

## ANNOUNCEMENT

### **INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON NEURAL NETWORKS AND EXPERT SYSTEMS IN MEDICINE AND HEALTHCARE 24–26 August, 1994 Plymouth, England**

**Organised by**

Plymouth Postgraduate Medical Schools and  
Centre for Intelligent Systems,  
University of Plymouth

**In co-operation with**

The Institute of Physical  
Sciences in Medicine  
The Royal Society of Medicine

**Honorary Conference Chairman:**

Professor Bruce McA. Sayers  
WHO and Imperial College, London

**Conference Co-Chairman:**

Dr. Emmanuel Ifeakor  
Centre for Intelligent Systems,  
University of Plymouth

In the last few years there has been an explosion of interest in a number of intelligent systems techniques, notably in Neural Networks and Expert Systems. Medicine and healthcare have emerged as fertile areas for the application of these techniques because they require expertise (which is not always available), often involve non-trivial pattern recognition tasks, and because of difficulties with conventional methods.

The aims of the conference are to bring together research engineers, medical informaticians, scientists, and medical experts, to discuss actual and potential applications of neural networks and expert systems in medicine and healthcare, and to identify their benefits, limitations, current and future roles.

The organisers invite papers from prospective authors in academia, industry, government and private organisations world wide in all areas of medicine and healthcare including, but not limited to biosignal processing, medical image processing, cardiology, obstetrics and gynaecology, paediatrics, neurology, radiology, occupational medicine, drugs and administration of medicine, patient management, therapy, prevention of diseases, care and rehabilitation, public health, and data security. Papers should come under one of the following general headings:

- Neural Networks & Expert Systems Techniques
- Neural Networks & Expert Systems Applications
- Integration of Neural Networks & Expert Systems into Clinical Environment
- Software/Hardware Tools & Environments

Practical papers are strongly encouraged, especially those that demonstrate significant potential improvements in medicine or healthcare, or cover topics such as the use of consensus expertise; limitations of neural networks or expert systems, safety and legal issues; hybrid neural networks-expert systems, integration with other techniques, e.g. genetic algorithms and multimedia; decision support tools; uncertainty handling with fuzzy logic; clinical verification, validation and assessment, integration of neural networks and expert systems into clinical information systems and environments, user interface, intelligent databases; computer aided tutoring; novel software tools and techniques.

**TUTORIAL COURSE on Expert Systems and Neural Networks**  
**23 August 1994**  
**Plymouth, England**

The tutorial will provide a practical introduction to the principles and techniques of neural networks and expert systems. It will be presented by respected experts in the fields, and should be of particular interest to clinicians, academics and industrialists who are considering the application of intelligent systems techniques to their problems or who want a good appreciation of the principles involved.

*Further information available from:*

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