINFO we ran two workshops:
  The first on data quality and the fitness for data quality on research, the second on how to research the impact of the computer on the clinical consultation.

  - There have been three spin-off from this. A paper and workshop at the EFMI STC in Slovenia in April and two papers in the IMIA year book.

  - The publications are as follows:

Recent Activities

- We will have a business meeting at MIE in Oslo in September 2011.

Security in Health Informatics Systems (Updated October 2009)

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Objectives
To examine the issues of data protection and security within the health-care environment.
The Data Protection in Health Information Systems Working Group addresses state-of-the-art security of distributed electronic patient records (EPR).

Recent Activities
Dr. Ishikawa (Co-chair of SiHIS WG) is going to host WG4 meeting at Hiroshima from November 21 through 24, 2009 where and when JCMII 2009 and APAMI 2009 are going to be held.

We have made the specific programs for the upcoming working conference in Hiroshima. The focus will be "Trustworthiness of health information - Issues in security and system management for patient safety -". The working conference is promoted by Chair: Dr Kiyomu Ishikawa (Hiroshima Univ.), SPC chair: Dr Koji Yamamoto (Suzuka Univ. of Medical Science), Co-chair: Dr Francois A. Allaert (Univ. of Liege), and Dr Yoshiyasu Okuhara (Kochi Univ.) for the chair of organizing committee.

The summarized session will be scheduled by Prof. Dr Peter Croll (Southern Cross Univ.) and Prof. Dr Eike Kluge (Victoria Univ.) and Bernd Blobel(Regens Burg Univ.), Pekka Ruotsalainen (Kuopo Univ.), Dr Vimla L Patel (Arizona State Univ.) and other core members.
Scope:
To what degree are OECD 8 Principles reflected in patient information systems?

SiHIS - Security in Health Information System - has a long history of working conference that it is originated from the conference "Realization of Data Protection in Health Information Systems" held in the year 1976. On that year, IMIA - International Association of Medical Informatics - funded to establish the working group 4 and in 1979, the first working conference "Data Protection in Health Information System - Consideration and Guidelines" was held. The title of this working conference clearly states the obligation of SiHIS that it should pose a guideline for the use of health information. The data protection was the original target of discussions. But, as the advent of the new society that will be coming within the next decade where each individual can control his own health record, any protective measure may not work. As the members of workshop belonging to IMIA-based working group on security of health information systems, we tackle with how to use and protect patient information from various positions such as medical doctors, nurses, pharmacists, specialists of social medicine, and system engineers. Especially, our focus is the current contribution of ICT(Information Communication Technology) to patient-centered healthcare based on "individual-participatory outline" which OECD 8 principles stipulate. Here in this workshop, we should seek a new solution to reach an idealistic society where each individual can trust the information under full understanding and the responsibility about the use of the information. That is "beyond the paternalism".

Date: 21-24, November 2009
Venue: International Conference Center, Peace Memorial Park, Hiroshima, Japan
* Our plan was made out with the help of F Roger-FRANCE (Belgium), Jochen MOEHR (Canada), Barry BARBER (UK), and Albert R. BAKKER (Netherlands)

Smart Homes and Ambient Assisted Living (Updated May 2011)

Website: http://www.health-smarthomes.org

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Goals and Objectives
The aim of this working group is the study and promotion of research and development in the area of smart homes and ambient assisted living applications. A “smart home” is a residential setting equipped with a set of advanced electronics, sensors and automated devices specifically designed for care delivery, remote monitoring, early detection of problems or emergency cases and promotion of residential safety and quality of life. Information and Communication Technologies (ICTs) are utilized to allow individuals to live
independently in their preferred environment. Thus, systems are patient-centered rather than institution-centered as they are designed to address the needs of individuals, their families and caregivers rather than those of health care facilities. Furthermore, such technologies can allow for the detection of emergencies and provide the means to increase social interaction and minimize isolation for residents (by increasing access to information, entertainment resources and communication with peers). The Working Group provides a forum for ongoing discussion and a collaborative platform for research and development combining expertise in engineering, sensor technologies, ubiquitous computing, health systems, gerontology and human computer interaction. We will address not only technical challenges but also the end users' needs, ethical, clinical and policy issues and the design of sustainable and non-obtrusive interventions, providing a holistic examination of the current status and future trends in smart homes and ambient assisted living.

