Foreword

Knowledge is of two kinds: we know a subject ourselves, or we know where we can find information upon it.
-- Samuel Johnson

More than ever, we depend heavily on knowledge – both our own knowledge and knowledge prevalent in domains of our interest. Knowledge, like physical and financial assets, has to be preserved and used. And we need to harness and exploit the collective knowledge as it can fill the gaps in individual knowledge. Given that human knowledge is perishable and volatile, knowledge management using computer-based tools and systems augmented with artificial intelligence techniques assumes greater significance.

This book, Biomedical Knowledge Management: Infrastructures and Processes for E-Health Systems, is a timely and a valuable addition to a small set of books in the area of knowledge management in healthcare and biomedical sciences and engineering.

This book covers a variety of topics at the forefront of e-health and biomedical systems, including: telemedicine, electronic health records, e-prescription, systems that analyze and extract meaningful information from free text medical records, use of modeling and artificial intelligence and data mining techniques for data analysis, innovative applications that extend the scope of health care beyond conventional practices and online decision support system for medical practitioners, as well as human factors in e-health systems.

As Goethe has advised, “Knowing is not enough; we must apply!” In that spirit, this book also presents a number of insightful case studies discussing practical applications and real-world experiences. It provides a balanced nexus among research and practice, one complementing and contributing to the other.

Taken together, chapters in this book provide a number of interesting perspectives on e-Health systems and biomedical knowledge management and provide valuable insights that would enable researchers and practitioners to take best advantage of developments reported here and to address problems and issues that deserve further study.

I believe you – whether you are a researcher, an academic, or someone interested IT applications in healthcare – find the book a very valuable resource.
A little knowledge that acts is worth infinitely more than much knowledge that is idle.
-- Kahlil Gibran

San Murugesan
Professor of Information Systems
Multimedia University, Malaysia
University of Western Sydney, Australia

San Murugesan is Professor of Information Systems in the Faculty of Management, and Director of Graduate Centre for Management (GCM) at Multimedia University in Malaysia. He is also an Adjunct Professor in the School of Computing and Mathematics at the University of Western Sydney (Australia) and an independent business, IT, and education consultant. His areas of interests include green computing, Web 2.0 and 3.0, cloud computing, mobile computing, knowledge management, health information systems, mobile health, Web engineering and e-business. He is a Fellow of the Australian Computer Society (ACS), a distinguished visitor and tutorial speaker of the IEEE Computer Society. Dr Murugesan serves as an Editor of IEEE IT Professional magazine and Associate Editor for five international journals: International Journal of Health Information Systems and Informatics, International Journal of E-Business Research, International Journal on Advances in ICT for Emerging Regions (ICTer), Journal of Web Engineering, and International Journal of E-Adoption. He is the editor of the Handbook of Research on Web 2.0, 3.0 and X.0: Technologies, Business, and Social Applications (Information Science Research, 2009) and an upcoming book, Cloud Computing (CRC Press, 2010).