AWARD NUMBER:

W81XWH-17-C-0238

TITLE: Complete and Resilient Documentation (CARD) for Operational Medical Environments

PRINCIPAL INVESTIGATOR:

Kuang-Ching Wang, PhD

CONTRACTING ORGANIZATION:

Clemson University Clemson, SC 29634

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Oct 2019

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1. INTRODUCTION:

In response to the HFEHRI (Hands-Free Electronic Health Record Data Entry Initiative) solicitation for research to demonstrate and validate hands-free electronic health record data entry solutions that will operate reliably in noisy operational environments, alleviate disruption of care for documentation, and prevent loss of documentation, this project studies a system-oriented approach to meet these objectives with a platform aimed to enable resilient hands-free data collection, preserve complete documentation through stages of care, and present timely information useful for the medical operation.

2. KEYWORDS:

Battlefield
Hands-free
Electronic health record
Documentation
Operational environments
Medical
Workflow
Stages of care
Speech recognition
Noise
GPU – Graphics processing unit
Deep learning
Neural network
Video
Simulation

3. ACCOMPLISHMENTS:

What were the major goals and objectives of the project?

The project has the following four specific aims:

- Medical Workflow Studies By conducting focus group interviews, EMS simulation drills, and identifying medical workflow driven performance metrics for CARD, this aims to inform the CARD platform design goals and assessment methods.
- Platform Development By integrating camera and data storage to GPU-based embedded computer, developing deep-learning based speech recognition and video analysis software with focus on military operation conditions, and integrating with DoD's digital medical data platforms (TCCC card and Cerner EHR), this aims to create an extensible, prototype for CARD and to demonstrate the complete technology workflow from creating training data sets to identifying performance enhancement methods.
- Assessment This assesses performance of the technology, the quality of recorded clinically relevant data in the TCCC format, and the level of acceptance by EMS professionals in simulated medical operations.

• Roadmap Development – This aims to derive recommendations of a technology maturation roadmap for the CARD technologies.

a. What was accomplished under these goals?

The project was originally planned with a two-year duration. While a 6-month no-cost extension was requested and granted to explore further developments in the speech and video analysis works, and henceforth pushing back the planned medical simulation drill #2, the majority of the proposed work has been completed by the composition of this year 2 annual report.

For medical workflow studies, we completed all focus groups, two simulation drills (#1 and #1.2), developed metrics and processes for assessments.

For platform development, the proposed CARD platform is fully implemented and we continue to enhance the speech and video algorithms, the training methodology for persistent enhancements, and added utilities for efficient launch and operation of the active CARD units with a monitoring dashboard.

For assessment, we have concluded assessing the CARD speech recognition software alongside several state-of-the-art open source speech recognition software. We have also completed a complete process to evaluate the end-to-end data entry performance assessment, together with full insights of performance of individual modules of the system. We have scheduled the next simulation drill to take place on 12/2/2019.

For roadmap development, we have begun discussion with potential DoD partners to devise a plan to formally assess the technology readiness level of CARD and, accordingly, the technology maturation roadmap.

What opportunities for training and professional development has the project provided? Nothing to report.

How were the results disseminated to communities of interest?

The results have been presented at multiple conferences, including abstracts at MHSRS 2017, 2018 and a full paper at INTERSPEECH 2019.

What do you plan to do during the next reporting period to accomplish the goals?

In the remaining six months, efforts will focus on:

- Publication of speech technology study
- Natural language processing for error-tolerant post-processing into TCCC card
- Military-centric training method for video analysis software
- Drill #2 execution, performance assessment, and EMS personnel interviews
- Discussion with partners on next steps

Gantt Chart for year 2 and the 6-month extension:

	Y2Q1	Y2Q2	Y2Q3	Y2Q4	Y3Q1	Y3Q2
Specific Aim I- Medical Workflow Studies		3				

Task 1.3: Qualitative Assessment			ii.	
Quality assessment instrument design				
Survey execution and analysis				
Specific Aim 2- Platform Development				
Task 2.2: Speech Recognition & Video Digest				
Video digest				
Cerner integration				
Publication of speech technology study				
Natural Language Processing study				
Video Analysis study	=			

	Y2Q1	Y2Q2	Y2Q3	Y2Q4	Y3Q1	Y3Q2
Specific Aim 3 – Assessment						,
Task 3.1: Technology Assessment						
Platform benchmarking						
Drill #2 design and preparation						2
Drill #2 execution						
Task 3.2: Workflow and EHR Assessment						
Qualitative Survey of workflow quality						
Specific Aim 4 – Roadmap Development				,		
Platform Usability and gaps assessment						
Roadmap development						

4. IMPACT:

What was the impact on the development of the principal discipline(s) of the project?

