Author's response to reviews

Title: The caCORE Software Development Kit: Streamlining construction of interoperable biomedical information services

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Dear BMC,

On behalf of myself and my co-authors, I am pleased to submit the article entitled The caCORE Software Development Kit: Streamlining construction of interoperable biomedical information services. This revised version of the manuscript is being submitted to BMC Medical Informatics and Decision Making instead of BMC Bioinformatics, per your suggestion. The following changes have been made since the original submission to BMC Bioinformatics.

- **Abstract** has been revised and reformatted to conform with BMC standards
- **Competing Interests** section has been added
- **Availability and Requirements** section has been edited further to correct one error that was discovered.

I believe you will find that its subject matter and the software tools described in the article to be a significant advance in biomedical informatics. The NCI Center for Bioinformatics has spent several years exploring the frontier of complex biomedical research information management in a federated environment. These activities have included prototyping followed by full production implementations, and have encompassed all the dimensions of scientific data and information management, including semantics, ontologies, data processing, databases, middleware, domain modeling, and modern software development methodologies.

In the interest of empowering the broader community to take advantage of our experience and resources, we created the caCORE Software Development Kit. This software tool is a sophisticated suite of components, many incorporated from other open source projects. The kit implements the model-driven architecture paradigm and extends it to incorporate description logic concepts from an ontology into the models, followed by registration of all the corresponding metadata in a runtime metadata registry. The final system produced by the kit exposes object-oriented data services through a standardized application programming interfaces.

Thank you for your consideration of our submission.

Sincerely,

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