

Online medical consultation: covid-19 system using software object-oriented approach

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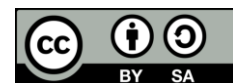
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ABSTRACT

The internet has been a source of medical information, it has been used for online medical consultation (OMC). OMC is now offered by many providers internationally with diverse models and features. In OMC, consultations and treatments are available 24/7. The covid-19 pandemic across-the-board, many people unable to go to hospital or clinic because the spread of the virus. This paper tried to answer two research questions. The first one on how the OMC can help the patients during covid-19 pandemic. A literature review was conducted to answer the first research question. The second one on how to develop system in OMC related to covid-19 pandemic. The system was developed by Visual Studio 2019 using software object-oriented approach. Online expert review was conducted within 6 experts from health and academic industry to verify the model. Also, the system was validated by 11 users from health and academic industry to confirm its usability. The statistical package for social science (SPSS 22) was used to analyze the collected data. The result of expert review confirmed that covid-19 system can help the patients. Also, the validity of the system was confirmed by 11 users from health and academic industry.

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1. INTRODUCTION

Many people make their own medical decision by using the internet as a source of health-related information [1], [2]. The term "online medical consultation" (OMC) is used in this research to refer to medical consultations conducted via the internet. The phrase "remote consultation" refers to "consultation via remote telecommunications, often for the purpose of diagnosis or treatment," therefore OMC can be considered part of telemedicine. In three major ways, however, this paper distinguishes OMC from remote consultations. For starters, non-internet-based consultations such as phone-only or radio-based consultations are not included in the definition of OMC. Second, OMC represents a paradigm shift in the way patients seek medical advice, allowing them to "shop around" for medical advice in the same way they shop for other online services. Third, while OMC focuses on direct patient-doctor consultations, it excludes doctor-doctor (provider-provider) consultations as well as consultations for health education and other objectives. The notion of OMC goes beyond traditional telemedicine, which is usually limited to specific medical categories for patients in specific geographical/geopolitical zones. Patients with a wide range of medical needs from various locations or nations are usually welcome to use OMC. Patients have the option of selecting or being allocated to any doctor or care provider who is available online. They are not constrained to a single provider

based on prior experience or proximity to them. Many countries throughout the world are becoming more reliant on OMC in their health systems as a result of the covid-19 pandemic outbreak.

Individual medical decisions are increasingly being made using the internet as a source of health-related information [3], [4]. The majority of publications evaluated remote consultation utilization for a single medical practice rather than a big group. Medical consequences, communication methods, and information exchange were the key topics of discussion. Consumer demographics, ailment categories, reaction times, and certain effect and financial factors were all investigated in various OMC research [5]-[7].

OMC services are said to be popular among customers. Researchers from Pittsburgh University in the United States found that the eVisit services provided patients with benefits in terms of access, speed, and convenience while reducing the risk of improper or incomplete care [8].

There are no globally agreed definitions for the nomenclature used to designate various medical services supplied via the internet [9]. Teleconsultation [10], [11], e-Visit [12], [13], e-Consultation [14], [15], video consultation [16]-[18], or online medical consultation [19]-[23] are some of the terms used to describe internet consultations. The term eVisit is more commonly used in the United States. In many sources, however, the name is connected with the asynchronous variant of OMC [24].

OMC provides a wealth of research and practice options. Since the turn of the century, OMC has piqued the interest of both suppliers and customers. Healthcare consumers have always wanted to be able to communicate with doctors-electronically-the way they do with the rest of the world, according to the editor of Health Management Technology magazine in 2006 [25]. This is especially true for non-urgent matters that do not require a face-to-face office visit.

Recent study [26] supports a similar point. Patients from outlying areas, the elderly and disabled, and those suffering from chronic ailments are likely to flock to OMC. Young and internet-savvy persons, as well as those with rigid working conditions, may prefer it. According to academic assessments of telemedicine/OMC/eVisits, patients benefit from enhanced convenience and accessibility to health services, less travel and waiting time to visit a doctor, and a more cost-effective delivery option [27].

Patients don't have to leave their homes or places of work, sit in traffic, then sit in a room with other patients, perhaps catch or cause an infection in the process, and then return home. A baby's mother may not need to accompany her child to a clinic for diagnosis of a basic disease like diaper rash, which doctors may diagnose accurately from certain photos. Patients with chronic conditions may benefit from OMC since it allows them to undertake routine checkups and obtain test results without having to visit a clinic unless they specifically request it.

