1. Introduction
WG 10 is an international group of experts in this field of medical informatics, which tries to contribute to the improvements in quality, comparability and usability of hospital information systems (HIS) worldwide. Furthermore, WG 10 considers as its task to promote systematic development and research in the field of health information systems, for which purpose it will organise workshops during major international medical informatic conferences.

To explore specific issues in the field of HIS, WG 10 organises working conferences where experts from the various countries focus their attention on these issues. Proceedings of such working conferences, containing both the papers presented and the outcome of discussions are published to make findings available to a wider audience. One of the objectives is to have as many IMIA members represented as possible to make the international network complete and effective. At the moment WG 10 has members from 27 countries.

2. Past International Working Conferences
WG 10 has organised three major working conferences:


- Expanding HIS, Fading Boundaries, August 1994, Durham, North Carolina, USA

The formula for the Durham working conference was similar to that of the other two in the sense that the number of participants did not exceed 100 and that most of the time was spent in group discussions. A Program Committee developed a program and invited over 30 speakers to prepare a paper on a
specified topic. Preprints of the papers were supplied to the participants before the conference, to allow them to study the input material. During the conference only highlights of the papers were presented in the plenary sessions.

The invited papers, the conclusions and recommendations, as well as results of the discussion group sessions, were published in a special issue of the International Journal of Biomedical Computing in 1995.

In addition, the WG 10 organized special sessions, workshops and tutorials during various major medical informatics conferences.

3. Future International Working Conferences/Plans
Because HIS is a major subject in medical informatics that deserves permanent attention, it is considered to change WG 10 status from Working Group to Special Interest Group (SIG). The idea is to have within the framework of the SIG a number of project teams dealing with specific topics. A possible restructuring was discussed during the WG 10 meeting in Durham, scheduled in conjunction with the working conference and a proposal was presented during the IMIA AGM in Vancouver, July 1995. A decision could not be reached in Vancouver and the subject is on the Agenda for the next IMIA AGM in Copenhagen, Denmark, August 1996.

4. Proceedings and Publication (WG 10)


5. Other involvements and relationships
WG 10 is closely related with WG 4 by Chairman and is linked to SIG N1 through various conferences.

6. List of Members
Can be obtained directly from WG 10 Chair.

Proposal to merge WG14 into WG10