Information on EFMI Working and Project Groups

Rolf Engelbrecht¹, Patrick Weber²

¹ Ismaning, Germany

² Nice Computing, Le Mont-sur-Lausanne, Switzerland

EFMI is a nonprofit organisation concerned with the theory and practice of Information Science and Technology within Health and Health Science in a European context. Its activities focus on annual conferences, MIE (Medical Informatics Europe), STC (Special Topic conference), tutorials, seminars and workshops. EFMI publishes proceedings and special issues of its activities in scientific journals and books. It has national societies in 31 member countries in the WHO-region Europe and 16 institutional members. Personal members are welcome in working groups. The EFMI portal provides very actual international news and information about research and use of computers in health care. <http://www.EFMI.org>.

EFMI has a long tradition in working groups which are organising and supporting events and projects on a European basis but also worldwide in close co-operation with national and international WGs and institutions. The model of WGs has been extended by the EFMI council during MIE2011 in Oslo by Project Groups (PGs). PGs are established for 3 years. After that there is an option to become a WG

Working and Project Groups

EDU - Education in Health Informatics

John Mantas, Athens; Arie Hasman, Amsterdam (jmantas@cc.uoa.gr, a.hasman@amc.uva.nl)

EHR - Electronic Health Records
Bernd Blobel, Regensburg (bernd.blobel@klinik.uni-regensburg.de)

EVAL - Assessment of Health Information Systems

Elske Ammenwerth, Hall in Tirol; Pirkko Nykanen, Tampere; Jytte Brender, Aalborg
(elske.ammenwerth@umit.at, pirkko.nykanen@uta.fi, jytte@brender.dk)

HIIC - Health Informatics for Interregional Cooperation

Lacramioara Stoicu-Tivadar, Timisoara; (stoicu@yahoo.co.uk)

HIME - Health Information Management Europe

Rolf Engelbrecht, Ismaning; Angelika Händel, Erlangen (PRE@BMIG.de, Angelika.Haendel@uk-erlangen.de)

HOFMI - Human and Organisational Factors of Medical Informatics

Jos Aarts, The Netherlands; Marie-Catherine Beuscart-Zéphir, Lille, France (j.aarts@bmg.eur.nl, mcbeuscart@univ-lille2.fr)

IDR - Informatics for the Disabled and Rehabilitation

Cristina Mazzoleni, Italy
(cmazzoleni@fsm.it)
- inactive -

LIFOSS - Libre/Free and Open

Source Software in Health Informatics
Thomas Karopka, Germany
(TKaropka@gmail.com)

MCRO/MBDS - Casemix, Resources Management and Outcomes of Care

Francis Roger-France, Brussels; Jacob Hofdijk, Utrecht (frf@skynet.be, jhofdijk@casemix.nl)

MIP - Medical Image Processing

Alexander Horsch, Munich/Tromsø; Thomas Wittenberg, Germany;
(alexander.horsch@tum.de, horsch@cs.uit.no; wbg@iis.fhg.de)

NLU - Natural Language Understanding

Patrick Ruch; Robert Baud, Geneva
(patrick.ruch@hesge.ch, Robert.Baud@sim.hcuge.ch)

NURSIE - Nursing Informatics in Europe

Patrick Weber, Lausanne; Thomas Buerkle, Erlangen
(patrick.weber@nicecomputing.ch, thomas.buerkle@imi.med.uni-erlangen.de)

PCI - Primary Care Informatics

Simon De Lusignan, Guildford
(s.lusignan@surrey.ac.uk)

PPD Personal Portable Devices

Paul Cheshire, UK; Peter Pharow, Illmenau (efmi_ppd@yahoo.co.uk, Peter.Pharow@web.de)

SSE - Safety, Security and Ethics

Bernd Blobel, Regensburg
(bernd.blobel@klinik.uni-regensburg.de)

TRACE - Traceability of Supply Chains

Christian Lovis, Geneva; Christian Hay, Switzerland
(christian.lovis@hcuge.ch, hay@medinorma.ch)

Information on EFMI Working and Project Groups

EFMI WG EDU

Education in Health Informatics

Chair:

John Mantas
Health Informatics Laboratory
Faculty of Nursing
University of Athens, Greece
E-mail: jmantas@nurs.uoa.gr

Co-Chair:

Arie Hasman
Department of Medical Informatics
University of Amsterdam, The Netherlands
E-mail: a.hasman@amc.uva.nl

<http://www.EFMI.org>

Objectives:

- To disseminate and exchange information on Biomedical and Health Informatics (BMHI) programs and courses.
- To advance the knowledge of how BMHI is taught to health care professionals, to students in Europe
- To promote a database on programs and courses on BMHI education
- To produce international recommendations on BMHI education
- To support BMHI courses and exchange of students and teachers.

