Social Computing with sentiment analysis paradigm has recently emerged as a new trend in health informatics that can assist the stakeholders in this area to have a leading edge over the competitors with respect to improved patient satisfaction. With the traditional tools and techniques, it is an uphill task to capture, cleanse and analyze complex and large-scale patient-generated text streams. Furthermore, most of the people are using different social networking sites to share their healthcare experiences about diseases, medications, brands, doctors, nurses etc.

The data collected from patients and healthcare providers play a pivotal role in providing the requisite information for carrying out Pharmacovigilance with respect to adverse drug reactions. Similarly, such data, supported by Pharmacogenomics knowledge base can assist in the process of Pharmacogenomics, which aims at identifying how people react differently to medications on the basis of genetic features.

It has been observed that majority of the reputed brands are collecting data about their products from their healthcare customers by creating and maintaining social media pages. However, there is lack of automated tools and sophisticated dashboards to acquire, preprocess and analyze the data and transform it into valuable information by taking corrective actions in terms of identified gaps through customer feedback for Postmarketing surveillance. Therefore, there is a need for applying social computing driven sentiment analysis algorithms and develop automated tools under the umbrella of health informatics. This could benefit the healthcare industry and associated stakeholders (patients, doctors etc.) in the light of social computing philosophy and technology. The information acquired from such techniques could also assist policymakers of healthcare departments to better understand the public needs and desires.

This special issue on Social Computing for health informatics aims at bringing academia and industry together to focus on addressing the challenges and to provide solutions towards the development of practical applications for Social
Computing driven health informatics models and devise new techniques of data acquisition, filtering, classification and to generate novel research findings. This new dimension will be probed by this special section providing maximum coverage to state-of-the-art emerging issues.

Following is a list of topics, but not limited to:

- Using Sentiment Analysis Techniques for identifying customer Health-care needs pertaining to medical products and devices
- Developing a benchmark machine readable corpora for adverse drug reactions and diseases
- Applying Social Computing Techniques for Pharmacovigilance (Adverse Drug Reactions)
- Investigating Social Computing techniques for Pharmacogenomics
- Early detection and extraction of adverse drug reactions from Social networking big data
- Analyzing patient opinions for products with respect to effectiveness for disease cure
- Developing Social Computing techniques for customer’s tone monitoring (with respect to products, facilities, doctors, nurses, brands etc.) in health informatics
- Named Entity Recognition-based (products, diseases, companies, brands) Sentiment Analysis of Social network data
- Automatic identification of adverse Vs beneficial drug effects from customer-generated (patient, medical experts etc.) online unstructured data
- Proposing Social computing models for Post-marketing surveillance in health informatics
- Ontology-based social computing models for analyzing patient reviews/tweets
- Designing Social network-based (Twitter, Facebook etc.) algorithms and automated tools for disease outbreak and its real time Surveillance
- Analyzing mental health of a nation using emotions expressed in Social media posts
- Analyzing public health issues via social networking-based big data.
- Exploring social media posts for detecting drug abuses and addiction

**Submission Guidelines**

All manuscripts must be submitted via mstracker.com and authors are request to write in their cover letter that their submission is for this special issue and the name of the guest editor, so that the guest editor can be notified separately. Guidelines for preparation of the manuscripts are available at the journal website http://www.aspbs.com/jmihi/instauth_jmihi.htm. Prospective authors should submit an electronic copy of their complete manuscript through the journal Manuscript Tracking System at http://mstracker.com/submit1.php?jc=jmihi.

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**Important Dates**

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