

Female Barrier Model

Week 10: March 24th – March 30th 2009

Advisor: Professor William Murphy

Client: Marge A. Sutinen

Team members: Karen Chen (Leader)
Tu Hoang Anh Mai (BWIG)
Rexxi Prasasya (Communication/BSAC)

Problem statement: Students in the advance Contemporary Issues of HIV/AIDS of the Medical Genetic department need to learn to demonstrate the proper use of female barriers against sexually transmitted disease by the end of the semester. Currently, an adequate model to show proper use of female barrier is unavailable, thus, instructors have resort to illustrated figure to educate students in this matter. The goal of this project is to design a pelvic model to be used as a teaching tool to demonstrate proper installation of female barrier devices. The model needs to be compatible with over-the-counter female condoms and dental dam.

Last week goals: Each team member should be finishing the design notebook before Wednesday. Also, since we were not able to hear back from the anatomy/physiology departments, we will visit their department location at Ingrahm Hall directly. We will be buying a cheap float and cut& seal to see how the seal properties are. We should start contacting the local schools for possible outreach possibilities. We should also be sending the client the PowerPoint presentation as a reference, and meet to talk about our current progress.

Summary of accomplishments:

•On 3/24, the team met to test the ability of resealing a cut on a floating device. A swimming float was obtained from a friend's donation. We made several cuts on the float and applied UHU glue (sealant) to the cut. After the cuts were sealed and the glue dried, we inflated the float with air. We observed that UHU glue has good sealing properties, where the regions with the sealant were tightly sealed. Although there was air leakage, we concluded that was the area where little or no glue was applied. After several sealing practices, we should be capable to fully seal the cuts made on the float.

•On 3/26, the team met with client to update her about our current progress. We gave her a brief description of two alternative designs, and how we decided to pursue the inflatable model design. The client was generally pleased with the design, and we just have to make sure that KY gel could be applied to the model with rupturing the model. Once we have decided with model of the inflatable doll to purchase, the client will visit the online website and make payment herself.

The next subject that we touched on was the selection of journal to publish our paper. The client suggested a nursing journal, but she will do some research to be sure. The client also mentioned that the

ideal testing/presentation day to her class would be the last week of April.

•On 3/27, the team met to finalize the website where we will purchase the inflatable doll. However, we are not able to locate the specifications of the doll (dimensions/length). We also discovered that the location of the vaginal opening of the doll is anatomically incorrect – it is located near the pubic hair rather than in between the legs. With these considerations, we visited a shop near campus on State St. to get a better idea/close up view of the doll in the shop. However, the shop that we visited does not carry these dolls. The store owner provided us an address of a shop that does sell these dolls and we will visit this new shop tomorrow.

•On 3/28, the team visited another adult store on E. Washington Ave to shop for the inflatable doll. This store carries several types of inflatable dolls, but all of them have incorrect vaginal opening positions. Some of the dolls have openings that are relatively closer to the correct position than some of the other dolls. With the questions 1. Should we purchase the doll; and 2. How to purchase the doll? in mind, we will ask for advices from the advisor and the client before taking further actions.

This week goals: This week, we hope to get some feedback from the advisor and the client regarding the anatomically incorrect positioning of the vaginal opening. After receiving the advice we should be able to purchase and start modifying the existing inflatable doll. We should have a fully sealed and inflatable pelvic model.

Project Challenges: During the online research and the visit to the sex shop, we realized that all dolls that we have looked at do not possess anatomically correct vaginal opening. After contacting our client, Marge, we hope to get some feedback from her.

Activities:

Date	Group/Individual	Description	Hours
3/24	Chou, Karen, Rexxi	Met to test the sealant ability on plastic swimming floatie	1.00h
3/26	Chou, Karen, Rexxi	Meeting with client; updated current progress	0.50h
3/27	Chou, Karen, Rexxi	- Met and discussed about ordering the inflatable doll online - Visited nearby stores to ship for the doll	1.30h
3/28	Chou, Karen, Rexxi	Met and visited the Red Letter News shop	2.00h
3/28, 30	Karen	Progress report	0.75h