Recent and Future Activities:

- Publication of further editions of Globalization of Health Informatics Education, Studies in Health Technology and Informatics, Edited by: E.J.S. Hovenga and J. Mantas, 276 pp., IOS Press, 2004.
- Publication of the revised version of Educational Recommendations of IMIA. J. Mantas et al. Methods Inf Med. 2010 Jan 7; 49(2): 105-120. It was prepared by the Task Force chaired by the EFMI WG Chair on Education.
- Cooperation for the accreditation process initiated by IMIA of programs across Europe. First program that has been accredited is MSc in Health Informatics of the University of Eastern Finland.
- Collection of data to update the database of programmes and courses on the WG website.
- Successful proposal under Marie Curie call of EU. Involves University of Athens, Technical University of Madrid and Institutions from Turkey, Jordan and Egypt. Aim is to promote and establish Biomedical and Health Informatics programs and exchange of scientists in the field.
- Support to expand BMHI programmes in countries of Eastern Europe through TEMPUS initiatives (application pending).
- A work will be initiated and coordinated to provide meta-analysis of the implementation of the educational recommendations in the universities in Europe

EFMI WG EHR

Electronic Health Records

Chair:

Bernd Blobel
eHealth Competence Center
University of Regensburg Medical Center
E-mail: bernd.blobel@klinik.uni-regensburg.de

<http://www.EFMI.org>

Objectives:

The working group deals with the issue electronic health records in the different levels of development: case level, organisational level, regional level, national level, and international level. The Working Group supports

- Studies on specification, implementation, and promotion of standards for EHR
- Modelling of EHR architectures and interoperability
- Education on the EHR field

Recent and Future Activities:

- Organizational sponsor of the EFMI STC 2011 „E-salus trans confinia sine finibus – e-Health Across Borders Without Boundaries“, 14-15 April 2011, Laško, Slovenia (together with EFMI WGs SSE, HIIC and PCI). Results are published at IOS Press SHTI Vol. 165.
- Preparation of a Joint Workshop of EFMI WGs EHR, PPD, and SSE „Electronic Records Systems and Policies on the Move to Pervasive Care“ at MIE 2011 in Oslo, Norway (unfortunately cut by the organizers in a way that the withdrawal of the proposal was inevitable)
- Workshop on architectures and solutions for personalized health at pHealth 2011 – The 8th International Conference on Wearable Micro and Nano Technologies for Personalized Health, 29 June – 1 July 2011, Lyon, France (together with EFMI WG PPD) (the organizers kindly offered a platform to realize the cancelled MIE event)

EFMI WG EHR (continued)

EFMI WG EVAL

Assessment of Health Information Systems

Chair:

Elske Ammenwerth
UMIT - University for Health Sciences, Medical Informatics
and Technology
Hall in Tyrol, Austria
E-mail: elske.ammenwerth@umit.at

Co-Chairs:

Pirkko Nykanen
School of Information Sciences
Tampere University, Finland
E-mail: pirkko.nykanen@uta.fi

Jytte Brender
Dept. of Health Sciences and Technology
Aalborg University, Denmark
E-mail: jytte@brender.dk

<http://EVAL.EFMI.info>

- Plan for an Engagement at EFMI STC 2012 (unfortunately, the WG was not among the EFMI WGs selected for an engagement at STC 2012)
- Submission of a Joint Workshop proposal to MIE 2012 in cooperation with the EFMI WGs PPD and SSE
- Organisation of a Joint Round Table Event on „Secure mobile devices and implants for realizing pHealth“ at pHealth 2012, 26-28 June 2012 in Porto, Portugal, in cooperation with the EFMI WGs PPD and SSE
- WG Meeting at MIE 2012

