

Dear young colleagues,

The European Federation for Medical Informatics (EFMI) was founded in 1976 with key objectives to advance international co-operation and dissemination of information in Medical informatics on a European basis; to promote high standards in the application, education, research and development of medical informatics.

For the first time since its establishment, EFMI will organize a Workgroup devoted to young professionals and leaders in the field of medical informatics, addressing specific issues of education, research, and professional development. A new position in the EFMI Board will start November 2020, with a Young Professional officer representing the community in the executive group.

As a first action, as a part of the 18th International Conference on Informatics, Management and Technology in Healthcare (ICIMTH), organized as an e-conference on 3rd-5th July 2020 I am **honored and glad to hear your expectations and thoughts about this initiative, during a special workshop, to hear your ideas and suggestions in preparation of the workshop topics and, it would be a special honor if you accept our invitation to participate and create this new community!**

Early to mid-career researchers and professionals develop the digital domain bringing innovations and improvements that make significant impacts on the whole society. Many *challenges* are in front of us, naming just a few: limited financial support for innovations, intense competitions for research positions, disbalance between different regions and countries from the perspective of the potential for research and innovation, increasingly expectation of conducting research, which is of particular relevance to society (as reported in the study by the Global Young Academy), as well as the necessity for creating a balance between science and life (especially for female researchers), etc. All these challenges are general for all disciplines and fields, facing also the multidisciplinary field of digital healthcare, “the prominent medical development of the 21st century”.

On the other side, we feel *strong* enough to produce and create real innovation with great impact on daily activities in health care systems in all countries in the world; we *love* to interact and cooperate with people from different cultures, disciplines and backgrounds, we *enjoy* creating a network which can address topics of global importance.

We have a unique opportunity to give a voice to young scientists around Europe in the field of digital healthcare! Let’s do it! The first steps are always the most demanding, with a lot of uncertainty, but we should start with small steps of sharing our ideas with our experienced colleagues who invested their carriers and huge efforts to establish EFMI. Organization of this workshop is a symbolical start of our journey from the area close to the largest and most beautiful sanctuary of ancient Athens, Acropolis - “**It is Us that will make this initiative grow!**” are the words of Prof. dr. Lacramioara Stoicu-Tivadar, EFMI President, who hand over the baton to go!

I would love to have soon your feedback on this letter, join the conversation by filling in the form ([link](#)) and let me know your thoughts.

Let’s start together the yEFMI journey!

Best regards,

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