## STANDARDS IN HEALTHCARE INFORMATICS (IMIA WG 16)

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## 1. Introduction

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WG 16 was formed at the IMIA AGM in Vancouver, Canada in July 1995 under the Chairmanship of George J.E. DeMoor.

The scope of standardization in Medical Informatics is as broad as Medical Informatics itself. As such WG 16, the Working Group on Standards, will have a horizontal range of coverage, comparable to the group on Education and Training in Medical Informatics, that has many links with other IMIA Working Groups.

Being basically both science driven and international, the objectives of WG 16 are to:

- facilitate exchange of information between the different standardization bodies of different continents;

- ensure broad dissemination and create awareness in connection with standards. The involvement of end-users through the WG 16 members (regional and national scientific associations) will be reinforced;

- enable analysis and comparison of the needs and priorities in the different countries;

- channel feedback and comments from the scientific medical community (members and other IMIA-WGs) to the makers of standards.

The establishment of IMIA WG 16 will serve as a signal to the implementors of standards, to demonstrate the willingness to cooperate at the highest level worldwide in order to obtain convergence in standardization efforts. WG 16 could also serve as a catalyst for the possible creation of an ISO TC.

The activities of WG 16 will include:

- theme specific workshops;
- tutorials;

- internet WWW server and forum;
- publications.

2. Past International Working Conferences As WG 16 was formed only in 1995 no working conference have yet been held.

3. Future International Working Conferences/Plans The first WG 16 conference is planned for early 1997.

4. List of Members Can be obtained directly from the WG 16 Chair.

Meeting September Barmada