Recent and Future Activities

- The working group continues its close collaboration with the IMIA Working Group on Technology Assessment and Quality Development, mostly by joint publications and joint workshops and tutorials at international conferences.
- GEP-HI, the Guidelines for Good Evaluation Practice in Health Informatics, has been published by the International Journal of Medical Informatics:
 - Nykänen P, Brender J, Talmon J, de Keizer N, Rigby M, Beuscart-Zephir MC, Ammenwerth E. Guideline for good evaluation practice in health informatics (GEPHI). *Int J Med Inform* 2011; 80: 815-827
- The working group is working on two explanation papers for STARE-HI and GEP-HI that will give further explanations and justifications as well as examples.
- Members of the working group contributed to workshops at the International Conference on Integrated Care 2011 in Odense/DK.
- The working group organized the following activities at MIE2011 in Oslo:
 - a workshop on Minimum Dataset for monitoring eHealth implementations;
 - a panel on the Medical Device Directive;
 - a paper on „next steps in evaluation and evidence“;
 - a workshop on STARE-HI;
 - a business meeting to discuss future activities.
- The business meeting at MIE 2011 was well attended with around 30 participants and produced a list of planned actions and further potential future activities (the complete list of discussed activities is available on the web-site of the working group).
- As a follow-up of the business meeting at MIE, Jan Talmon gave a one day tutorial on writing for bioinformatics journals, including a presentation and discussion on STARE-HI, at the University of Münster for 15 PhD students from various places in Germany.
- Members of the working group contributed to a paper describing eHealth-related activities in EFMI countries. The paper is just under review for an international biomedical informatics journal.
- At the moment, the working group is engaging in the following activities:
 - Organization of a workshop on GEP-HI at STC2012 in Moscow.
 - Organization of a workshop on indicator development methodology at MIE2012 in Pisa
 - Submission of three papers related to evaluation and indicator development to MIE2012.
 - Analysis of the Medical Device Directive and its implications for health IT evaluation.
 - Analysis of the usability standards mentioned in the Medical Device Directive.
 - The development of a methodology to develop indicators for national eHealth strategies and projects.
 - The preparation of a special issue in an international journal on the evaluation of CDSS systems in health care.
 - Finalization of the STARE-HI explanation paper.

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.umit.at>.

EFMI WG HIIC

Health Informatics for Interregional Cooperation

Chair:

Lacramioara Stoicu-Tivadar
University "Politehnica" Timisoara
Timisoara, Romania
E-mail: lacramioara.stoicu-tivadar@out.upt.ro

<http://www.EFMI.org>

Objectives

- To promote exchange of information and experiences between actors in Europe, especially in developing regions
- To investigate the needs, opportunities and obstacles for e-health and to review and select from different education options for developing regions.
- To disseminate European and world-wide results and experiences across regions and between professionals
- To facilitate access to European groups and their facilities and outcomes by students and health professionals from developing regions
- To disseminate European and world-wide results and experiences across developing regions and professionals

Recent and Future Activities

- SPC-Chair EFMI-STC 2011 Laško, Slovenia.
- Support for Serbia and Moldavia to relate to European documents and possibilities of financing of health informatics projects.
- Starting cooperation with the Hungarian Society of Medical Informatics at regional level, connecting Timisoara (RO) and Szeged (HU) as a starting point for educational and real process activities.
- Works for extended cooperation in the region (Serbia, Croatia, Slovenia, aso).
- Sustains a Master degree in Information Systems in Healthcare, as unique cooperation at regional level in the area between a Technical University and a Medical University in order to prepare specialized staff in healthcare informatics having different backgrounds.
- In April 2012 support of a presentation of the Romanian Society of Medical Informatics at Romedica Expo, Bucharest.
- Members of the WG will present 3 papers at MIE2012.

EFMI PG HIME

Health Information Management Europe (established August 2011 as Project Group)

Chairs:

Rolf Engelbrecht
BMIG Ismaning
E-mail: PRE@BMIG.de

Angelika Händel
University of Erlangen
E-mail: Angelika.Haendel@uk-erlangen.de

<http://www.EFMI.org>

Objectives:

- To promote exchange of experience in development, implementation, education, and use of health record systems
- To promote exchange of standards in close co-operation with SDOs (standard development organisations) and institutions working in the field on national and European level.
- To investigate the needs, opportunities and obstacles for health information management.
- To disseminate results and experiences across EFMI members
- To facilitate access to European educational facilities and EFMI members

Recent and Future Activities

- Supporting activities of EFMI, its members (resp. their national societies) and IFHIMA-Europe, especially MIE and STC conferences.
- Organising workshops on national and European level
- Initiation of a Forum using internet and other publication media.
- Making educational and promotional material available
- Support of STC2012 in Moscow
- Support of ICICTH 2012 conference in Samos
- Preparation of IFHIMA (International Federation of HIM associations) 2013 conference in Montreal

