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MINDFUL SOCIAL CHANGE

MOBILE DATABASE · PROJECT

SIMPILL

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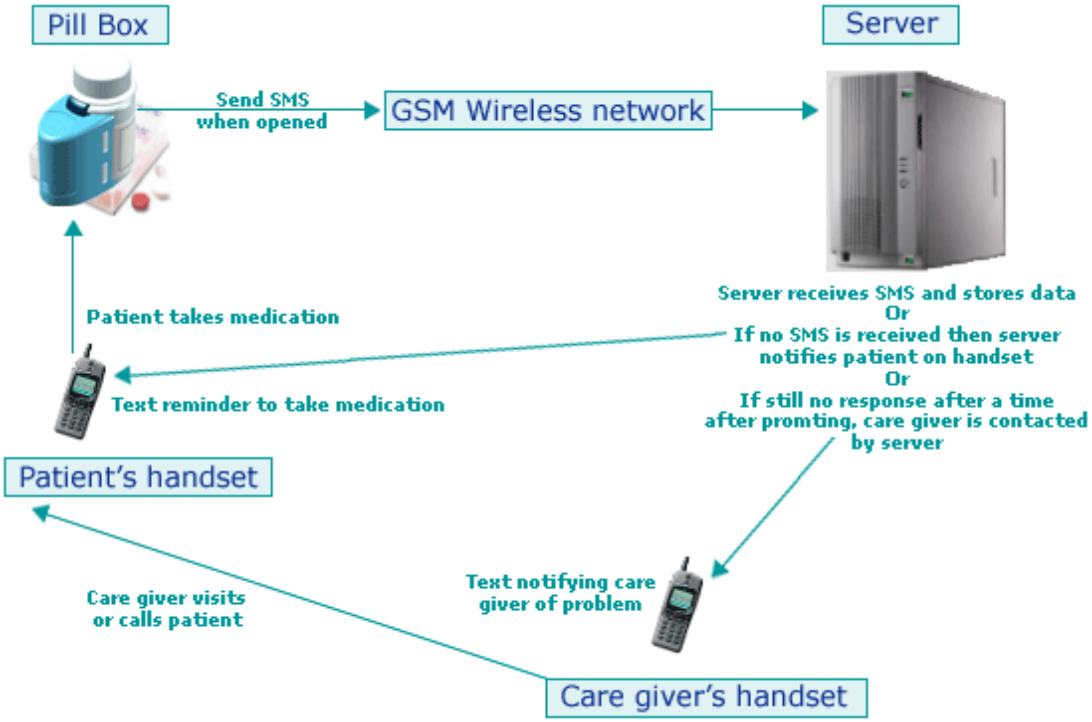
Ken Banks offers coaching, mentoring and strategy support.

Products - SIMpill - Medication dispenser

Product description

- A pill bottle which, when opened, delivers an SMS text message to a central server. The SMS contains a unique pill box ID number as well as some information about the battery status of the pill box. Each SMS is time stamped.
- The central server receives the incoming SMS and, if it is within the time tolerances set for the pill box sending the message is simply stored for statistical purposes.
- Should no message be received within the time tolerances then the server can be set to produce a number of responses (e.g. sending a text message reminder to the patient's handset, sending a text message prompt to a family member or community based care giver, prompting them to visit the patient to ascertain the cause of non-compliance and provide assistance, sending a text message to a clinic based health professional or any other user determined response), or indeed escalate through these responses as time elapses with no incoming message in response to the previous outgoing message.
- Data on levels of compliance as measured by the device are stored for future analysis and use.



Advantages of On-Cue's real time compliance monitoring using GSM networks

- Become aware of non-compliance as it happens rather than retrospectively enabling intervention to prevent non-compliance rather than simply documenting it.
- Decreases the need to provide interventions to those patients who are adequately compliant. Provides both cost savings and provides patients with improved quality of life.
- Increased compliance - Automated server side processes allow for reminders to be sent to the patient when non-compliance occurs and, should these not be responded to, the server can notify appropriate care givers (family members, community based care givers, or clinic based nurses and doctors) who can then provide assistance to the patient to prevent non-compliance.
- Potential cost savings. Using a simple calculation, assuming very modest levels of non-compliance and conservative estimates of only the hospitalisation costs it can be shown that the costs of non-compliance per 1,000 patients are significant. Note: these figures exclude costs of restarting on new medication and the costs to society.
- Data collection related to compliance is simplified as the data is gathered without the

patient having to remember to bring anything into the clinic for pill counts or the download of data from other devices.

- Use of GSM networks reduces reliance on physical networks making the device more widely usable in developing communities.

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