Impact on state-of-the-art understanding of speech recognition technology challenges for battlefield environment:

- Deep look into the question "is state-of-the-art speech solutions, either academic or commercial, ready for the battlefield?"
 - O Produced systematic benchmarking of two most advanced open source neural network-based speech recognition software by Mozilla (Deep Speech, end-to-end deep learning) and John Hopkins University (Kaldi, hybrid deep learning) with respect to battlefield noise of different types and intensity and concluded severe performance degradation with battlefield noise.
- Build foundations for DoD's long-term success in speech recognition competencies:
 - o Produced systematic assessment and analysis of speech recognition correctness's dependencies on algorithms, processing, and data (training).
 - o Derived approach to systematically assess specific speech recognition enhancement actions with measurable performance impacts
 - o Developed modular enhancement methods to enable persistent performance enhancement for hybrid deep-learning based speech recognition.
- Build foundations for DoD's long-term success in video analysis competencies:
 - o Integrated video analysis software for object and action analysis in recorded video.
 - o Explored systematic process for DoD to continuously enhance video analysis with contents reflecting DoD operation needs and priorities.
- The research expects significant impacts in:
 - o Commercial, Civilian and Military
 - Commercial development in key technologies
 - Synergistic use in civilian EMS, homeland security and disaster recovery
 - New companies or consortium of companies on standard based integrated platform, from variety of data capture devices, mobile app, to cloud solutions
 - Integration with telemedicine, enhance the care and survivability of service members
 - Establish understanding of battlefield readiness of state-of-the-art technology
 - Establish foundations for long-term success for DoD speech recognition competencies
 - o Academic
 - Speech recognition, natural language understanding, and video analysis in battlefield settings is a rich area for academic research
 - Large scale, distributed data collection (speech, video, sensors) and aggregation into individual patient data is a rich area of research

What was the impact on other disciplines? Nothing to Report

What was the impact on technology transfer? *Nothing to Report*

What was the impact on society beyond science and technology? Nothing to Report

5. CHANGES/PROBLEMS:

Changes in approach and reasons for change

In the previous quarters, we made a strategic decision to execute an additional drill to confirm the impact of noise towards speech recognition performance, including the corresponding noise level for the "performance cliff" and the causes for different types of errors. In the January 2019 IPR meeting, review members observed that multiple projects all confirmed the same drastic impact by noise, but none has had a conclusive approach towards addressing it. In addition, common observations were made about how state of the art speech software is lacking in its vocabulary when it comes to military and medical language (similarly observed by the Clemson and CERDEC teams). Comments were also made on the unclarity of how to bootstrap deeper investigation into the potential rich information in recorded video from these solutions. These findings provide valuable insights for the Clemson team in our execution plan for the rest of the project:

- Our approach has been, from the onset, focused on long-term extensibility. Our goal was clearly
 set to identify the most critical aspects for the success of speech and video-based data entry in
 the battlefield and to identify methods that can support persistent improvement to its
 performance. The consensus on the need for better noise tolerance and a better language model
 matching military and medical operations is critically valuable.
- Our focus towards video integration has been on assuring its extensibility. The consensus is that
 it is more important to have a flexible platform to explore potential use cases based on flexible
 user inputs than to have a fixedly designed video solution.

Based on these reasonings, we have decided to make the best use of the rest of the project time, including a recently requested 6-month extension, to present a roadmap that will avail a much clearer expectation for mid-term and long-term achievable speech and video capabilities for DoD. This is not really a change, since it is in line with our original plan and goals; nonetheless, it adds significant clarity to our execution focus based on facts not available before.

