

EIA-0121211: Responsive Virtual Human Technology



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Objective: To investigate the science of responsive virtual human technology and its applicability to interaction skills training critical for medical practitioners, law enforcement officers, and survey field and telephone interviewers as a first step towards computer-based soft skills training.



Ideas:

Collection and definition of intervention strategies to facilitate medical examination of children and for communicating treatment strategies.

Tools:

Prototype training application with three scenarios:

- Examining the ear of a 4 year old girl;
- Examining the lungs of a 10 year old boy;
- Talking with a 15 year old girl about her health activities.

People:

Training for medical students on interactions with young children, pre-teens, and adolescents.

Status:

Prototype is currently being evaluated for use at University of Colorado School of Medicine



Ideas:

New emotion transition models for first responder interactions with the mentally ill.

Tools:

Prototype training application with 5 scenarios:

- Schizophrenic subject;
- Paranoid subject;
- Depressed subject;
- Two mentally healthy but agitated or sad “control” subjects.

People:

Training for police officers on interactions with the mentally ill.

Status:

Prototype is currently being evaluated for use at the University of Memphis and the Memphis police Crisis Intervention Team training.



Ideas:

Interaction skills training and assessment for survey interviewers dealing with non-response, researchers learning informed consent procedures, conduct-disordered adolescents practicing anger management skills, recognition of facial expression, and others.

Tools:

Training and assessment scenarios with virtual humans that are:

- Healthy or unhealthy;
- Relaxed or stressed;
- Aggressive or passive;
- Curious, wary, or uninterested.

People:

Training and assessment for a range of participants.

Status:

Applications developed and evaluated at Duke University and as part of several ongoing research projects at RTI.