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**Multilingual Biomedical Text Processing
(MultiligualBIO 2020)**

PROCEEDINGS

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Introduction

Welcome to MultilingualBIO 2020, the LREC2020 Workshop on "Multilingual Biomedical Text Processing" . As the COVID-19 pandemic unrolls during the first months of 2020 around the world, the need for strong AI and NLP technologies for biomedical text is more evident than ever. As in other NLP areas, we are currently witnessing fast developments, with improved access, analysis and integration of healthcare-relevant information from heterogeneous content types, including electronic health records, medical literature, clinical trials, medical agency reports or patient-reported information available form social media and forums. There is an increasing automation of tasks in many critical areas, such as detecting interactions or supporting clinical decision. However, progress is very uneven depending on the language. Main achievements in processing biomedical text are almost restricted to English, with most other languages lagging behind in this respect, due to lack of annotated resources, incomplete vocabularies and insufficient in-domain corpora. More effort from the research community is needed to endow these languages with the necessary resources. The second edition of MultilingualBIO, at the LREC 2020 Conference, aims at promoting the development of biomedical text processing resources and components in languages beyond English, exploring the use of novel methodological advances for a diversity of tasks in the domain.

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