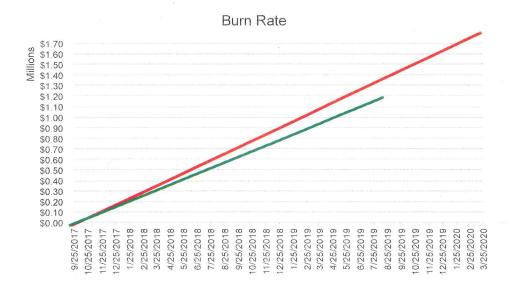
Actual or anticipated problems or delays and actions or plans to resolve them

The challenges seen in speech recognition software have already extended the needed testing and development time to: 1) produce a systematic deep-look study of the noise impacts and resolutions, and 2) plan for an additional drill study to incorporate specific medical terms. While this delayed the original intended schedule, we believe this is a required step that will give us valuable guidance to the needed steps towards a robust technology development plan. Due to the decision of the extra drill, and the observed extent of speech recognition challenges, it was determined that more time was needed to develop a speech recognition software, including a long-term extensible workflow. That resulted in a later date expected for drill #2, as well as opportunities for more technical work on completing a long-term plan for speech and video analysis. Hence, the 6-month no cost extension was requested. We plan to complete the proposed extended scope in time.

Changes that had a significant impact on expenditures

The delay in personnel spending has caught up with a significantly larger team now, and that delay has given us the leverage to have this larger team to spend an additional six months working on a few high value investigations if we are approved for doing so.

- Projected Expenditure: \$1,644,510 Actual Expenditure: \$1,159,717.58 @ 8/31/19
- ❖ Anticipated adjustments on remaining periods None



Significant changes in use or care of human subjects, vertebrate animals, biohazards, and/or select agents:

Nothing to Report

Significant changes in use or care of human subjects:Nothing to Report

Significant changes in use or care of vertebrate animals: Nothing to Report

Significant changes in use of biohazards and/or select agents:Nothing to Report

6.PRODUCTS:

Publications, conference papers, and presentations

Journal publicationsNothing to Report

Books or other non-periodical, one-time publicationsNothing to Report

Other publications, conference papers, and presentations

 Ju Lin, Sufeng Niu, Zice Wei, Xiang Lan, Adriaan J. van Wijngaarden, Melissa C. Smith, Kuang-Ching Wang, "Speech Enhancement Using Forked Generative Adversarial Networks with Spectral Subtraction", in Proceedings of INTERSPEECH 2019, Graz, Austria, Sep. 15~19, 2019.

Website(s) or other Internet site(s)

Nothing to Report

Technologies or techniques

Nothing to Report

Inventions, patent applications, and/or licenses

Nothing to Report

Other Products

Nothing to Report

7.PARTICIPANTS & OTHER COLLABORATING ORGANIZATIONS What individuals have worked on the project?

Provide the following information for: (1) PDs/PIs; and (2) each person who has worked at least one-person month per year on the project during the reporting period, regardless of the source of compensation (a person month equals approximately 160 hours of effort). If information is unchanged from a previous submission, provide the name only and indicate "no change."

Name: Kuang-Ching Wang (no change)

Project Role: Principal Investigator Research Identifier: 0000-0002-5675-7104

Nearest person month worked: 2.25

Contribution to Project: Dr. Wang is responsible for all aspects of the

research study.

Name: Ronald Gimbel (no change)

Project Role: Co-PI

Research Identifier: 0000-0001-8185-4013

Nearest person month worked: 1.0

Contribution to Project: Dr. Gimbel supports Dr. Wang and Dr. Griffin in

qualitative research, co-coordinating drill #1, and

communication with the Palmetto Health

Emergency Medicine team.

Name: Sarah Griffin (no change)

Project Role: Investigator

Research Identifier: 0000-0003-4820-3985

Nearest person month worked: 1.0

Contribution to Project: Dr. Griffin will lead focus groups and interviews to

glean insight on operational medical workflow.

Name: Melissa Smith (no change)

Project Role: Investigator

Research Identifier: 0000-0003-0798-8536

Nearest person month worked: 1.0

Contribution to Project: Dr. Smith and her graduate students will lead

technology enablement activities.

