



WG23 – Telehealth

**2019 Report - June 2018 to June 2019
presented in Lyon, France for:**

- **IMIA Board Meeting, August 25, 2019,**
- **IMIA General Assembly Meeting, August 26, 2019**

Chair (2010-2019)

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Vice-Chair (2010-2019)

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Website for WG: <https://imia-medinfo.org/wp/telehealth/>

Brief Background

- **Mission:** To be IMIA's key stakeholder and vehicle for advocacy and capacity building to use Informatics towards enabling as well as providing quality healthcare to areas outside the precinct of a medical establishment
- **Vision:** Engage the international health informatics community across sectors, to identify, explore, collaborate, and disseminate research on the use of technology to foster Telehealth.
- **Objective:** Priority focus is on (1) **Remote support for healthcare provision in low resource areas** - which include developing countries as well as unreached populations and tribal communities even in developed societies. (2) **Assistance of community based services** - important both for service delivery as well as data collection for health planning. (3) **Home based care** and personalized medicine.

The current team took over in 2010 with a completely fresh set of members when the WG was about to be disbanded. Our membership has risen over the years to 59 with

representation from 16 countries from all the 6 IMIA regions. We regularly meet online, though our group mail and lately WhatsApp, interspersed with physical meetings. Our main activities are through orientation, capacity building and publications. Members make proposals and are encouraged to lead towards specific goals.

Achievement(s)

a. **Publication in IMIA Yearbook 2019**

Role of Artificial Intelligence within the Telehealth Domain

Craig E. Kuziemy, Anthony Maeder, Oommen John, Shashi B. Gogia, Arindam Basu, Sushil Meher. Marcia Ito

<https://www.thieme-connect.de/products/ejournals/abstract/10.1055/s-0039-1677897>

b. **Publication in IMIA Yearbook 2018** Balancing Health Information Exchange and Privacy Governance from a Patient-Centred Connected Health and Telehealth Perspective.

A Contribution from the IMIA Organizational and Social Issues and Telehealth Working Groups

Craig E. Kuziemy, Shashi B. Gogia, Mowafa Househ, Carolyn Petersen, Arindam Basu.

<https://www.thieme-connect.com/products/ejournals/issue/eFirst/10.1055/s-00034612>

c. **The Global Telehealth Conference** was organized as part of APAMI 2018 in Colombo Srilanka in October 2018. 25 papers were delivered at the event by presenters from 12 countries, with four invited international speakers: Elizabeth Borycki (Canada), Anne Moen (Norway), Razia Pendse (Srilanka). proceedings book was published by IOS Press in series Health Technology and Informatics Vol 254.

<http://ebooks.iospress.nl/volume/transforming-healthcare-through-innovation-in-digital-health-selected-papers-from-global-telehealth-2018>

<http://dhw2018.org/globaltelehealth/>



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d. Completion of **book for undergraduates** (see below)

Participation - Engagement and participation in IMIA and health informatics events and activities by members of your WG/SIG

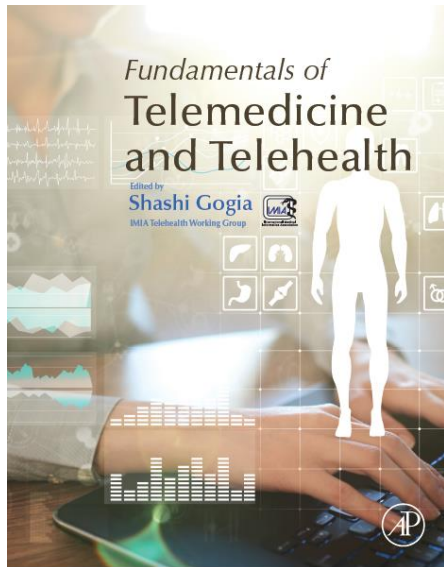
a) Book '**Fundamentals of Telehealth and Telemedicine**'

This WG had been invited to contribute a book targeting lay practitioners and undergraduates in Medical, Nursing and related fields in an attempt to routinize telehealth and make its adoption a day to day reality by the noted international publisher **Elsevier** in

2016. A panel discussion on the proposed curriculum took place during the Medinfo 2017 in Hangzhou. Over the 20 – 21 months and innumerable, emails online discussions and another meeting during APAMI 2018, the book is now completed and ready for a formal release which shall hopefully take place during Medinfo 2019

The slim book of 270 pages with Shashi Gogia as chief editor has a total of 46 contributors for its 15 chapters and 100 subchapters. The book is split into 4 parts as follows– (1) Basics of Telehealth; (2) Working Together for Health; (3) Telemedicine; and (4) Issues and Future Perspectives.