Patients ranging in age from 4 days (for diaper rash) to 86 years (for sleeplessness and hypertension) used the Mayo Clinic eVisit pilot program's online consultation service in 2010 [28]. OMC is a potential new technology. eVisits have been demonstrated to be practical with excellent patient satisfaction scores in several US papers [29].

Concerns have also been made about the safety and quality of OMC practices. According to a study conducted in Australia, just 29% of the study group (young people) were willing to participate in a video consultation about their sexual health difficulties, while 63 percent preferred telephone consultation [30]. Despite its international success, telepsychiatry has a limited penetration in Australia, according to another study [31]. According to a recent media release from the royal Australian college of general practitioners (RACGP), certain OMC providers' service delivery model makes it more difficult for doctors to diagnose patients without fully understanding the medical and social context or being able to perform a physical examination [32].

Furthermore, OMC's economic benefits may be questioned. The use of online GP consultations has been demonstrated to increase the cost of healthcare in Denmark [33]. Another study in the United Kingdom found a lack of evidence in teledental applications in terms of cost-effectiveness, quality, efficacy, and patient satisfaction [34]. The following is how the paper is structured: The first section is an introduction, which includes the OMC-related work as documented in the literature. The research technique and process are presented in section 2, the system development is presented in section 3, and the results and discussions are explored in section 4. Section 5 concludes with a summary of the findings and recommendations for future research.

2. RESEARCH METHOD

This paper's initial study question is: How might the OMC assist patients? To answer the first research question, a literature study was conducted:

RQ1: How can the OMC assist patients in the event of a covid-19 pandemic?

RQ2: How to establish system in OMC for covid-19 pandemic is the second research question.

Visual Studio 2019 was used to create the system, which used a software object-oriented strategy.

To verify the model, six professionals from the health and academic industries participated in an online expert review. The system's usability was also confirmed by 11 users from the health and academic industries.

2.1. Confirmation study/expert review

To verify the model, it was subjected to an expert review by six specialists (3 from the health business and 3 from academia). According to [35], the minimal number of expert reviews is three. Two experts were handed a draft of the expert evaluation (the first one in the English language and the second in questionnaire form). The expert evaluation was carried out, and the outcome was analyzed. The model was fine-tuned in response to expert feedback. Figure 1 shows the process of confirmation study.

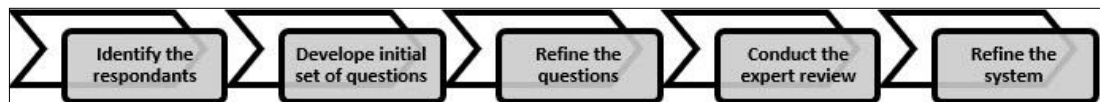


Figure 1. The process of confirmation study /expert review

2.2. Confirmation study/survey (usability test)

The technology was put to the test in two locations, each in a different industry. In Iraq, the top spot goes to a hospital in the health business, while the second place goes to a university in the academic industry. The snowball sampling technique was used to select a sample from these two industries at random. The system usability scale (SUS) questionnaire was given to 11 respondents (5 from the health business and 6 from the academic industry) [36]. The questionnaires, which were adapted from [37] and initially from [38], asked respondents about the system's ease of use when doing certain tasks. The questionnaires' subjective usability assessment is based on a Likert scale. The tool uses a five-point Likert-type rating scale (ranging from "strongly disagree" to "strongly agree") with 10 questions about satisfaction, efficiency, and effectiveness to measure the usability of the system.

3. SYSTEM DEVELOPMENT

We developed this system by Visual Studio 2019 using object-oriented approach. In the object-oriented approach, the focus is on capturing the structure and behavior of information systems into small modules that combines both data and process. The main aim of object-oriented design (OOD) is to improve the quality and productivity of system analysis and design by making it more usable. The main components of the covid-19 system that will affect the interaction between covid-19 system and its users are:

- System log in: The user should log in with the right username and password which is mentioned by the system otherwise, wrong message will appear.
- Start the test:
- The user should enter the current temperature.
- The user should choose Yes or No from the symptoms in the system.
- Treatment course for 7 days: The system offered course of treatment for 7 days, this course is offered by World Health Organization.
- Some instructions on how to protect yourself: The system presents some important instructions to keep the user safe.
- Questions and answers related to covid-19 pandemic: The system give the opportunity to the patient to ask questions and the system will give the answer.
- Contact number: The user can call to get instructions a live from doctors and for emergency case.