Name:

Project Role:

Nearest person month worked:

Contribution to Project:

Minjae Woo (no change)

Graduate Student

12

Mr. Woo supports Drs. Gimbel and Griffin in activities related to the proposed qualitative

research, statistical analysis and outcome analysis, and issues related to the drills and workflow. The

student will also develop the basic model that

controls simulation of battlefield noise.

Name:

Project Role:

Nearest person month worked:

Contribution to Project:

Caleb Linduff (no change)

Graduate Student

12

Mr. Linduff will focus on platform integration and

support Dr. Wang in the area of how to integrate the data into the Cerner electronic health record.

Name:

Project Role:

Nearest person month worked:

Contribution to Project:

Graduate Student

Qing Wang

Mr. Wang will support Dr. Smith's work on video

and speech recognition.

Name:

Project Role:

Nearest person month worked:

Contribution to Project:

Ju Lin (no change) Graduate Student

12

12

Mr. Lan will support Dr. Smith's work on video

and speech recognition.

Name:

Project Role:

Nearest person month worked:

Contribution to Project:

Snigdhaswin Kar Graduate Student

12

Mr. Kar will support Dr. Wang's work on

benchmark experiments and publication.

Name:

Project Role:

Nearest person month worked:

Contribution to Project:

Prabodh Kumar Mishra

Graduate Student

Mr. Mishra will support Dr. Wang's work on

benchmark experiments and publication

Name:

Project Role:

Research Identifier:

Nearest person month worked:

Contribution to Project:

Karen Edwards (no change)

Research Associate

0000-0003-3584-0328

1.2

Mrs. Edwards assisted with regulatory/IRB

approvals from Palmetto Health and Clemson

University as well as the approval from the HRPO

military secondary review board. She will assist

with various reports and logistical items.

Name: William Gerard, MD (no change)

Project Role: Co-Investigator

Nearest person month worked: 1.0

Contribution to Project: Dr. Gerard oversees all aspects of the study at

Palmetto Health System

Name: Stephen Shelton, MD (no change)

Project Role: Investigator

Nearest person month worked: 1.0

Contribution to Project: Dr. Shelton works alongside Dr. Gerard and the

Emergency Department physicians at Palmetto

Health System.

Name: Kelly Hawsey, RN (no change)

Project Role: Investigator

Nearest person month worked: 1.0

Contribution to Project: Mrs. Hawsey assists with logistics of the study at

the Palmetto Health System site.

Has there been a change in the active other support of the PD/PI(s) or senior/key personnel since the last reporting period?

Nothing to Report

What other organizations were involved as partners?

Organization Name: Palmetto Health System

Location of Organization: Columbia, South Carolina

Partner's contribution to the project:

Financial support: n/a In-kind support: n/a

Facilities: Project staff use the partner's facilities for project activities. **Collaboration:** Partner's staff work with project staff on the project

Personnel exchanges: Project staff and/or partner's staff use each other's facilities,

work at each other's site.

Other: n/a

8.SPECIAL REPORTING REQUIREMENTS

COLLABORATIVE AWARDS: n/a QUAD CHARTS: Appendix D

9. APPENDICES:

APPENDIX A - Simulation Drill #1-2 Photographs

Hospital scenario with amputee patient





Transport scenario with concussion patient





Conversation among two medics and one patient



Two medics with two injured patients

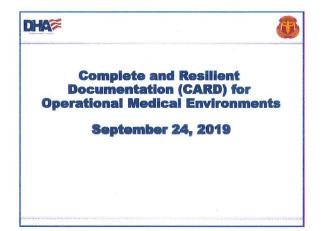


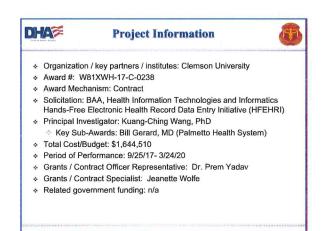
APPENDIX B - Plan Highlights for Simulation Drill #2 on December 2, 2019