All the contributors are WG members from the following 11 countries - Australia, Brazil, Canada, Chile, India, New Zealand, Nigeria, Norway, South Africa and USA.



Some details about the book

The last few years have seen major advances in information and communications technologies (ICT) such as wireless data, internet connectivity, and near ubiquitous access to powerful mobile phones. These exciting developments have expanded the scope of telehealth and mobile health to serve an increasing array of health needs, including better reach to underserved populations and those in remote and rural areas.

Fundamentals of Telemedicine and Telehealth provides an overview of these technologies and applications. Topics comprise methods of digitizing patient information, technology requirements, utilization of existing resources by patients, by clinicians in primary care, within hospitals as well as specialized situations, and planning for telehealth projects,. There is a special section on related issues and

future directions

Authored by International Medical Informatics Association (IMIA) Telehealth Working group, this book is a valuable resource for undergraduates, healthcare workers, researchers, and clinicians interested in adding telehealth as a component of day-to-day practice or research.

Key Features:

- *Presents components of healthcare that can benefit from remote access and when to rely on them*
 - *Explains the current technology tools and how to put them to effective use in order to improve healthcare delivery.*
 - *How to incorporate ICT as well as mHealth in your own projects and collaborate with other members of the health team*
 - *Provides legal provisions for telehealth implementation, discussing the risks of remote healthcare provision and cross border care*
 - *Examples of specific use cases in a range of specialties and locations*
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- b) Global Telehealth Meeting (see above) as part of APAMI 2018 – we are now the official Partner to this and plan to organize the same in conjunction with other regional or international events
- c) See efforts by Individual members under Item 6
- d) ELECTIONS for the next rung of leaders took place in June 2019 – we thank Elaine Huesing, the IMIA CEO for conducting the elections and the results declared as follows{

WG Chairperson (elect) - **Arindam Basu** (New Zealand)

WG Co-Chairperson (elect) – **Sriram Iyengar** (USA)

This team shall start sharing responsibility immediately and formally takeover in end 2020

We congratulate the winners on behalf of the WG members as well as the IMIA community

Outreach - Recruitment and engagement of new members and target communities, publicity and representation at major events and/or on social media

Recruitment: Our discussions are through an Email discussion forum as well as a WhatsApp Group titled IMIA Telehealth-any IMIA affiliated Member can join – send a request to gogia7@gmail.com or to moderator through Google groups

Current number of members: 59

Total number of countries represented – 16, country of two members not mentioned

List of New Members Joined during: July 2018-June 2019

Alan Taylor	Australia
Luiz Fernando de Oliveria	Brazil
Fernando Sales	Brazil
Pho, Anthony T.	USA
Vignesh Subbian	USA
Waite, Karen	Canada
Abhishek Gattani	USA
Manoj Kumar Singh	India
Marcia Ito	Brazil
Christina	USA
Gumindu Kulatunga	Sri Lanka
K D Shrivastav	India
Christopher Pearce	Australia
Renato Sabbatini	Brazil
Anupama Ginige	Australia

Collaboration - Working with other IMIA WG/SIGs or external organizations or institutions (Please state the types of the collaborations and achievements of each collaboration attempted)

- a) With **WG of Organizational and Social Issues** – we did an official joint paper with them for Yearbook 2018. Currently we have members from the same working for papers and submissions
- b) **ISO TC 215 WG 2 Systems and Device Interoperability** – Alan Taylor the project leader has become a member and is inviting other members for a revision of ISO TS 13131:2014 Health informatics -- Telehealth services -- Quality planning guidelines:
- c) **With Elsevier (above) for book.**
- d) With **organizing committee of Global Telehealth (GT)** – we helped the scientific content as well as overall planning – this resulted in a formal tie up with APAMI 2018 for GT 2018

Individual contributions by Members (*Only those directly pertaining or related to telehealth*)

Shashi Gogia

- i. Book as above
- ii. Yearbook 2018 and 2019 publications (above)
- iii. Member of Scientific Committee for GT 2018
- iv. Attended ISO TC 215 (Health Informatics) meeting in Gothenburg Sweden in April 2019 and participated /provided comments for CAG2, WG2, WG3, JWG7 and TMsTF2