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MidTerm Overall Evaluation Report



PROPOSAL: 2000000152
TITLE: ERMIC REMOTE TELEOPTOMETRY PROJECT

ACCOMPLISHMENTS

TRICARE Europe Systems Information & Analysis Office developed the Tele-Ocular Health Application software using the DoD Medical Advanced Technology Management Office (MATMO) Teledermatology application as a model. I designed the site layout. The first prototype (Version 1.0) of the Tele-Ocular Health system, known as Teleophthalmology, was completed in September 2001. The prototype allowed secure login and the submission of a telemedicine consult. The Landstuhl Regional Medical Center (LRMC) ophthalmology and optometry staffs reviewed Version 1.0 on September 27, 2001, modified the Consult form, and renamed the application "Tele-Ocular Health".

Version 1.1 of the Tele-Ocular Health System was completed in November 2001. Version 1.1 includes the updated Consult forms, Consult answer forms, user registration form, and the Administrator Utilities. The Tele-Ocular Health program resides on the TRICARE Europe secure web server.

The TRICARE Europe Tele-Ocular Health Application is a secure encrypted telemedicine application developed by the TRICARE Europe Systems Information & Analysis Office. The core elements of the Tele-Ocular Health Application software code were taken from the TRICARE Europe Teledermatology Application. The DoD Medical Advanced Technology Management Office (MATMO) developed the Teledermatology Application. The Teledermatology Application has been operational in the TRICARE Europe Area of Operations (AOR) since May of 1999. The Tele-Ocular Health and Teledermatology both reside on a TRICARE Europe secure web server.

The Landstuhl telemedicine department tested the Nidek handheld retinal camera and the Nikon Coolpix 995 digital camera. The equipment was found to be compatible with the network operating system. The technicians were able to capture and transfer images successfully throughout the system.

Project protocols were completed and submitted for approval to the local chain of command.

PI's Accomplishment Evaluation: : Project accomplishments are close to proposal

PROBLEMS

The TRICARE Europe Office moved to a new domain on November 2001. The migration resulted in one month of down time for the application development. The new URL for the Tele-Ocular Health web site is <https://telemmed.europe.tricare.osd.mil/teleocularhealth/> Logistically, the main problem we have encountered is likely unique to Europe. There are some U.S. companies who do not ship equipment overseas. As a result, a camera adapter critical for this project is still on order. After a conversation with the Landstuhl contracting chief (MAJ Michael Rogers) he assured me the contract would be awarded the first week of January. Despite numerous e-mails and phone calls by me, the delivery of this item could not be expedited. The September 11 attack on US affected the delivery of two laptop computers. According to CDW (the vendor), they mailed the computers in September, but we never received them. The contracting office in Landstuhl is still working the issue.

I attended the officer advance course from September to December 2001. Working issues from Fort Sam Houston was a problem during this time. I could not access the Landstuhl Microsoft Outlook account for this time frame even though I made many attempts to fix the problem. After many phone calls and e-mails to the IMD office in Landstuhl could not fix the problem. Even though, I gave instructions prior to my departure, some of my instructions were not carry out. As a result, I am blocking half day of my working schedule to work on this project effective January 2002.

PI's Problem Area Evaluation: : Project encountered some problems/issues

LIFE-CYCLE

The remaining tasks to develop the Tele-Ocular health web site are to complete the Consult forms, develop the Consult Recommendation form, develop the Consult Approval form, and complete the web site user's guide. The tentative completion date for the Tele-Ocular Health Application is February 4, 2002. Will designate a beta testing site near Landstuhl to verify the website works correctly. After successful testing, will deploy the equipment to either Kosovo or Bosnia. The date of deployment of first tele-ocular health remote site depends on protocol approval and web site completion. There are sixteen remote sites selected for this project. To set-up the equipment at these sites will be time and resource consuming. Some Air Force and Navy optometry clinics were selected for the project, some of these are: Incirlik AFB, Lajes, and Rota.

PI's Life-Cycle Evaluation: : Project encountered some problems/issues

DELIVERABLES

The purpose of this project is to develop the first Army Tele-ocular health Telemedicine program. The program will include a prototype plan with protocols. The collected data will be reported in a paper.

This program will improve the access of healthcare and decrease the cost of ophthalmic care in the ERMC region.

PI's Deliverables Evaluation: : Deliverable is on schedule per Proposal

Expenditures

Element of Resource (EOR)	1ST Quarter Oct 1 - Dec 31	2nd Quarter Jan 1 - Mar 31
Travel 2100	\$0.00	\$0.00
Shipping 2200	\$0.00	\$0.00
Rent & Communications 2200	\$0.00	\$0.00
Contract for Services 2500	\$0.00	\$0.00
Supplies 2600	\$0.00	\$0.00
Equipment 3100	\$0.00	\$75,000.00

Financial Narrative:

The 75,000 dollars were spent in equipment as per "Remote Tele-Optometry" proposal.

PI's Financial Evaluation: : Deliverable is on schedule per Proposal

*** END OF REPORT ***