Recent Activities
The WG on Smart Homes and Ambient Assisted Living had its business meeting during Medinfo 2010 and discussed next steps and potential synergies with other working groups in sensors and telemedicine. We also organized a workshop entitled SmartE (Smart Environments to Enhance Health Care) in conjunction with the Ninth Annual IEEE international Conference on Pervasive Computing and Communications (PerCom 2011) on March 25, 2011 in Seattle, USA. The workshop focused on:

- innovative pervasive computing applications for health care settings and consumers
- context modeling and reasoning for health care monitoring
- adaptive, autonomic and context-aware computing for diverse populations
- mobile/ wireless computing systems and services in the health care context
- sensors and RFIDs in pervasive health care monitoring systems
- wearable health care devices
- integration of smart environment data into personal health record applications
- visualization approaches to capturing wellness or health based on smart sensing data capture
- social, ethical and economic models for pervasive health care systems
- privacy and confidentiality considerations for pervasive health care applications.

The workshop website is at: http://www.health-smarthomes.org/smarte/
The workshop was a full day event that included 12 peer reviewed paper presentations (papers were also included in the PerCom proceedings).

Social Media Working Group (Updated May 2011)

Websites of the WG:
Blog: http://imiasocialmedia.wordpress.com
Twitter: http://twitter.com/imiasocialmedia
LinkedIn: http://www.linkedin.com/groupRegistration?gid=3508923
Facebook: http://www.facebook.com/group.php?gid=153666904674185

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Objectives
The Social Media Working Group (SMWG) aims to be IMIA's vehicle for stakeholder engagement in Social Media. Its membership will be international, inclusive, and multidisciplinary.
The IMIA SMWG will engage members from the international health informatics community, across sectors, to identify, explore, collaborate, and disseminate research on the use of social media for health. Of particular interest are the drivers of change, barriers, facilitators, and policies necessary for the application of the various social media categories in the health domain.

These categories include: 1) Social Networks (e.g., Facebook); 2) Professional Networks (e.g., LinkedIn); 3) Thematic Networks (e.g., PatientsLikeMe, TuDiabetes); Microblogs; 4) Blogs; 5) Wikis; 6) Forums/Listservs; 7) Social Photo and Video Sharing Tools; 8) Collaborative Filtering Tools (e.g., RSS, recommender systems, tagging); and 9) Multi-User Virtual Environments (e.g., Second Life) 10) Social applications and games; 11) Integration of Social Media with Health Information Technologies (e.g. EHRs, PACS, SNOMED); 12) Other (e.g., FriendFeed).

The sectors that will be engaged and invited to participate in this group, include (but are not limited to): 1) IMIA Member Organizations; 2) Academic Bodies; 3) Industry; 4) Governmental research institutions (e.g, US CDC); and 4) Intergovernmental Organizations (e.g., WHO, PAHO, ITU, WMA).

The applications of social media will be explored with particular applications to: 1) health care delivery, 2) health care professional education; 3) public health; 4) clinical and disaster medicine; and 5) research.

Recent Activities
Medicine 2.0 at Stanford University
The SMWG has been leading the secondary review process of abstracts for the Medicine 2.0 conference due to be held at Stanford University in September 2011. We have made a total of 84 secondary reviews in addition to primary reviews. Members of our WG have also submitted abstracts and panels to the conference that have been accepted.

Medical Informatics Europe - 2011
Peter Murray has been leading the submission of a panel proposal on behalf of the WG, which has been accepted. We are working to make that panel open and with internet
streaming so that WG members (and others) who are not present at the conference can join the discussion.
The WG will also meet in person at the MIE 2011 conference.

**IMIA Yearbook**
Annie Lau from the WG has successfully led the submission of a paper about Health Consumers and Social Media. Chris Paton has led an additional paper about professionals but acceptance is still pending.

**PeRSSonlized Health Informatics**
Bertalan Mesko with help from the WG has created a Webicina collection of resources about Medical Informatics.

**Spanish Health Social Media Tour**
Cisco and Luis have been in a Spanish tour promoting health social media in 4 different lectures across Spain.

**Future Activities**

**Social Media Book**
Several members of the WG are working on editing a book about social media in healthcare with chapters authored by WG members. This has progressed to advanced discussions with the publisher.

**JMIR Papers**
Submission of extended versions of the Yearbook papers to the Journal of Medical Internet Research (JMIR), edited by working group member Dr. Gunther Eysenbach.

**WG Submissions for NI2012**
The WG will submit papers, panels and/or workshop proposals on SM for this conference.

**WG Meeting/Workshop in 2012**
A 1 day workshop, hosted by The University of Sevilla (Spain), has been proposed by the WG. The aim will be to produce an academic forum for discussion of social media in healthcare resulting in peer review publications in a suitable journal (e.g. JMIR).