EFMI WG HOFMI

Human and Organisational Factors of Medical Informatics

Chair:

Jos Aarts
Erasmus University Medical Center
Rotterdam, The Netherlands
E-mail: j.aarts@bmg.eur.nl

Co-Chair:

Marie-Catherine Beuscart-Zéphir
Université de Lille
Lille, France
E-mail: mcbeuscart@univ-lille2.fr

<http://www.EFMI.org>

EFMI WG LIFOSS

Libre/Free and Open Source Software in Health Informatics

Chair:

Thomas Karopka
Germany
E-mail: TKaropka@gmail.com

Objectives

- To organize workshops and tutorials dedicated to the WG topics at MIE conferences and other events
- To establish networks of people involved in human and organizational factors in the healthcare domain, and to learn about new developments and their activities
- To disseminate knowledge about human and organizational factors in medical informatics by various activities, such as conferences, educational events, publications.
- To encourage individuals to publish their research and other work in journals

Recent and Future Activities:

- The fifth Symposium on Human Factors Engineering in Health Informatics has been organized in Trondheim on August 26 and 27, 2011 preceding MIE2011. See website <http://sites.google.com/site/hfehi2011/home> for details.
- During MIE2011 a HOFMI sponsored workshop „Safety of Health Information Technology: Identifying and Mitigating Risks“ has been held. Marie-Catherine Beuscart-Zéphir has been keynote speaker at MIE2011.
- Chair of the SPC of MIE2011.
- Jos is also elected chair of WG People and Organizational Issues of AMIA
- Under the sponsorship of HOFMI a workshop and panel proposal was submitted to MIE2012 in Pisa.
- Also at MIE2012 a HOFMI business meeting will be held in the form of a debate.
- In 2013 the fifth conference Information Technology in Health Care: Sociotechnical Approaches will be organized in conjunction with Medinfo 2013.

Objectives:

- Evaluation of free/libre and open source materials and approaches
- Exploration and development of open standards
- Support the use of free/libre and open source systems, and knowledge transfer about these systems
- European focus, including activities aimed at, but not exclusive to, the European Union.

Recent and Future Activities:

- Joint Workshop with IMIA OS WG and the Ambient Assisted Living Open Association (AALOA) at MIE2011 in Oslo: „Common Infrastructure Software for eHealth, Telemedicine and Ambient Assisted Living based on Open Source Software“
- Coorganization of 5th IWEEE in Granada, Spain (<http://www.iweee.org/2012-granada/>), a biannual meeting held in **Europe** and in **Latin America**.
- Seminar at STC2012 in Moscow „Open Source for Quality Health Care“ provided an overview on open source software, open resources and solutions in health care.
- 3rd FLOSS track at Med-e-Tel 2012 „Benefits of open source software in health care“, 20th of April 2012, Luxembourg
- Workshop at MIE2012 in Pisa together with EFMI WG EDU: Free/Libre Open Source Software in Medical Informatics Research and Education.
- The WG collaborates with MedFLOSS.org (<http://www.MedFLOSS.org>), a website providing a comprehensive and structured overview of Free/Libre and Open Source Software (FLOSS) projects in the domains of medical informatics and health care.
- Continuation the close cooperation with IMIA WG OS and other FLOSS initiatives like the Ambient Assisted Living Open Association (AALOA, <http://www.aalooa.org>) and the FLOSS Competence Center Network (<http://www.flosscc.org>)

EFMI WG MCRO

MBDS - Casemix, Resources Management and Outcomes of Care

Chair:

F.H. Roger France
Centre for Medical Informatics
University of Louvain, Brussels
E-mail: frf@skynet.be

Co-Chair:

Jacob Hofdijk
Utrecht, The Netherlands
E-mail: jhofdijk@casemix.nl

<http://www.EFMI.org>

Objectives:

- To create a platform for issues related to resource and quality management of health care delivery by the organisation of special topic conferences, workshops, and teaching sessions.
The focus is on continuity of care, seamless and integrated care by the developing standards for clinical parameters, the standardization of datasets, and the proliferation of Case Mix tools and Severity of cases.
- Special focus is given to the involvement of patients to improve their own health by playing an active role in their treatment.
- The communication of up to date experiences and/or references between members, including national data sets, terminology, coding system and patient classification methods for resource management and quality of care
- The dissemination of results about Casemix Concepts, the role of the Electronic Health record, benchmarking and data mining tools in this specific area among EFMI and IMIA affiliated members and participants to their meetings.

