Preface

The goal of healthcare is to maintain or improve human health. To achieve this goal, healthcare systems have evolved considerably over the past years. More and more sophisticated information technologies and intelligent paradigms have been employed in the healthcare systems for delivering effective healthcare to the patients. The computers have made it possible to easily access and process a large amount of information at a relatively low cost and high speed. Computational intelligence is becoming one of the key technologies for healthcare systems to evolve further, because intelligent paradigms such as artificial neural networks, multiagent systems, and genetic algorithms help the systems to behave like humans—an essential feature that many healthcare systems need to have.

This volume presents seven chapters selected from the rapidly growing application areas of computational intelligence to healthcare systems, including intelligent synthetic characters, man-machine interface, menu generators, analysis of user acceptance, pictures archiving and communication systems, and inverse electromagnetic problem of the heart.

We believe that this volume, along with the first volume of the book, will serve as a useful resource for the health professionals, professors, students, and the computer scientists, who are working on or interested in learning healthcare systems, to overview the current stat-of-the-art of diverse applications of computational intelligence to healthcare practice.

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Editors
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