**Virtual Meeting / Course**
Renato M.E. Sabbatini, from the WG, has proposed the organization of an annual virtual meeting and course by our working group to educate researchers and clinicians from the IMIA membership on the use of social media healthcare.

**Standards in Health Care Informatics (Updated May 2011)**

**Website:** [http://mi.hama-med.ac.jp/stand/index-en.html](http://mi.hama-med.ac.jp/stand/index-en.html)

**Chair (2009 – 2012)**
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Objectives
- To advise about standards from an academic perspective
- To promote the mutual identification of needed standards world-wide
- To share information to facilitate mutual coordination of standards development in health informatics
- WG 16 itself does not create new standards; rather, it devotes its activity on promotion of mutual identification and coordination by posting and maintaining an inventory of health informatics standard activities.
- Usually, standard development activities are by volunteers, vendors, and immediate users. It is quite natural and fine for them to devote efforts to acquire fruitful outcomes. Sometimes, however, potential future users’ profit could be underrated.
- IMIA is academically oriented, and is a world-wide organization which has connections with countries which participate less currently in existing standard development activities.
- Therefore, IMIA WG 16 inputs thoughtfulness for future users and for multicultural environments, as advisory to standard development activities.

Recent Activities
- There was some silence around the Working Group since MEDINFO 2007. As the appointment of the new WG Chair clashed with the EFMI STC 2010, preventing him from participating in the MEDINFO 2010, it was agreed with the IMIA Board to prepare the reactivation in the context of MIE 2011. So, the ten months since the appointment have been used to establish contact to, and to create awareness about IMIA WG 16 at, the growing number of Standards Developing Organizations (SDOs) in the field of health care informatics. This chairman’s activity was strongly supported by the former WG Chair Michio Kimura. As result, a bigger workshop at MIE 2011 in Oslo embracing all relevant SDOs has been prepared.

Future Activities
- Workshop at MIE 2011 entitled “Are Standards Developing Organizations Ready for Pervasive Health? This workshop brings together the Leaders, Chair, CEOs of all SDOs dominantly involved in the global eHealth interoperability standardization such as ISO TC 215, CEN TC 251, IHTSDO, HL7, IHE, DICOM, OMG and ETSI, to present their scope, their harmonization strategies, established collaboration and work products thereof for meeting the new paradigm. The workshop aims at
  - providing an inventory of existing and emerging specifications,
  - defining further requirements and strategies for facilitating the establishment of pervasive health,
  - discussing the development and improvement of appropriate methodologies as well as the harmonization of disciplinary knowledge representation means,
  - recommending services and infrastructures needed to improve the quality of standards and specifications, and
  - proposing strategies for improving distribution and use of standards and PASs.

IMIA Working Group 16 “Standards in Health Care Informatics”
Announcement of, and invitation to, a workshop at MIE 2011 in Oslo
Industrial countries as well as countries in transition perform a paradigm change in their health systems from organization centered towards distributed, cooperative and integrated services to enable high quality, efficient and safe personalized care. Such approach requires shared knowledge and interoperability between many disciplines
and their work products involved in such care settings. The domains addressed range from life sciences including medicine, public health, social care, biology, genomics, etc., through technologies, legal affairs, management and administration, natural sciences to informatics and bioinformatics. Communication and cooperation must be based on standards and publicly available specifications (PASs). As the number of disciplines, related stakeholder groups, organizations and institutions involved continuously grows, the number of standard developing organizations (SDOs) in the field in increasing as well. As the disciplines and their actors have to come together to coordinate and harmonize their work, the SDOs must coordinate and harmonize their strategies and activities. A special challenge to be met is tackling the innovations and integration between the traditionally isolated fields.

In the framework of MIE 2011 “User Centred Networked Health Care” held from 28-31 August 2011 in Oslo, the IMIA WG “Standards in Health Care Informatics” organizes a workshop entitled “Are Standards Developing Organizations Ready for Pervasive Health?” for meeting the addressed challenge. The workshop presents a platform for experts from most of the SDOs challenged with the new paradigm to

- provide an inventory of existing and emerging specifications,
- define further requirements and strategies for facilitating the establishment of pervasive health,
- discuss the development and improvement of appropriate methodologies as well as the harmonization of disciplinary knowledge representation means,
- recommend services and infrastructures needed to improve the quality of standards and specifications, and
- propose strategies for improving distribution and use of standards and PASs

Format and speakers

Due to the complexity of the issues addressed by workshop and cooperatively represented by the IMIA Working Group 16 and key representatives of most of the related SDOs, the workshop is scheduled for two program slots, nevertheless combining and properly integrating the different aspects forming a uniform whole.