Projected Outcomes

- Make an inventory of casemix management methods used in different countries
- Promote the use of Casemix tools for integrated care, with a focus on prevention.
- Improve quality of care by showing stimulating results based on positive changes in outcomes of care
- Describe best practices that could facilitate the quality management by the use of clinical data linked to outcome and financial data
- Organize computerized training for various health professions and policy makers

Recent and Future Activities:

- A continuous series of Continuity of Care sessions at different meetings, like the WorldonHealth IT.
- Creating an involvement of global casemix activities by an active approach to members of IMIA and their regional groups and to PCSI, the international Casemix network. To test the idea of a global IMIA based working group with this approach.
- Special Session on Casemix during the STC2010 in Iceland on Casemix and Chronic Care.
- Presentation at WoHIT Budapest, Infolac 2011 Conference in Mexico and at the Innovation Village at MIE2011.
- Joint presentation at the PCSI conference in Montreal

EFMI WG MIP

Medical Image Processing

Chair:

Alexander Horsch
 Technical University Munich, Munich, Germany
 E-mail: alexander.horsch@tum.de
 Dept. of Clinical Medicine & Dept. of Computer Science
 University of Tromsø, N-9037 Tromsø, Norway
 E-mail: horsch@cs.uit.no

Co-Chair:

Thomas Wittenberg
 Fraunhofer Institute for Integrated Circuits IIS
 Dept. of Image Processing and Medical Engineering
 E-mail: wbg@iis.fhg.de

<http://www.efmi-wg-mip.net>

Objectives:

- Support of communication and common attempts of academia and industry to increase quality of innovation, research and development in the field of medical image processing.
- Activities towards references image databases for medical image processing R&D groups in order to support validation and evaluation of medical image processing methods and systems.
- Maintain the working group website and establish a web-based information system for European image processing groups and their current activities.
- Organise meetings and workshops at EFMI conferences and other events such as CARS and Medinfo conferences.
- Build and maintain close relationship with persons, groups, organisations and standardisation bodies related to the field.

Recent and Future Activities:

- CARS 2011 in Berlin, 24 June 2011 successfully organized the 3rd CADdemo@CARS demonstration workshop for Computer Aided Diagnosis systems with four demonstrations, a panel discussion, and ca. thirty participants. Moderator: A. Horsch. Panellists: P. Cerello (I), H. Fujita (J), K. Mori (J), R. Nishikawa (US), T. Wittenberg (D).
- At MIE 2011 in Oslo a panel on „Patient Empowerment and High-Tech Imaging and Biosignal-Based Procedures – Contradiction or Challenge?“ has been organized as a joint activity together with IMIA WG Biomedical Pattern Recognition, as well as a WG business meeting.
- As an educational activity support of the 19th CATAI Winter Course of the University of La Laguna, Tenerife, Spain, in March 2011 with a lecture on „Diagnostic DICOM Images in 4G Mobile Phones“.
- The WG Website www.efmi-wg-mip.net provides pertinent content such as reports, concepts, and presentations for the public. Basic information about the working group (mission, members, etc) is maintained on the EFMI website www.efmi.org.
- Further workshops and business meetings are envisaged for the upcoming EFMI conferences. The use of the working group's CSCW platform shall be intensified, along with more timely exchange of information among the working group members.
- Continuation of support of the CATAI winter courses.

Objectives:

- To organize events, such as workshops and conferences dedicated to NLP (Natural Language Processing) and related fields (semantics, information retrieval, text mining...) applied to the biomedical domain in a broad sense;
- Networking with persons and societies involved in natural language processing and text mining in the medical domain, especially in Europe, and to learn about their current developments and activities. To develop connections with experts in NLP applied to unrestricted domains and to participate to related events;
- To represent EFMI at IMIA WG6 and at AIME, as well as in biomedical and molecular biology forums (e.g. ISMB, International Society for BioCuration) and to lobby to promote EFMI's expertise to standards and policymakers (WHO, IHE-Europe, National Library and Medicine, ECDC, European Union) by for instance by helping to prepare strategic research agenda of research funding agencies;
- To develop and maintain capacity services in the field of biomedical natural language processing, text mining and information retrieval; in particular to bridge the gap between bio- and medical informatics.

