

## GUEST EDITORIAL PREFACE

# Special Issue on 15th International Conference on e-Health Networking, Application, and Services

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It was our pleasure to welcome the eHealth community to the beautiful and historic city of Lisbon, the capital of Portugal, and to host the very stimulating and productive *15<sup>th</sup> International Conference on e-Health Networking, Application and Services, IEEE HEALTHCOM 2013*, on October 09-12, 2013.

*eHealth* is the cost-effective and secure use of information and communications technologies in support of health and the related fields, including health-care services, surveillance, literature, education, knowledge, and research, both at the local site and at a distance. It will make personalized medicine and *eHealth* possible and affordable in the near future. The adoption of *eHealth* technologies in medical fields creates huge opportunities, yet lots of challenges still need to be resolved to build reliable, secure, and efficient networks or platforms with great flexibility.

This venue attracted highly qualified researchers who presented their work in a series

of twenty technical sessions, two poster sessions, a demo session, two panels, four keynote speeches, four tutorials, three workshops, and a large industry Exhibition. We received contributions from 51 countries and a total of 286 papers were submitted for the main conference, with an acceptance ratio about 46%.

The authors of the best communications have been invited to produce extended papers that are now published in this special edition. The scientific papers included in this special issue cover a wide range of e-Health topics, including the challenges related to the personalization of the remote health monitors, the collection of a big amount of information from numerous biosensors, the wireless sensor networks which bring new challenges about faulty measurements detection, the effective use of energy in each communicating nodes, the new paradigms introduced by the presence of human body, including radiations awareness, and eventually the need for open ambient living

ecosystems for testing and certification of the technologies and to also assess the perceived usefulness from each stakeholders.

It was my privilege to accept to be the publication chair of Healthcom 2013 and to write this editorial, after the kind invitation of Prof. Joel Rodrigues, General Chair, *IEEE HEALTHCOM 2013*, and Editor-in-Chief of the journal *IJEHMC*. I would also like to thank

the Technical Program Committee Chairs, Dr. Christos Verikoukis and Prof. Ricardo Correia, for their support during the process of selection of the best papers from *HEALTHCOM 2013*.

*Norbert Noury*  
*Guest Editor*  
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