

Communication training by distance learning on a Windows Based Terminal

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Leiden University Medical Center and Amsterdam Medical Center develop Dynamic Patient Simulations® for communication training between physicians.

These simulations are complicated Windows based executables that cannot be distributed over Internet. Windows Based Terminal (WBT) technology is chosen as an alternative that enables students from both universities to access the simulations and successively treat the same patient. After a consultation of the patient the student leaves an epicrise in the patient chart for the fellow physician. A summary of the planning is sent automatically by email to the other student. The fellow student then resumes the case and continues the treatment of the patient. WBT access is provided to every computer connected to the Internet. Minor installation of the student computer is required only once with freeware programs embedded in normal web pages on Internet. This technique enables the use of standalone computer based training software for web based distance learning.