- Introduction to the workshop (Bernd Blobel, Moderator)
- Working together to get the standards right (Robert Stegwee)
- Standards and open source developments requested for personal health (Gunnar Klein)
- Proposed strategies for improving distribution and use of standards and PASs (Michael L. Glickman)
- HL7’s strategies and liaisons for interoperability (Charles Jaffe)
- SOA for health – OMG in concert with TOG and OASIS (Ken Rubin)
- ETSI World Class Standards – also for eHealth (Igor Minaev)
- IHTSDO approach to harmonization efforts with other standards development bodies (Jan-Eric Slot)
- IHE Infrastructure Specifications for Cross-Border Interoperability (Lisa Spellman)
- Balance Sheet of Standardization: Does it pay? (Michio Kimura)
- Is there a common framework in pervasive health systems standardization? (Bernd Blobel)

Technology Assessment & Quality Development in Health Informatics (Updated May 2011)
Website: http://iig.umin.at/efmi/ (shared with/ hosted by the EFMI WG Evaluation)

Chair (2008-2011)
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Objectives
- To foster interdisciplinary discussion on evaluation issues in health informatics.
- To support communication of experiences and education by organizing tutorials and workshops.
- To promote international networking on evaluation issues in health informatics.

Recent Activities
- GEP-HI (Good Evaluation Practice Guidelines) have been finalised and are just under review for publication in a major health informatics journal.
- The working group organized workshop on GEP-HI and STARE-HI (Statement on Reporting of Evaluation Studies in Health Informatics) at Medinfo 2010 in Cape Town. The detailed presentations can be found at http://iig.umin.at/efmi/.
- Members of the working group have written a paper on Evidence-Based Health Informatics that is submitted to the IMIA Yearbook of Medical Informatics 2011.
- The working group has submitted several contributions to MIE2011 that takes place in August 2011 in Oslo: workshop on STARE-HI, panels on the evaluation of ehealth systems and on the new Medical Device Directive and a paper on “Next Steps in Evaluation and Evidence; from Generic to Context-Related”.
- The web-based Evaluation Inventory was completely updated and expanded. It now comprises around 1,500 abstracts of evaluation papers in health informatics and allows researchers from all over the world to submit papers for inclusions. The Evaluation Inventory database is available for free at http://evaldb.umin.at.

Future Activities
- Two elaboration papers are under preparation, to explain and justify GEP-HI and STARE-HI. These are expected to be submitted in 2011.
- As a follow up on the guidelines for publications in conference proceedings we plan to validate the prioritization framework.
- Workshops, panel and paper presentation on MIE2011.
**Wearable Sensors in Healthcare (Updated May 2011)**

**Website:** http://www.wearable-sensors.org

**Chair (2009 - 2012)**
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**Objectives**
The WG aims to promote medical informatics research in the area of wearable sensor technology in healthcare by providing a joint comprehensive platform for information exchange and scientific collaboration. The group aims to attract experts from different areas of expertise, such as medical informatics, biomedical engineering, nursing and medicine.

The following areas of research will be addressed by the WG:

- **sensor application** and research areas in healthcare: diagnostics and therapeutics, in terms of primary, secondary and tertiary prevention
- **methods for sensor data analysis**, with a special focus on the analysis of multimodal data
- **integration of sensor data** resp. extracted information with **health information systems and decision support systems** to achieve individualization of diagnostics
- **acceptance** of wearable sensor technologies for healthcare, both by potential users/relatives and healthcare professionals.

**Recent Activities**
- construction and launch of the WG’s website (domain: wearable-sensors.org)
- setting up of a mailing list (list@wearable-sensors.org) and call for participation in the WG’s activities
- preparation of a proposal for a workshop with the title “Smart Homes and Wearable Sensors in Healthcare – infrastructures and applications” in collaboration with the IMIA WG Smart Homes and Ambient Assisted Living (accepted); the program is available on http://www.wearable-sensors.org/website/news

**Future Activities**
- MIE workshop “Smart Homes and Wearable Sensors in Healthcare – infrastructures and applications” (August 2011, Oslo)
- planned: publication of a paper focusing on the workshop results