Workshop: Global Vocabulary vs. Local Healthcare Cultures

Michio Kimura, Yun Sik Kwak

Hamamatsu University School of Medicine, Hamamatsu, Japan (IMIA WG16 Chair) Kyungpock National University Medical School, Daegu, Korea Republic (APAMI WG1 Chair) Correspondence: kimura@mi.hama-med.ac.jp yunskwak@hotmail.com

Abstract

We have already many working standards, such as DICOM, HL7. They are message standards and easily used by many countries using many kinds of languages.

Now, in order to achieve interoperability, the standard focus in on at vocabulary and controlled terminologies, because vocabulary/terminology complements standard information structure in achieving semantic interoperability.

However, in Asia Pacific area, languages used are full of varieties. Even in a place where medical records are written in English, conversation with patients would be naturally in local tongue, and many other notes and records would be in local languages.

There are already many trial implementations and evaluations of global terminologies like SNOMED-CT, UMLS, LOINC, etc. in this area. All through the presentations of these precious efforts, this workshop aims to elucidate what can be global and what we can expect for, and what would be left local.

Presenters

Chien Tsai Liu of Taipei Medical University will report his comparison of LOINC and local codes used in laboratory reports in EHR.

Jack Li of Taipei Medical University will add more aspects on Taiwan project.

Wansa Paoin will report Thailand's experience of modification of ICD and other standard codes.

Shinsuke Fujita of Chiba University, Japan, will present his experience on analyzing SNOMED-CT as primary care in Japan.

C.P.Wong will present Hong Kong experience and evaluation about vocabularies.

Yun Sik Kwak will report on Korean UMLS project and SNOMED-CT implementation experience.