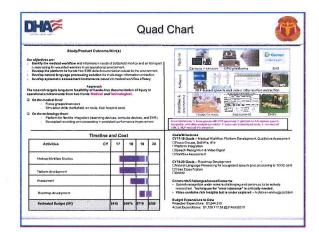
Simulation drill #2 will be the last drill before this project concludes. It will consist of the following components and emphases:

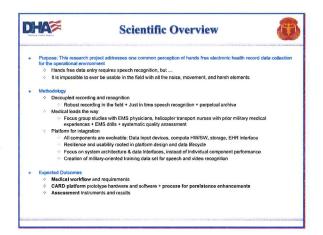
- Full CARD solution on the NVIDIA TX2-based embedded platform
- Full Kaldi/TensorFlow based speech recognition software with speech enhancement, medical language model, preliminary NLP post-processing, and TCCC card entry
- Monitoring dashboard with live streamed status and speech, video, and TCCC outputs of all (6) active TX2 platforms
- Extended medic scripts covering more data fields in the TCCC card
- Tests under multiple conditions: 1) high vs. low vs. no noise, 3) single vs. multiple speaker, 4) regular vs. speed-up pace of speech
- Improved video camera attachment to medics and recording of point-of-injury surroundings

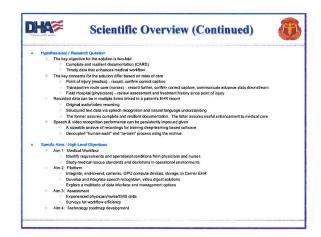
The drill will be accompanied by interviews with EMS personnel.

