Author's response to reviews

Title: CDAPubMed: a browser extension to retrieve EHR-based biomedical literature

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Version: 4 Date: 24 February 2012

Author's response to reviews: see over
Author’s response to reviews

Title: CDAPubmed: a browser extension to retrieve EHR-based biomedical literature

Authors: David Perez-Rey, Ana Jimenez-Castellanos, Miguel Garcia-Remesal, Jose Crespo and Victor Maojo

Version: 4

Date: 20th February 2012

Author’s response to reviews: see over
Dear Editor,

We are submitting a third revised version of our manuscript entitled “CDAPubmed: a browser extension to retrieve EHR-based biomedical literature” to be considered for a “software” publication at BMC Medical Informatics & Decision Making.

We would like to thank the referees for their valuable comments regarding our work. We have followed their recommendations and included further evaluation of our software. We hope that our paper will be now suitable for publication in BMC Medical Informatics and Decision Making.

Below, we present a point-by-point description of the changes made following the reviewers suggestions.
Reviewer's report

Title: CDAPubMed: a browser extension to retrieve EHR-based biomedical literature

Version: 3 Date: 5 January 2012

Reviewer: Aurelie Neveol

Reviewer's report:

This version of the manuscript is nicely improved over the last one.

However, some of the changes previously requested have not been made:

- Give the name of the branches in Table 1: This was done when branches are mentioned in the manuscript text, but not in Table 1. This should be easy to fix.

Names of MeSH branches have been included at table caption.

- Improvement on the evaluation: The assessment of user satisfaction is a nice addition. The comparison of keyword extraction to a baseline or state-of-the-art method is still missing. In their response, the authors claim that “a comparison is not possible”. I respectfully disagree. A string matching baseline can be applied to retrieve all occurrences of terms in a body of text. MTI does indeed perform a more general extraction at the document level. However, its NLP component MetaMap (freely available from NLM) can be applied to identify all occurrences of MeSH terms in a given biomedical text. The comparison to one of these at least (baseline or MetaMap) should be straightforward and easy to implement.

We have performed the required comparison with a baseline method to retrieve every MeSH term occurrence within the dataset. The result table have been updated and commented within the text.

Level of interest: An article of importance in its field

Quality of written English: Acceptable

Statistical review: No, the manuscript does not need to be seen by a statistician.

Declaration of competing interests:

I declare that I have no competing interests
We are looking forward to hearing from you.

Sincerely yours,

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