

Foreword

We welcome you to the 18th International Symposium on Health Information Management Research (ISHIMR 2020). ISHIMR 2020 is organised by Linnaeus University in Sweden and the University of Sheffield in the UK. This is the second time that ISHIMR has been organised through the two Universities: back in 2009 the then Kalmar University hosted a very successful ISHIMR conference in collaboration with Sheffield.

This year the format for the conference is very different: because of the Covid-19 pandemic, ISHIMR is an online conference and researchers from across the world will come together online to discuss their research using advanced digital technologies. This seems wholly appropriate for a conference that discusses the importance of digital technologies within health care.

The theme of ISHIMR 2020 is “Using digital information for better patient health, care and well-being”. We welcome our key-note speakers, Professor Anne Moen (University of Oslo, Norway) and Professor Sabine Koch (Karolinska Institutet, Sweden): we look forward to hearing their insights on this topic. We welcome a range of presentations from Australia, Czech Republic, Finland, France, Greece, India, Kosovo, Sweden, Switzerland and the UK, addressing this area and giving the conference a truly international flavour.

The dissemination of research and evaluation of digital health and health information/informatics initiatives enables researchers and practitioners to share their own experiences and develop an understanding of the challenges faced in other countries. Now, more than ever, in the global Covid-19 pandemic it is important to come together and consider how we can improve the use of digital technologies to combat the spread of disease and to promote health and well-being throughout the world.

The Proceedings are organised by papers (in order of presentation) and poster abstracts (alphabetical order of first author surname). We thank all members of the international Programme Committee for their time and work in reviewing the submitted papers and poster abstracts. We also thank the Health Informatics Journal and, in particular, the Journal Editor, Professor Panos Bamidis, for their continued support in considering papers accepted at ISHIMR for onward publication in the journal.

We encourage you to join in the discussions following the paper and poster presentations and during the social sessions. Following each session there will be the opportunity to join the paper presenters in another room to ask any further questions.

We thank you for attending ISHIMR 2020 – we hope you enjoy the conference.
Tack så mycket!

Professor Peter Bath
Programme Committee Chair

Dr Evalill Nilsson
Organising Committee Chair