Reviewer’s report

Title: V-Model: a new perspective for EHR-based phenotyping

Version: 3 Date: 30 April 2014

Reviewer: Yun Jang Jang

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The paper presents an information visualization model for EHR based clinical data. The conventional system does not provide explicitly problem and action but the proposed model offers an intuitive visualization to understand the data easily. The exposition seems easy to follow and the model is well described in the paper.

There are a few issues that would make a reader understand the paper better.

1) How is the narrative clinical data going to be parsed for the system? I know the automatic system is not implemented yet but it will be an issue to handle the data in the future automatic system.

2) It would be good to describe more about Figure 5. Simply saying that the system can be used to extract patterns is not sufficient to understand “how”.

3) It would be good to provide a comparison table between the proposed system and the conventional system in terms of functionalities. I don’t think the proposed can replace the conventional system but it might be good to mention how to use the proposed system together with the conventional system.

Minor issues are

1) Please reword “Few examples are found that adopted a timeline for phenotyping” on page 4

2) Reference 28 needs to be checked if all information is correct.

Level of interest: An article of importance in its field

Quality of written English: Needs some language corrections before being published

Statistical review: Yes, but I do not feel adequately qualified to assess the statistics.

Declaration of competing interests:

N/A