

# Healthcare Technology Letters

## Special issue: Decision Support for Person-Centred Healthcare

Information and Communication Technology tools to support decision-making in healthcare (also known as clinical decision support systems) are of great interest to clinicians. Recent technological advances have given rise to new forms of decision support by enabling the concept of collaborative decision making. In this process, patients are supported by their healthcare professional to choose among the available alternatives. This concept reforms the consultation or patient-doctor interaction by bringing together the best scientific evidence and the patient's values and preferences. The latter may be shaped by a wide range of factors such as age, daily living activities, family or personal beliefs, personal or cultural constructs and emotional status.

Supporting clinical decisions is not merely a feature of disease or therapy per se. Recent literature already accounts for clinical situations that would be prevented, or better monitored and managed, if a patient participatory model were chosen. How can healthcare technology help in this? Mobile and web technologies as well as smart devices, sensors etc. give rise to a wide variety of data including clinical, biological, therapeutic, behavioural, lifestyle and dietary. Combining these with concepts of promoting self-management and personal health systems, or predictive personalised models and algorithms results, can promote the contemporary concept of patient empowerment for a person-centred approach to healthcare decisions. Essentially, an approach that supports the patient to participate in the management of their health by improving lifestyle, monitoring wellbeing and preventing disease.

### Special Issue Scope

This special issue aims to collate cutting-edge technologies designed to support a person-centred healthcare process. Such technologies may focus on techniques to detect and predict early symptoms, prevent disease or simply enable the smart collection and management of suitable data that would enable decision support. We therefore welcome submissions describing the development, application, or validation of innovative approaches and systems, in areas including but not limited to:

- Ubiquitous real-time assistive healthcare or ambient assisted living systems supporting decisions
- Mobile, wearable and/or unobtrusive smart healthcare systems used in patient-centred decision-making
- Events recognition, fusion and interpretation of multimodal medical data supporting decisions
- Medical ontologies and semantic modelling of decision-making
- Reasoning and uncertainty modelling in medical knowledge driving decisions
- Data and knowledge mining in clinical decision support
- Process modelling to improve interactions between individuals/healthcare professionals and co-decision-making in healthcare
- Digital representation of health data to improve decisions on diagnosis and treatment
- The use of social media in clinical decision support
- Open data and knowledge supporting clinical decisions and/or patient self-care/management
- Gender and ethical issues related to person-centred healthcare and decision support
- Educational systems promoting person-centred healthcare and decision support



**Submission deadline: 19<sup>th</sup> November 2015**

See overleaf for details ►

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- Rigorous and prompt peer review of your paper with valuable feedback
- Express publication if accepted and options to publish open access are available\*
- Access to a worldwide readership in a broad range of disciplines
- E-first article publishing
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- Papers abstracted in IET *Inspec* and offered to *Ei Compendex*
- *Healthcare Technology Letters* has passed the first stage for inclusion in *PubMed Central*

### *Healthcare Technology Letters* Editorial Board

Editor-in-Chief, **Professor Christopher James**, is Professor of Biomedical Engineering, University of Warwick, UK. He is supported by an international editorial board of respected healthcare technology researchers.

This special issue will be guest edited by **Professor Panos Bamidis**, Medical School, Aristotle University of Thessaloniki, Greece.

### Submit your paper

Submitted articles should not have been previously published or be currently under review by other journals or conferences/symposia/workshops.

Papers previously published as part of conference/workshop proceedings can be considered for publication in the special issue provided that they are modified to contain at least 40% new content and no passages of text are identical. Authors of such submissions must clearly indicate how the journal version of their paper has been extended in a separate letter to the editorial office at the time of submission. Moreover, authors must acknowledge their previous paper in the manuscript and resolve any potential copyright issues prior to submission.

Papers should be a maximum of 6 pages and formatted according to the *Healthcare Technology Letters* Author Guide, found at <http://digital-library.theiet.org/journals/htl/author-guide>. Submissions should be marked as being for the Healthcare Technologies Decision Support Special Issue. All submissions are subject to the journal's peer-review procedures.

### Important dates

Submission deadline:  
**19<sup>th</sup> November 2015**

Final manuscripts:  
**5<sup>th</sup> February 2016**

Publication:  
**April 2016**

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