Author's response to reviews

Title: A Pipeline To Extract Drug-Adverse Event Pairs From Multiple Data Sources

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Author's response to reviews: see over
Aditya Rao  
TCS Innovations Labs Hyderabad  
June 28, 2013  

To,  
The Editor  
BMC Medical Informatics and Decision Making  

We have submitted a research article titled “A Pipeline To Extract Drug-Adverse Event Pairs From Multiple Data Sources” to be considered for publication in your esteemed journal.  

As suggested, we have revised the manuscript and have addressed the comments on the revisions in a point-by-point response to the concerns. Please find the responses to the mail highlighted in blue colored font in the following pages. These have been incorporated under the relevant sections in the manuscript.  

We hope the manuscript meets the exacting standards of BMC Medical Informatics and Decision Making.  

Yours Sincerely,  

Aditya Rao
> MS: 1822012469101544
> A Pipeline To Extract Drug-Adverse Event Pairs From Multiple Data Sources
> SriJyothsna Yeleswarapu, Aditya Rao, Thomas Joseph, Vangala G Saipradeep and Rajgopal Srinivasan

> Dear Mr Rao,

> Thank you for your recent submission to BMC Medical Informatics and Decision Making. Before we can proceed with peer review we will need you to make some changes to the formatting of > your manuscript. We strongly urge you to make these changes promptly, as we cannot start the peer review process until we have received a version containing the changes.

>> I note that you have not provided full details of your pipeline. Our editorial policies relating to manuscripts which present new software tools or services are as follows:

> 1. The software application, algorithm, code or tool described in the manuscript is available for testing by reviewers in a way that preserves their anonymity.
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The pipeline described in the manuscript, used to extract the adverse event pairs from traditional structured adverse event databases and non-traditional sources such as user-comments from health-related websites and MEDLINE abstracts, is a semi-automated one. Some components of the pipeline involve manual tasks. For the core of the pipeline, which includes the NLP modules that involve NER and concept association map building, an application called TPX has been modified and used. The modified version used in this pipeline is available as a web tool and can be accessed at: http://www.atc.tcs.com/tm/medra/login.jsp. Users can register on the application and test it.

The Author's contributions are as follows:
All the authors participated in the design of the study. SY and SVG were involved in the development of the various components of the software. SY and AR conceptualized the study, performed the statistical analysis and drafted the manuscript. RS reviewed the study, helped to draft the manuscript and gave final approval of the version to be published. All authors read and approved the final manuscript.
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All the authors are salaried employees of Tata Consultancy Services Ltd., where this work was done and the organization finances the article-processing charge for this manuscript. The authors have no other competing interests.

> ? Do you hold or are you currently applying for any patents relating to the content of the manuscript? Have you received reimbursements, fees, funding, or salary from an organization that holds or has applied for patents relating to the content of the manuscript? If so, please specify.

TPX-PV uses various dictionaries such as chemical & drugs, disease, symptoms curated automatically using a dictionary curation pipeline for identifying entities from the unstructured text (viz., Blogs, PubMed). A patent has been filed on this dictionary curation pipeline. The details of the patent are mentioned below:

Patent Name : “AUTOMATED DICTIONARY CREATION FOR SCIENTIFIC TERMS”

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> We would be grateful if you could address the comments in a revised manuscript and provide a cover letter giving a point-by-point response to the concerns.
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We look forward to receiving your revised manuscript by 30 June 2013. If you imagine that it will take longer to prepare please give us some estimate of when we can expect it.

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Please don't hesitate to contact me if you have any problems or questions regarding your manuscript.

With best wishes,

Arlene Pura
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