

This volume is dedicated to AMIA, the principal professional association for the editors. Born as the American Medical Informatics Association in 1990, AMIA is now preferentially known simply by its acronym and has grown to include some 5500 members who are dedicated to all aspects of biomedical informatics. AMIA and this textbook have evolved in parallel for four decades, and we thank the organization and its members for all they have done for the field and for health care and biomedicine. May both AMIA and this volume evolve and prosper in parallel for years to come.