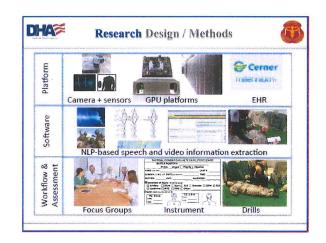


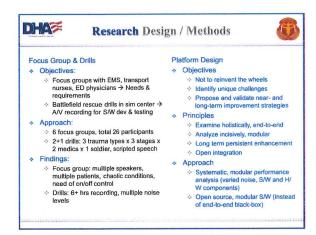


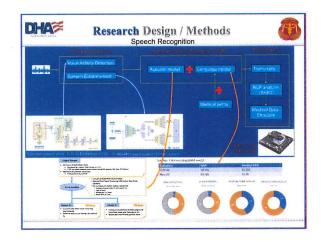


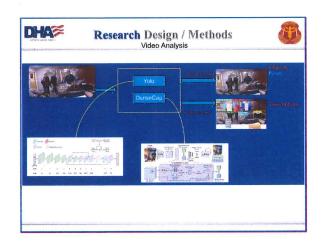


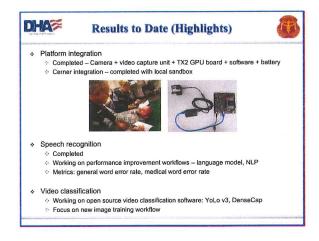


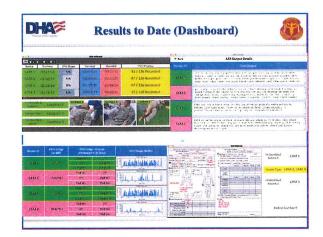


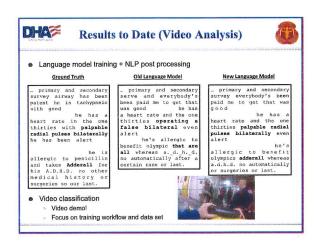


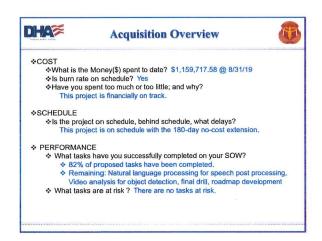




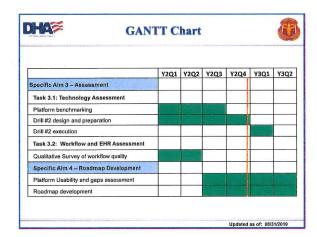




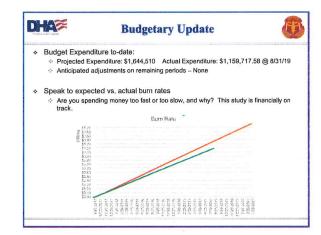


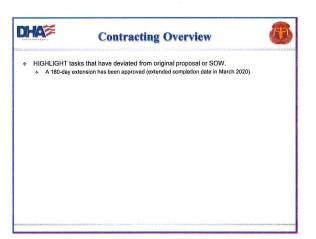


	Y2Q1	Y2Q2	Y2Q3	Y2Q4	Y3Q1	Y3Q
Specific Aim I-Medical Workflow Studies						
Task 1.3: Qualitative Assessment						
Quality assessment instrument design						
Survey execution and analysis						
Specific Aim 2- Platform Development						
Task 2.2: Speech Recognition & Video Digest						
Video digest	Name of the last					
Cerner integration						
Publication of speech technology study						
Natural Language Processing study						
Video Analysis study						











Technical Overview



The CARD platform and its speech and video analysis technologies currently fall within TRL 2-4. It's current focus is on the refinement of the core technologies and its operational concepts.

- Entrance and Exit criteria
 - To advance the CARD solution beyond TRL 4, key criteria may include:
 - Validation of usage scenario in accurate tactical conditions and workflows
 - Validation of critical metrics and acceptance thresholds per tactical standards

DHAE	Deliverables			
Deliverables & Data Requested	Details/Format	Data Rights	Delivery Schedule	
Quarter #1 Technical Progress Report and Quad Chart	A brief description of overall progress to date for the reporting period 9/28/17-12/25/17	Full access	12/25/17	
Quarter #2 Technical Progress Report and Quad Chart	A brief description of overall progress to date for the reporting period 12/25/17-3/25/18	Full access	3/25/18	
Quarter #3 Technical Progress Report and Quad Chart	A brief description of overall progress to date for the reporting period 3/26/18-6/25/18	Full	6/25/18	
Annual Progress Report and Quad Chart	A brief description of overall progress to date for the reporting period 9/26/17-9/25/18	Full access	9/25/18; REVISED 11/19/18	
Quarter #5 Technical Progress Report and Quad Chart	A brief description of overall progress to date for the reporting period 12/26/18-3/25/18	Full	3/25/19	
Quarter #6 Technical Progress Report and Quad Chart	A brief description of overall progress to date for the reporting period 3/26/19-6/25/19	Full Access	6/25/19	

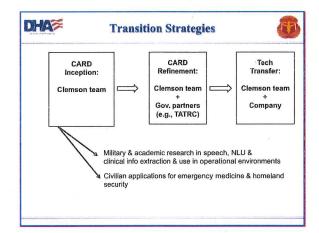


Anticipated Impact as an Outcome of Research



- * The research expects significant impacts in:
- · Commercial, Civilian and Military
 - Commercial development in key technologies
 - Synergistic use in civilian EMS, homeland security and disaster recovery New companies or consortium of companies on standard based integrated platform, from variety of data capture devices, mobile app, to cloud solutions Integration with telemedicine, enhance the care and survivability of service members
 - Establish understanding of battlefield readiness of state-of-the-art technology Establish foundations for long-term success for DoD speech recognition
 - Academic