3.1. Use case diagram

A use case diagram is a system analysis tool for identifying and organizing system requirements [39]. All system actions that are important to users are represented in the use case diagram. A use case is a collection of possible interactions between systems and users in a certain compound that are tied to a specific purpose. The use case is used to identify system users and their actions in the system; it is also used to explicitly explain the link between the functions of each user, such as which functions should be performed and which are optional. The covid-19 system's requirements are supplemented by the use case diagram, which depicts the system's user and functions. Figure 2 depicts a use case diagram. Identify covid-19 system users and all of the covid-19 system functions they perform [40], [41].



Figure 2. Covid-19 system use case diagram

3.2. System activity diagram

The workflow behavior of the covid-19 system was described using activity diagrams. Because activities are the state of doing something in the system, activity diagrams are similar to state diagrams. It's also used to represent the covid-19 system's workflow and is beneficial for analyzing use cases by stating what activities must be taken. In the preceding sections, the requirements of the covid-19 system and its users were identified. Activity diagrams were used to examine the covid-19 system's use case through each of the system's functions. So, as shown in Figure 3, the general activity of the covid-19 system begins with requests from the user to insert the username and password; after entering the correct username and password, the user can smoothly log in to the covid-19 system, after which the user can enter the temperature, symptoms, and so on. Figure 3 shows the system activity diagram.

3.3. System implementation

The OMC is available in a number of shapes and designs, and the GUI design chosen and executed was determined by the analysis and design processes. And, in order to provide better support, the system was handed to numerous users for a test drive in order to obtain input on accessibility testing. The users must input the correct username and password on the login screen, as shown in Figure 4. Covid-19 is a button-based system that may be used by a wide range of users. Figure 5 depicts the screen. Figure 6 depicts the notion of object-oriented, which is dominant, and the rest of the author's code for the covid-19 system.

