

## What is IMIA OSWG

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The Open Source Health Informatics Working Group (OSWG) of the International Medical Informatics Association (IMIA - [www.imia.org](http://www.imia.org)) brings together experts and interested individuals from a wide range of health professions and with a range of interests in the potential application of free/libre and open source solutions within their domains of expertise.

LATEST: As of June 2006, the new Chair is Prof. Graham Wright.

The IMIA OSWG has close links - and much common membership - with the IMIA-NI OSNI WG (Open Source Nursing Informatics Working Group of IMIA's Special Interest Group in Nursing Informatics) - see [www.osni.info](http://www.osni.info) - Much of the effort and development that is currently happening in on the OSNI website and in the OSNI group - so have a look at the site there for updates.

The OSWG will explore the implications of the free/libre and open source (FLOSS) approaches for all aspects of IMIA's areas of interest. It will work with other Working and Special Interest Groups to explore the appropriate use of FLOSS solutions and applications. Through close interaction with, and cross-membership with, many other FLOSS groups outside IMIA, the WG will facilitate both the use of other groups' expertise in the areas under consideration, and the input of IMIA views to those other groups' work and discussions.

We aim to be inclusive, rather than exclusive; so, although the group currently uses 'open source' in its name, we do so loosely, and aim to address all aspects of open source software (as defined by OSI and others), free software (as defined by the Free Software Foundation), GNU/Linux, and other appropriate areas and topics as they develop.