

WRAPIN



Number: IST-2001-33260

Cluster: Citizens

Type of Action: Best Practice

Project Participants:

MISS	F
LERTIM	F
NICE	CH
DIM	CH
THALES	F
HON	CH

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Project web site:

<http://www.wrapin.org>

Budget:

total cost: 1,456,431 €
EC contribution: 503,862 €

Timetable:

start date: 01/Sep/01
duration: 24 months

Keywords:

biomedical informatics, eHealth networks and architectures, health professionals knowledge, public health, health promotion, information to citizens, security and privacy.

World-wide online Reliable Advice to Patients and Individuals

Objectives

WRAPIN helps solve two major problems faced by Internet citizens:

- Finding information among a large number of potentially useful documents;
- Evaluating the relevance of an online medical document.

Despite the improved access to information made possible by the Internet, it remains extremely difficult to judge the trustworthiness or relevance of online content. All categories of users, professional and non-professional, face this problem, which can be of critical importance in the case of health or medical information. Search engines, some general, some specialised, are used by all categories of users to find information but the ever-increasing number of online documents means that queries must be ever more precise.

WRAPIN is an ambitious project aiming to support the online citizen with a practical, convenient solution to the problem of large numbers of documents of uncertain quality. WRAPIN will offer a modular platform to interconnect the most trustworthy and complete information sources. To date, the following databases have been integrated in WRAPIN:

- MEDLINE, containing scientific medical articles from the 1960's through the present and constantly updated;
- Clinical Trials (clinicaltrials.org);
- OESO (new electronic database prepared by WRAPIN for the
- World Organisation for Special Studies on Diseases of Oesophagus;
- Urofrance (French urology database);
- MedHunt (medical search engine) and
- the HON Code of Conduct (<http://www.hon.ch/Conduct.html>) accredited Web sites.

The resulting search tool will provide citizens with a wide range of trustworthy medical and health content.

Results

The WRAPIN project makes use of new developments in the mapping of medical terms, indexing and search technologies, and natural language processing tools. WRAPIN has also incorporated and stimulated progress on ongoing projects, such as MARVIN (Multi-Agent Retrieval Vagabond on Information Network, HON's medical web spider), HONselect (the 'categoriser' which currently provides a directory of health/medical resources), ARIANE (the 'query conceptualiser' from LERTIM), and a 12-language spelling corrector. WRAPIN will use these technologies to help in query formulation, leading to accurate search results.

WRAPIN will also provide an entirely new facility enabling the comparison of health/medical documents in any format (HTML, PDF, etc.) or length with this interconnected knowledge base, to discover if the information exists in the published literature and provide a summary conclusion of the ideas contained. It will help to determine the reliability of documents by checking the ideas contained against established benchmarks, and enable users to determine the relevance of a given document from a page of search results. This exciting new tool is an important step toward the certification of quality online information.