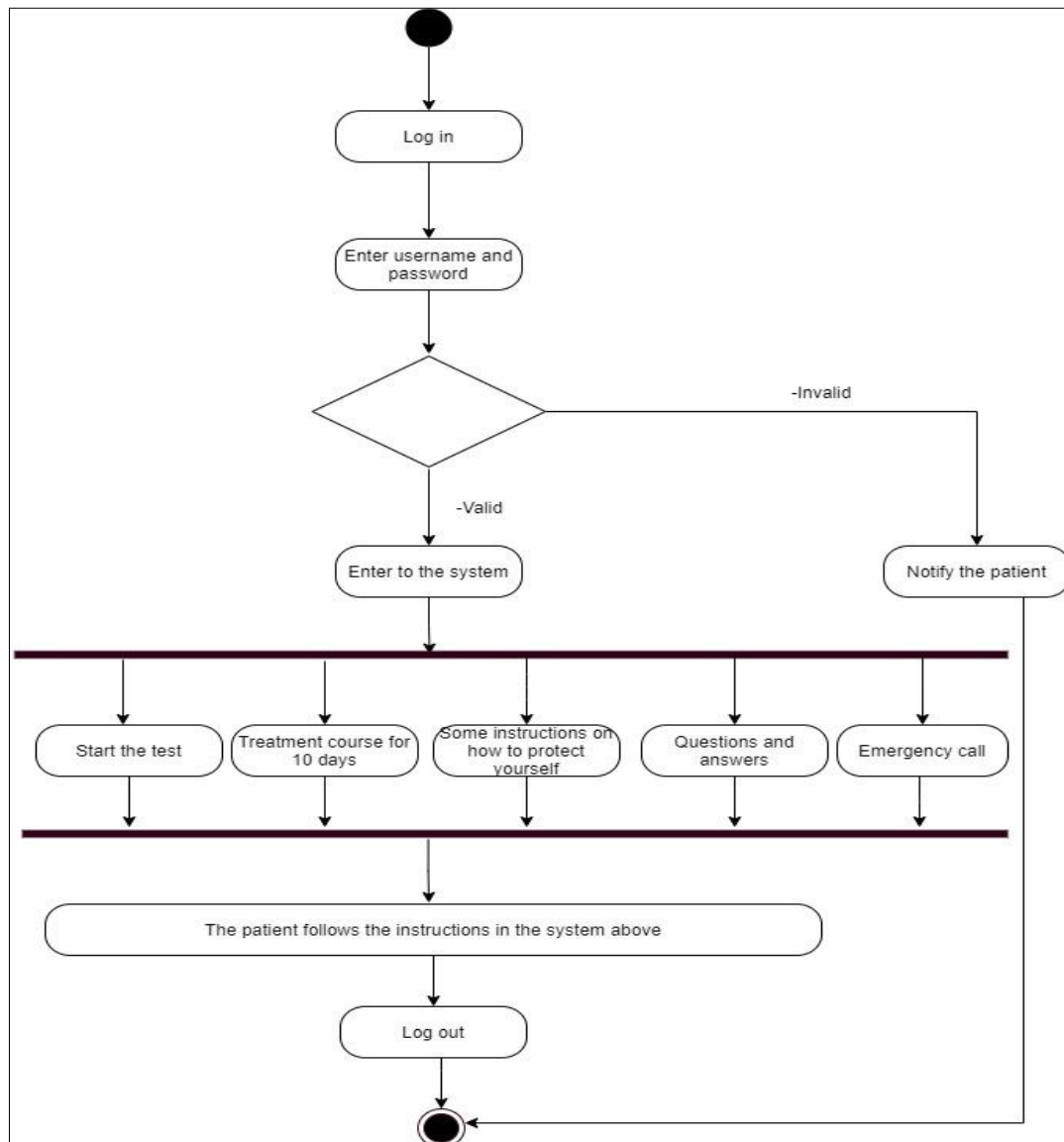


Figure 3. Covid-19 system activity diagram

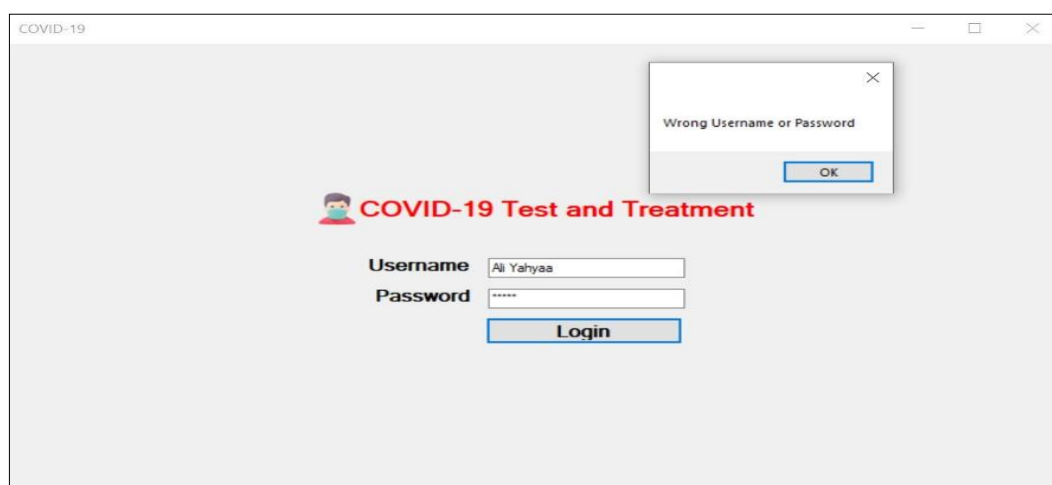


Figure 4. Covid-19 system log in

24/08/2021 7:42:52

COVID-19 Test and Treatment from Home

COVID19

Call for Emergency
+9647727792755

Start Your Own Test

Enter your current temperature:

Do you have dry cough?

Are you difficult to breathe?

Do You have Headach and body pain?

Can you test or smell?

Are you vomiting?

Press to get the result

Get Your Treatment for 7 days course

Select the day:

Press to get treatment for everyday

Press to find out How to protect yourself?

