Overview of activities

The goal of a concept validation session is:

*To determine whether overlap exists between the needs we have observed in our research and the needs our users perceive in themselves*

The core concept is that creating a solution to an observed need is not enough; if the users do not perceive this need in themselves they will not use the resulting solution.

To help us determine which of the needs we observed match our user’s perception of their needs, we will conduct a concept validation session. In each session the participants will be presented with storyboards. Each storyboard illustrates a need we observed, and we will ask the users for their reactions (positive or negative) to each need we present.

Protocol for activities

**Target participants:** inventors (research scientists and engineers)

**Recording device:** digital video, handwritten notes

**Method:** a booklet of the storyboards will be provided for each participant. The moderator will read each storyboard to the participants as they follow along in their booklet. After each storyboard is presented, the participants will be asked to voice their thoughts and opinions about the need illustrated in the storyboard. If no questions arise, or if the discussion topics we want to address do not naturally arise, we will ask the predefined discussion questions for that storyboard.

**Number of participants:** 4-6 subjects per session, 3 sessions total

**Length of activity:** 60 minutes

**Outcome of research:** Participant feedback on each need to help us determine which needs are perceived as strongest by our user group. Since we have already related the design ideas to the project themes (strong story, motivation, education, and integration) and the needs to the project themes, this will help us determine which of our design ideas we will implement this summer.
The results of this activity will be summarized in a document describing the results of each session (which needs were/were not supported). This document will also describe the differences between sessions, if any, and will describe the implications for which need/design idea we will focus on this summer.

**Timeframe:** All 3 concept validation sessions will be held at MEDRAD. The times and participant groups are as follows:

- **Tuesday May 23rd,** 10:30 AM to 11:30 AM – Engineers
- **Thursday May 25th,** 9:00 AM to 10:00 AM – Research Scientists and Engineers
- **Thursday May 25th,** 11:00 AM to 12:00 AM – Research Scientists and Engineers