Case study

E-dopi

Ultrasound doppler simulator

Software for a simulation system used by health professionals in emergency practice.

About the project.

TechnoMedicos is a critical care academy where more than 700 healthcare professionals have learned practical skills from theory.

Florencia Argudo has collaborated with the academy during her graduation thesis in Bioengineering, creating a simulator for doppler ultrasound.

The main objective of the project is to provide a tool to prevent critical situations during emergencies.

My role

I worked as Product Designer with a partner, following the process from start to finish. We did the research process and the design. I was in charge of the Design System to be implemented in the high fidelity prototypes.

Stakeholders

All these **people, companies** and **institutions** are interested in using and practicing with the system. Some will see a greater impact on their jobs than others.

Goals

1.
Create an MVP.
Improve functionality, and the most important features for this stage.

2.
Increase usability.
Design interactions taking into account the use of the transducer.

3.
Do it in a short time.
It had to be created in two months, so decision making was important.

4.
Educate.
The content had to be organised and structured to facilitate learning.

The process

1 Empathize

Remote interviews

With the team of bioengineers and doctors
to know the system function and the business goals.

With healthcare professionals
to know their needs on emergency practices

How does the system works?

Two components.
The simulator has a transducer to obtain the anatomical images, and a software system where users will view them.

The sensor.
Once the user finds the location of an anatomical point, the transducer will identify the sensor and, at that moment, the Doppler image will appear on the screen as a video automatically.

"Preliminar system before the new design, with the anatomic points and the doppler video at the right.

What our users said

"En una situación de emergencia tenés apenas cinco minutos para tomar una decisión. Saber usar el eco doppler puede salvar a alguien."
"In an emergency situation you have just five minutes to make a decision. Knowing how to use the ultrasound can save someone."

"Yo todavía soy residente, lo que sé del uso del eco doppler es por observar a alguien usándolo. Sería genial poder aprender de a poco."
"I'm still a resident, what I know about the use of ultrasound is from observing someone using it. It would be great to learn a little at a time."

"Hay pocos prácticos con eco doppler, y generalmente se aprenden desde un libro. Sería bueno tener lo teoría junto con la práctica."
"There's few practice with ultrasound, and it is usually learned from a book. It would be nice to have the theory along with the practice."

2 Define

What does users need?

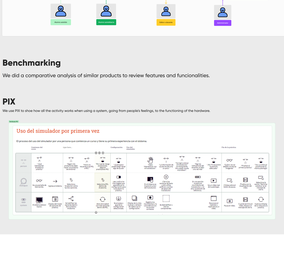
To learn.
Users would like to learn by theory and practicing.

To customize.
Users will prioritize increasing learning over time. It is important to offer a customizable experience with different levels and complexities.

To simulate.
It is important to provide an experience similar to an emergency situation, so that they can easily apply what they have learned.

Use cases

This is how main actors interact with an eco doppler system during a lesson.

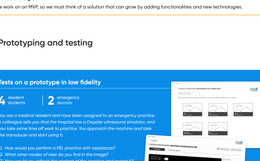


Benchmarking

We did a comparative analysis of similar products to review features and funcionalities.

PIX

We use PIX to show how all the activity works when using a system, going from people's feelings, to the functioning of the hardware.



3 Ideate

Desktop system.

We devised a simple and easy-to-use desktop system in a complex context where users would be performing multiple tasks at the same time.

Challenges.

To create a simple look and feel.
Users will be aware of what is happening with the simulator body as well as what is happening on the screen. A clear and simple design that does not generate distractions is key.

To understand the technical processes.
There are many technical wording and processes. So we had the challenge of learning about it to improve usability.

To enable it to grow.
We work on an MVP, so we must think of a solution that can grow by adding funcionalities and new technologies.

4/5 Prototyping and testing

Tests on a prototype in low fidelity

4 resident students | **2** emergency doctors

You are a medical resident and have been assigned to an emergency practice. A colleague tells you that the hospital has a Doppler ultrasound simulator, and you take some time off work to practice. You approach the machine and take the transducer and start using it.

1. *How would you perform a FEL practice with assistance?*
2. *What other modes of view do you find in the image?*
3. *How would you rehash the content of the practice and restart it?*

WE NOTED THAT...

✓ People understood the home and its architecture.

✕ We should adjust the icons to increase functionalities on the ultrasound visualization.

✕ The full view is not an intuitive feature.

✓ Syncronized animations works well during the process to communicate actions.

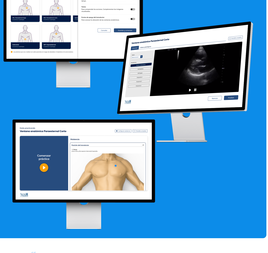
✓ For users, asistance customization adds value and increase learnings.

✕ We note that a better structure on the screen could help to improve visualization.

WE DID AN ITERATION

We continued working to define the interactions and have a high fidelity prototype for the MVP implementation

- We decided to redesign the structure, so that now users could find the actions easily.
- We defined the library to select more usable icons.
- We created 3D models to explain transductor movements and techniques.
- We redesigned the full view interaction.



Simulation for the use of an ultrasound,prevent important risks. Through research and the design of a good experience, we are providing a tool to save the lives of many people.