

Addressing Psychological Issues in Children Using Novel Virtual Reality Tools



Anne Dubin
Professor of Pediatrics

CURRENT RESEARCH

Utilizing innovative technology to provide novel interventions for children with heart disease

Medical procedures are upsetting and anxiety provoking in all ages, but particularly in children. Drs. Anne Dubin, Professor of Pediatrics, and Lauren Schneider, Clinical Assistant Professor of Psychology, at Stanford University School of Medicine believe that facing the unknown can help relieve some of that anxiety. Virtual reality (VR) is an extremely powerful tool that can be used to address these issues. Drs. Dubin, and Schneider, are using the power of VR to deliver care in a novel way for children with chronic illness. Though their focus is to use this innovative VR technology to address quality of life issues in children with heart disease, it has broad implications for all children with various medical conditions. Pioneers in this field, Drs. Dubin and Schneider are currently just one of a handful of groups using VR to help pediatric patients.

Drs. Dubin and Schneider have several areas they are planning on studying. These include exposing children to anxiety provoking scenarios, such as undergoing a medical procedure in the hospital, and providing them with relaxation tools through VR prior to stressful procedures. They also plan on using VR to help cardiac patients overcome fears related to exercise, which understandably prevent them from being active and having a full and healthy life. Their research is driven by the clinical needs and observations their multidisciplinary clinical team encounters daily. Their unique research team combines experts in healthcare, as well as in technology. This interdisciplinary team is well poised to address many of the clinical issues surrounding quality of life in children utilizing advancements in technology.

Current Projects Include:

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AFFILIATION

 Stanford University

EDUCATION

- University of Rochester School of Medicine and Dentistry

RESEARCH AREAS

Life Science, Neurological / Cognitive, Cardiovascular, Health IT

FUNDING REQUEST

Your contributions will help fund Drs. Dubin and Schneider's continued research in transforming pediatric medical care using innovative virtual reality technology. Costs include \$250K for a typical VR project, which includes production and the clinical research project. They currently have stepwise plans for five different projects. Play a role in helping improve the lives of those suffering from chronic health conditions; fund Drs. Dubin and Schneider.

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