How MediTouch is Creating New Potential for Rehabilitation

MediTouch Uses TeamViewer to Conduct Tele-rehabilitation Sessions

Established in 2004, MediTouch Ltd. manufactures innovative tele-rehabilitation systems that consist of wearable motion capture devices connected to an interactive game platform for virtual physical therapy sessions. MediTouch rehabilitation systems allow patients to practice intensive functional task training to improve lower and upper extremity mobility.

In 2008, MediTouch introduced its first product, the HandTutor™. Wearing a specially developed glove which acts like a computer mouse, the patient moves characters on a screen through a series of flexion and extension movements. HandTutor™ was the first of its kind that allowed patients to work on rehabilitation from home with the help of a customized software program.

The challenge for MediTouch was how to virtually connect a patient with a physical therapist for regular check-ins and guided sessions. The traditional solutions required closed-circuit cameras and extensive set-up by both the patient and physical therapist to conduct a virtual session. This option had mainly been used for research projects and was not cost-effective.

“We use PC Windows software and needed a compatible solution that would not require a closed network system or for us to provide an expensive camera to conduct the physical therapy sessions,” said Alan Waterman, International Sales Manager for MediTouch.
"We needed to be able to see the patient and adjust the rehabilitation needs in real time in a way that was inexpensive to us and the patient."

An online computer connection was already required to gain the valuable feedback from the software that allowed the physical therapist to monitor progress. Therefore, Waterman investigated remote access offerings that would permit patients and physical therapists to connect over the internet using reasonably-priced webcams. MediTouch had the following criteria for a solution: Compatible with MediTouch software, cost effective so the company and the patients did not have to invest in expensive equipment, real-time communication between patients and physical therapists, ability to conduct 1-1 sessions, security guaranteed.

**TeamViewer Connects Patients with Therapists**

“We looked at a couple of remote viewing offerings but after we did a trial of TeamViewer, we realized it fit our exact needs,” said Waterman. “TeamViewer flawlessly integrated with our software. Our physical therapists are able to log on and instantaneously start a tele-rehabilitation session with the patients. Overall, the process of connecting is effortless for both the patient and therapist.”

**Affordable and Effective**

TeamViewer allows for MediTouch patients to participate in one-on-one sessions with their physical therapists allowing the therapist to fully customize the patient’s exercise practice for optimal movement ability recovery. MediTouch has now helped many patients with neurological and orthopedic injury and disease.

“We can come online at the same time. We can see where patients have been compliant. We can track and gather data - all without worrying about any security issues,” said Waterman. TeamViewer helps MediTouch achieve a number of major improvements including: Optimization in costs and time for hospitalization; Reduction of transportation costs to physical therapy locations; Ability to reach more patients in need of physical rehabilitation that otherwise may stay in an unrehabilitated condition; Patients can conduct more sessions and increase rehabilitation success; Game-based software interface gives direct feedback to patients on even the smallest improvements, which increases the motivation to continue rehabilitation.

“Tele-rehabilitation has phenomenal potential to cut costs for hospitals, patients and insurance companies. “

They help countless individuals that are not currently getting the rehabilitation they need to make maximum progress,” said Waterman. “The TeamViewer technology gives MediTouch the capability to inexpensively connect one-on-one with patients and make a difference in how quickly they can regain or maintain optimum functionality.”

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TeamViewer is #1 Remote Access and Support Software in the world with more than 1.8 billion downloads in 200+ countries, and more than 40 million users online at any given time.