Embodied Hybrid Bodystorming to Design an XR Suture Training Experience

Elena Márquez Segura, **José M. Vega-Cebrián**, Andrés A. Maldonado Morillo, Lara Cristóbal Velasco, Andrea Bellucci









Overview

- **Suture training:** designing a XR experience for training **basic suturing** techniques.
- Participatory embodied design activities with experienced surgeons can help open the design space and arrive at meaningful design solutions.
- Hybrid bodystorming combining physical props with XR headsets with passthrough capabilities, supporting:
 - rich embodied explorations
 - understanding and articulation of key steps of suturing
 - uncovering essential design requirements and features
 - arriving at a design concept proposal



Background

Background

- Experiential, hands-on learning in surgical training
 - Acquiring surgical skills is an embodied activity.
 - Challenges of hands-on learning model: time, training resources, consistent feedback, personalized guidance.
- Extended reality for surgical training
 - Design drivers and rationale are not described.
 - Lack of design knowledge on how to integrate spatially aligned instructional material with the haptic feedback and visual appearance of specialized physical tools.



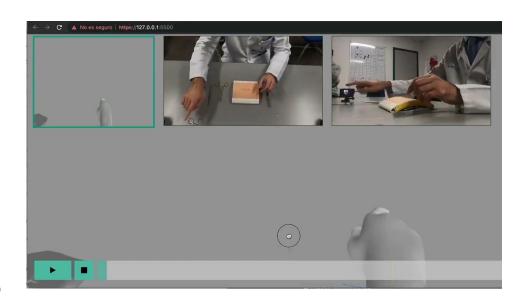
Background

- Embodied Design Methods and Immersive Technologies
 - Foregrounding the bodily, sensorial, and first-person experience of the stakeholders to elicit early insights for a design.
 - o **Bodystorming** (Oulasvirta et al. 2003, Scheicher et al. 2010, Márquez Segura et al. 2016)
 - o **Embodied Sketching** (Márquez Segura et al. 2016)
 - Embodied Design Ideation (Wilde et al. 2017)
 - Embodied design methods in/for XR

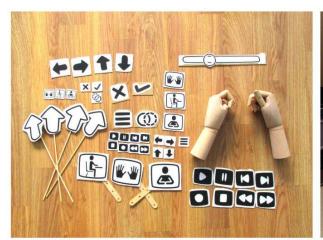
Methodology

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- Research through Design+ Participatory Design
- Design Process:
 - Debriefs
 - Embodied Design Activity1: Sensitizing and Data recording
 - Embodied Design Activity
 Hybrid Bodystorming to ideate potential Design
 Concepts



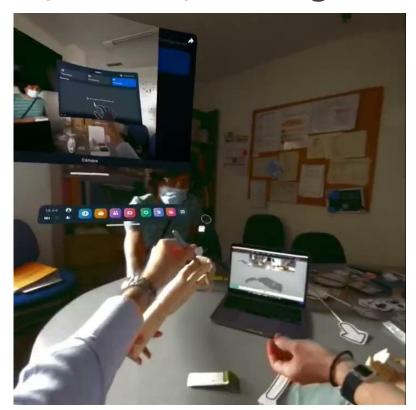
Hybrid Bodystorming: Materials







Hybrid Bodystorming: walkthrough, enactment, think aloud

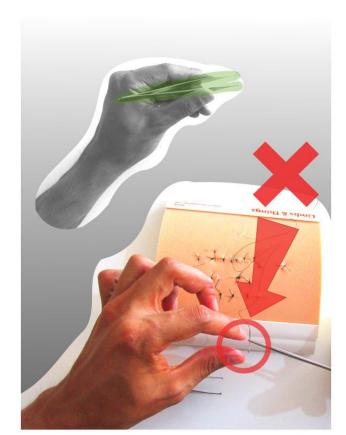




Outcomes

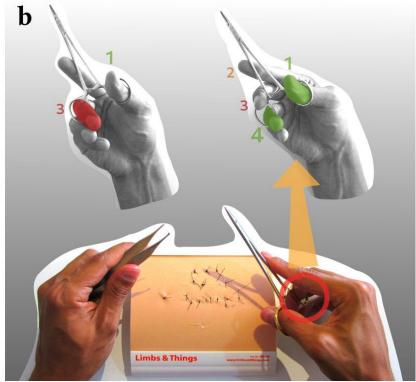
Outcomes: Phases and typical mistakes in suturing

- Pedagogical perspective + Design perspective
- Phases
 - Preparing the materials
 - Stitch
 - Knot
 - Cutting the Knot
- Types of common mistakes
 - Handling of equipment or materials
 - Length, distance and position (of stitches, thread)
 - Count, type, mode of stitches
 - Approximate time
 - Sequence of actions

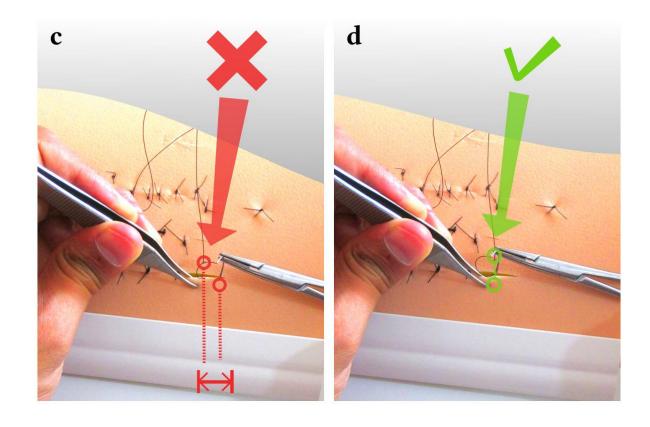


Outcomes: Design Requirements and Features





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Concluding Remarks

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- Focus on understanding needs from the lived experience of experts prior to & during co-creation of design concepts.
- Hybrid bodystorming:
 - Rich and nuanced descriptions of suturing procedure and mistakes
 - o Design solutions: derive and reflect on emerging patterns
- Project pivoted from VR to AR:
 - Real-world haptic feedback is key for surgical training
- Future technologies:
 - Automatic assessment of stitching
- Call for innovative **hybrid embodied design methods** to support meaningful XR experiences.

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