Prototypes

Please refer to assignment 5a for the paper prototypes.

Briefing

Hello, I am designing a medication tracker that will give you the ability to schedule when and how to take medication. You will have the ability to add medications information to the tracker, edit them, and then view the medications on a calendar.

Informed Consent: I am conducting a study to find what people think about this application. I will not record or publish any information with your name. I am creating this application for a course I am taking called Human-Computer Interaction for Professor Bickmore in the college of Computer and Information Science at Northeastern University. Your participation is voluntary and you can choose to stop anytime and ask that your data not be used. The study should be about 10 minutes and you will receive a card that can be redeemed for one favor from me. Can you help me out?

Awesome! The main purpose of this study is to get feedback on the interface, do not feel hesitant to ask questions because you probably will have some. Surprisingly, to test the interface you will actually be interacting with paper models and not a computer.

We’ll start by giving you some tasks to complete, such as, adding a pill to the tracker. Your job is to interact with the paper prototypes and bring up any points that you feel is necessary to the overall design and functionality of the interface.

My friend Connor will be playing the computer, and will act as such. He will not be able to talk or answer your questions – all of that should be directed to me. When you interact with the paper, he will adjust the paper as it would on a computer.

Remember that the more feedback – the better! Ready to begin?

Great! Here is the first task.

Scenario Tasks

1) Let’s being by adding a medication to the tracker. Please use the following information when adding the medication: the medication name is Advil; it should be used at 13:00 every weekday, and the description should state, “Take with water”.

2) After adding Advil to the tracker, please verify the information is correct in the calendar. Once verified, edit the tracker to take Advil at 14:00 instead of 13:00.
3) Please delete Advil

**Demographics**

I conducted the study in my apartment with another friend and a couple of roommates – making sure they were all approached separately and didn’t observe the prior persons scenario with the interface. This occurred Sunday 10/27/13 throughout the afternoon.

I had the paper prototypes already developed for our class exercises and used them as such. For inputting information to the interface I used tape to cover the fields so the users could write on the paper. Once necessary, I was able to remove the tape with no lasting affects to the interface. For mouse clicks we just used the back of a pen.

**Observations/Results**

For the most part all of the users had a positive experience and didn’t run into many problems. The main issue had occurred with the first user – I was able to edit the prototype after the first case to alleviate the issue for the other people. The issue was I forgot to put a back button on the calendar view. Obviously, this was a very careless mistake by me, but I was able to fix this for the other users.

Once I fixed this issue with the calendar, the other two users that did this study went through with no issues. Although they didn’t find any issues, they did give me some other ideas about design. They mentioned the possibly of having more calendar views would be helpful, and also complimented the simplicity and ease of use to achieve what the application was trying to do. They all also questioned about the possibility of having alerts for the application. I think this feedback was very good, but the functionalities may be out of line for the main project for this course.

I would love to have multiple calendar views and alerts, but feel this may be a little too difficult to achieve, and also out of scope for the project. I thought this scenario helped a lot to get a sense of what the testers expected and their feedback from the interface. All in all, it was a very successful scenario and I learned a lot about the interface.