Recent and Future Activities:

- Establish connections with leading EU initiatives in the do-mains of
 - analysis of Clinical Reports using text analytical instruments, such as DebugIT

EFMI WG NLU

Natural Language Understanding

Chairs:

Patrick Ruch
 Service d'Informatique Médicale
 Hôpitaux Universitaires de Genève
 CH-1211 GENEVA 14, Switzerland
 E-mail: Patrick.Ruch@hesge.ch

Robert Baud
 Service d'Informatique Médicale
 Hôpitaux Universitaires de Genève
 CH-1211 GENEVA 14, Switzerland
 E-mail: Robert.Baud@sim.hcuge.ch

<http://www.EFMI.org>

EFMI WG NLU

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- (<http://www.debugit.eu/>)
- terminology-driven semantic interoperability, in particular epSOS (<http://epsos.eu>), the e-Health flagship project;
- Various capacity and infrastructures services, regularly maintained by the NLU working group, have been launched and/or updated (new MEDLINE baseline for the EAGLi bio-medical question-answering engine: <http://eagl.unige.ch/EAGLi/>; new release of SNOMED for the SNOCat medical coding tool: <http://eagl.unige.ch/SNOCat/>; the Knowledge Authoring and Refinement Tool for Infectious Diseases: <http://eagl.unige.ch/KART/>; the list of services is available on the Bibliomics and Text Mining (BiTeM) resource pages on <http://bitem.hesge.ch/list-resources>;
- MIE2011 conference: the WG co-organized a workshop on „From an ontology framework standard to terminologies“ (University of Saint Etienne, INSERM, WHO collaborating center for International Classifications in French Language, Royal College of Nursing of United Kingdom, University of Sydney, WHO-FIC network, The Catholic University of Korea, Seoul); the WG also participated in the DebugIT's village of the future event;
- In December 2011, members of the WG were invited to participate in Swiss-funded evaluation of EU e-Health policies with the support of the BAG (Bundesamt für Gesundheit)
- In March 2012, the UniMed resource (<http://research.isb-sib.ch/unimed/>), which aimed at bringing the gap between genotypic and phenotypic description of genetic pathologies has been updated;
- A WG-endorsed workshop is under preparation and should be submitted to the MIE 2012 program committee („Khresmoi's village of the future“);
- Representatives of the NLU WG are actively participating in research project accepted and under preparation, including Innovative Medicine Initiative's projects;
- The working group will be present at the IHE Projectathlon/epSOS Connectathlon in May 2012 in Bern to present WG resources and capacity services in the field of terminology management.

EFMI WG NURSIE

Nursing Informatics in Europe

Chair:

Patrick Weber
Nice Computing Ch.
Lausanne, Switzerland
E-mail: patrick.weber@nicecomputing.ch

Co-Chair:

Thomas Buerkle
Universität Erlangen
Erlangen, Germany
E-mail: thomas.buerkle@imi.med.uni-erlangen.de

<http://www.nicecomputing.ch/nieurope>

Objectives:

- To support nurses and nursing organizations in the European countries (18 members) with information and contacts and the field of medical informatics
- To offer nurses opportunities to build contact networks within the informatics field.
- To support the education of nurses with respect to informatics and computing.
- To support research and developmental work in the field and promote publishing of achieved results.

Recent and Future Activities:

- Second version of „Nursing and Informatics for 21st Century“ published together with Ch. Weaver, C. Delaney, P. Weber and R. Carr was published February 2010 and launched at HIMSS annual conference in February 2010 Atlanta US.
- ACENDIO 2011 active participation of many our WG-members to this Nursing Diagnoses conference in Madeira
- STC 2011 Nurses from Slovenia and WG presented their work
- MIE 2011 Very active participation from Scandinavian nurses to this conference in Oslo.
- STC2012 Moscow Seminar on Nursing Informatics in Europe in close cooperation with RNA (Russian Nursing Association) and EFMI WGs

EFMI WG PCI

Primary Care Informatics

Chair:

Simon de Lusignan
Clinical Informatics
Department of Health Care Management and Policy
School of Management,
University of Surrey
Guildford, UK
E-mail: s.lusignan@surrey.ac.uk

<http://www.EFMI.org>

EFMI WG PPD

Personal Portable Devices

Chair:

Paul Cheshire, UK
E-mail: efmi_ppd@yahoo.co.uk

Co-Chair:

Peter Pharow
Fraunhofer IDMT Illmenau, Germany
E-mail: peter.pharow@web.de

Definition

Primary Care Informatics is the scientific study of data, information and knowledge, and how they can be modelled, processed or harnessed to promote health and develop patient-centred primary medical care. Its methods reflect the biopsychosocial model of primary healthcare and the longitudinal relationships between patients and professionals. Its context is one in which patients present with unstructured problems to specially trained primary care professionals who adopt a heuristic approach to decision making within the consultation. (*JAMIA 2003;10:304-309*)

Objective:

This Working Group aims to further develop the theoretical basis for best practice, which should underpin the use of Informatics in Primary Care.

- To advance pan-European cooperation and the dissemination of information in the domain of primary care informatics.
- To promote high and common standards of applications used in primary care – with a focus on the usability of technology in primary care.
- To promote research and development aimed at developing a core generalisable theoretical basis for primary care informatics.
- To encourage high standards in education

Recent and Future Activities:

- Workshops and contributions to the programme at EFMI events including publications from these. Our two current themes are: (1) How to model research studies based on routinely collected data (URL: <http://www.clininf.eu/refmodel>) (2) Ontologically rich approached to case finding in routine data
- The outputs from our workshop at IMIA have led to: (1) A workshop at the EFMI STC in Slovenia 2011; and (2) A second contribution to the IMIA Yearbook.
- Extended of this work at a workshop at MIE2011 in Oslo. The presentation Chris Pearce (Australia) can be downloaded from: <http://www.clininf.eu/news/presentations/116-mie2011oslo-presentation.html>
- Two papers emanating from working group will be part of STC2012 in Moscow.
- Workshop accepted at MIE2012 in Italy.

Special offer to members of the PCI WG – Reduced subscription to Informatics in Primary Care:

Please see the working group part of the EFMI website (www.efmi.org) for details; new subscribers are also entitled to a free book.

Objectives:

EFMI WG PPD aims at being a European competence centre to monitor ongoing activities and to provide knowledge to policy makers and systems designers involved in projects related to personalised, portable devices (PPD) such as cards, tokens, sensors, actuators, and similar technologies in the domain of healthcare, welfare, and beyond

- Competence and know-how focused on health care identity management (ID), identification, and role management (entitlement) schemes
- Vision of personalised portable device technology applications
- Marketing, dissemination and deployment of WG ideas and results on national and European level including research projects and networks of excellence

Recent and Future Activities:

- Active participation of WG members (sessions, presentations, demos, posters) in planning and preparation of pHealth 2011 – The 8th International

EFMI WG PPD

(continued)

Conference on Wearable Micro and Nano Technologies for Personalized Health, June 29 – July 1, 2011, Lyon, France

- Active participation of WG (SPC, sessions, presentations, demos, posters, proceedings) in preparation of pHealth 2012 – The 9th International Conference on Wearable Micro and Nano Technologies for Personalized Health, June 26 – 28, 2012, Porto, Portugal
- Active participation in the preparation of a joint workshop with the EFMI WGs EHR and SSE on „Electronic Records Systems and Policies on the Move to Pervasive Care“ for MIE 2011 in Oslo
- Preparation of, and participation in a joint workshop „Data Privacy Management in pHealth“ and a round table session on „Secure mobile devices and implants for realizing pHealth“ at pHealth 2011 – The 8th International Conference on Wearable Micro and Nano Technologies for Personalized Health, June 29 – July 1, 2011, Lyon, France together with EFMI WG SSE
- Submission of a Joint Workshop proposal to MIE 2012 in cooperation with the EFMI WGs SSE and EHR
- Organization of, and participation in a joint at pHealth 2012, June 26 – 28, 2012 in Porto, Portugal, in cooperation with the EFMI WGs SSE and EHR
- WG Meetings at pHealth 2012 and at MIE 2012

All activities are performed in close cooperation with ETSI and IMIA WG AAL. EFMI WG PPD co-operates with Standard Development Organisations (SDOs) (especially ISO TC 215, CEN TC 251, CEN TC 224, ISO/IEC JTC 1, and ETSI), EHTEL, World ID steering committee and other relevant organisations. The activity plan is being resumed on a yearly basis. It includes several means of active participation in various scientific events (workshop, session, presentations, papers, etc.).