 - Second Specification of Specification

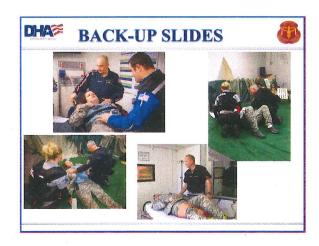




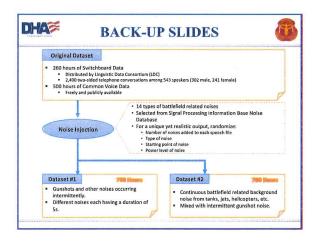
Summary/Conclusions

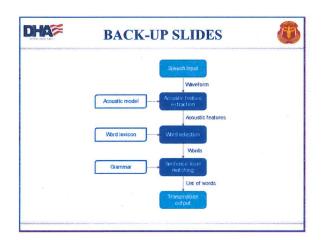


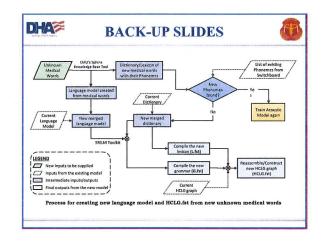
- . As it completes the Q8 (Y2Q4), the project is on track on all proposed tasks.
- The anticipated outcomes and their status/outlook are as follows:
- CARD Platform completed A/V capture, speech recognition, NLP speech post processing, video classification
 3rd simulation drill scheduled for Dec. 2
- . The project's aim is not a point product. Instead, its aims are on:
 - Confirmation of the CARD concept's clinical opportunities and challenges
 - Development of the platform's architecture and interfaces
 - Demonstrating the extensible nature of the platform components
 - Assessing the CARD design's impact to the medical workflow

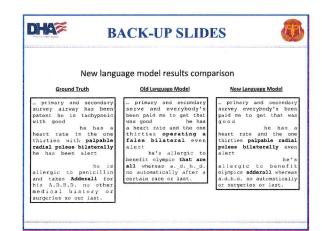


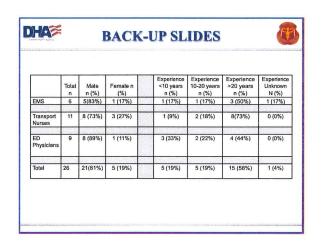


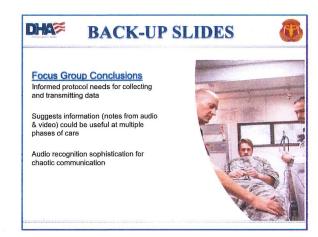


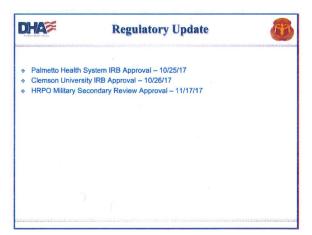


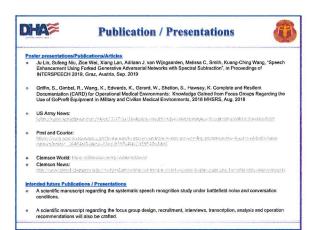
















S Cermer THIELDIOTE EHR

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GPU platforms

Camera + sensors

Platform

Software

Study/Product Outcome/Aim(s)

- Identify the medical workflow and information needs of battlefield medics and air transport Our objectives are:
 - nurses caring for wounded warriors in an operational environment.

 Develop the platform for hands free EHR data documentation robust to the environment.
 - Develop natural language processing solution for multi-stage information extraction. Develop systematic assessment instruments based on medical workflow efficacy. 0 0 0

Approach The research targets long-term feasibility of hands-free documentation of injury in operational environments from two fronts: Medical and Technological.

speech and video information extraction

Indication

Indication

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Assessment

Workflow &

Instrument

Focus Groups

- □ On the medical front:
- Simulation drills (battlefield, en route, field hospital care) Focus groups/interviews 0 0
- On the technology front:

- Platform for flexible integration (recording devices, compute devices, and EHR) 0 0
 - Decoupled recording and processing + persistent performance improvement

Accomplishments: 1 focus groups with EMS personnel, 2. platform for AVV capture, speech recognition, and video analysis completed, 3. systematic noise impact study, 4. Wo medical drills, 5. NLP medical info extraction

Goals/Milestones
CY17-19 Goals – Medical Workflow, Platform Development, Qualitative Assessment
□Focus Groups, Drill #1a, #1b
□Platform Integration
□Speech Recognition & Video Digest
□Workflow Assessment

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19

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Activities

Medical Workflow Studies

Platform development

Assessment

Timeline and Cost

CY19-20 Goals - Roadmap Development

 \square Natural Language Processing for recognized speech post processing to TCCC card \square Video Classification

- Comments/Challenges/Issues/Concerns
- Speech recognition under noise is challenging and continues to be actively researched. Techniques for "error tolerance" is critically needed. Video contains rich insights but is under explored A chicken-and-egg problem.

Budget Expenditure to Date Projected Expenditure: \$1,644,510

\$208

\$716

\$687k

\$41k

Estimated Budget (\$K)

Roadmap development

Actual Expenditures: \$1,159,717.58 @31AUG2019