Press to get the answer

Question and Answer

This treatment course offered by World Health Organization

World Health Organization

Figure 5. Covid-19 system interface

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0 references
Private Sub Button4_Click(sender As Object, e As EventArgs) Handles Button4.Click
    If Val(TextBox1.Text) >= 39 Then
        TextBox3.Text = "Positive. Please Get Treatment"
    Else
        TextBox3.Text = "Congradulation. You are Healthy, Please see the doctor to confirm"
    End If
    If ComboBox1.SelectedIndex = -1 Then
        Return
    End If
    Select Case ComboBox1.SelectedItem.ToString()
        Case "Yes"
            TextBox3.Text = "Positive. Please Get Treatment"
        Case "No"
            TextBox3.Text = "Congradulation. You are Healthy"
        Case Else
            'Empty case
        End Select
End Sub

```

Figure 6. Sample of covid-19 system code

4. RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

4.1. Results of confirmation study/expert review

After sending the draft of an expert questionnaire interview to one expert in English language and one in questionnaire design, the questionnaire was refined, and the results were analyzed after an expert review with six experts (3 from the health industry and another three from the academic industry). The findings suggest that experts believe that the proposed paradigm is feasible. The experts also agree on the suggested model's applicability, comprehensiveness, understandability, accuracy, and coherence.

4.2. Results of confirmation study/survey (usability test)

After removing the damaged case and examining the outliers, the final sample consisted of 45.5 percent males and 54.5 percent females. 17.3 percent of those who responded were between the ages of 26 and 35. The Middle East was represented by all of the respondents. Because the study's focus was on hospitals and universities, 45.5 percent of respondents worked in the medical field, while 54.5 percent worked in academia. 63.6 percent of the samples have job experience ranging from 11 to 15 years. Finally, all of them are from the public sector. Table 1 provides more detailed information on the demographic characteristics of respondents.

Table 1. Demographic data of respondents

No	Percent
1	Gender
	Female 54.5%
	Male 45.5%
2	Age
	Less than 26
	26-35 17.3%
	36-45 9.1%
	46-55 63.6%
	More than 55
3	Nationality
	Asian
	Middle East 100%
	European
	North America
	South America
4	Industry
	Academic 54.5%
	Health 45.5%
5	Qualification
	Doctors 18.3%
	Academic 76.7%
	Software developer
6	Work experience
	Less than one year
	1-5 years 18.2%
	6-10 years 18.2%
	11-15 years 63.6%
	16-20 18.2%
	More than 20 years
7	Organization type
	Government
	Semi government 100%
	Private

The technology was put through its paces in one hospital and one university. Several employees from these two companies were chosen utilizing the snowball sampling technique. An online survey was sent to 11 people (5 from the health business and 6 from the academic industry). Table 2 shows how the results were analyzed using SPSS 22.

According to Table 2, the majority of respondents strongly agree that the system is simple to use and understand. 81.8 percent of users stated they would like to use the system frequently in response to item 1 ("I believe I would like to use this system frequently"). 81.8 percent of respondents strongly agree with item 2 ("I considered the system unnecessarily complex"). However, because this is a negative item ("I believe I would require the assistance of a technical expert to be able to use this system"), users' responses to "strongly disagree" (81.8 percent) and "disagree" (18.2 percent) are high. "Strongly disagree" (81.8 percent) and "disagree" (81.8 percent) were similarly used by respondents for question 6 ("I thought there was too much inconsistency in this system") (18.2 percent).

In addition, replies to item 8 ("I found the system onerous to use") reveal that users viewed the system to be simple and straightforward. Item 10 demonstrates how simple the system is to learn. Finally, the findings of the ten elements relating to system usability indicate that the system's usability is high, and users are highly satisfied.

Table 2. Frequency distribution for responses related to usability

no	Item	Strongly Disagree	Disagree	Agree	Strongly Agree
1	I think that I would like to use this system frequently.			18.2%	81.8%
2	I found the system unnecessarily complex.			18.2%	81.8%
3	I thought the system would be easy to use.			18.2%	81.8%
4	I think that I would need the support of a technical person to be able to use this system.	81.8%	18.2%		
5	I found the various functions in this system well integrated.			9.1%	90.9%
6	I thought there was too much inconsistency in this system.	81.8%	18.2%		
7	I would imagine that most people would learn to use this system quickly.			9.1%	90.9%
8	I found the system cumbersome to use.	81.8%	18.2%		
9	I felt confident using the system.	9.1%	90.9%		
10	I needed to learn a lot of things before I could get going with this system.	9.1%	90.9%		

5. CONCLUSION

In conclusion, literature review was conducted to highlighted the importance of OMC for all patients around the world. Furthermore, covid-19 system was developed to help the patients to do their own test and get treatment for those who are affected. Different instructions mentioned in this system to keep everyone safe and healthy. Finally, further research needs to do to develop OMC models of services and care.

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