EFMI WG SSE

Security, Safety and Ethics

Chair:

Bernd Blobel

eHealth Competence Center

University of Regensburg Medical Center

Regensburg, Germany

E-mail: bernd.blobel@klinik.uni-regensburg.de

<http://www.EFMI.org>

Objectives:

Speeding up the use of ICT for health care increases the challenge for trustworthiness, security and safety of solutions and infrastructure deployed. The WG aims to promote development, education and training on the field of security and privacy in health care. Close collaboration with other EFMI-WGs and beyond as well as with IMIA WG4 as for securing their ICT solutions for health care.

Recent and Future Activities:

- Organizational sponsor of the EFMI STC 2011 „E-salus trans confinia sine finibus – e-Health Across Borders Without Boundaries“, 14-15 April 2011, Laško, Slovenia (together with EFMI WGs SSE, HIIC and PCI). Results are published at IOS Press SHTI Vol. 165.
- Preparation of a Joint Workshop of EFMI WGs EHR, PPD, and SSE „Electronic Records Systems and Policies on the Move to Pervasive Care“ at MIE 2011 in Oslo, Norway
- Workshop „Data Privacy Management in pHealth“ at pHealth 2011 – The 8th International Conference on Wearable Micro and Nano Technologies for Personalized Health, 29 June – 1 July 2011, Lyon,
- Engagement at EFMI STC 2012
- Organisation of a Joint Round Table Event on „Secure mobile devices and implants for realizing pHealth“ at pHealth 2012, 26-28 June 2012 in Porto, Portugal, in cooperation with the EFMI WGs PPD and EHR
- Submission of a Joint Workshop proposal to MIE 2012 in cooperation with the EFMI WGs PPD and EHR
- WG Meeting at MIE 2012

EFMI WG TRACE

Traceability of supply chains

Chair:

Christian Lovis
University Hospital Geneva
Service of Medical Informatics
Switzerland
E-mail: christian.lovis@hcuge.ch

Co-chair:

Christian Hay
Medinorma LLC
Switzerland
E-mail: hay@medinorma.ch

<http://www.EFMI.org>

Objectives:

Traceability and audit trails have a raising importance in the healthcare sector, covering an increasing spectrum of challenges, from logistics to public health, including post-market surveillance and environmental health.

Traceability requires to identify actors, objects and locations and to draw interactions between these elements using time and processes. Traceability covers mainly the logistic of care: human resources, items, devices, drugs, locations and environments; but also the care provision, care providers, patients, care activities, community networks; and finally the secondary usage of data: billing, public health, clinical research and governance; amongst others.

Traceability

- builds the link of information between supply chains, care processes, outcomes and financial flows.
- faces important challenges, such as entities identification, authentication and serialization
- implies to track and trace physical entities and linking these entities to virtualized information flows.

The major benefits of traceability are

- improving efficiency and safety of care processes, including the supply chain of drugs, devices, etc.;
- improved secondary usage of data for outcome research;
- enables measures against counterfeited drugs and devices.

Traceability represents a major issue and is in the background of several Public Health issues:

- European Unions' actions to fight against falsified medicines, as well as various governmental initiatives for a safer supply chain (e.g. France, Turkey, Slovenia, each mandating GS1 product labelling)
- Implants and other medical devices are already addressed by strong regulatory requirements for traceability. The recent problems with implants are now raising stronger attention to implant registers, which are an important element of traceability. It is obvious that if implants are properly labelled (in particular with GS1 barcodes), that information remains useless if not captured and stored in the appropriate repository.

Recent and Future Activities:

The WG is growing. Several works have been undertaken in collaboration with GS1, such as

- a series of conferences to raise awareness on the need to connect Supply Chain data and processes in the Health Informatics environment
- mapping the GS1 system with the HL7-RIM model
- launching a working group for the global identification of actors; this group has achieved by end 2011 an important standard development in the GS1 General Specifications, and is currently working on an ISO Technical Specification to provide guidance on implementation to the user community
- organisation of a Survey on IT support to the decision & supply chains
- co-organisation of the STC2010 conference with a focus traceability and a joint session between HL7 and GS1
- preparing a round table on HL7 and GS1 interactions at STC2011
- participation to the „Convergence“ initiative at MIE2011
- contribute to a workshop about HL7 / GS1 complementarity at MIE 2012. That workshop is based on the story of a elderly patient, which medical journey is used to illustrate how standards convey clinical information.