

September 16, 2005

Dr. John D. Enderle
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RE: Patient positioning aid

Dr. Enderle:

I am part of a four-person senior capstone design team of biomedical engineers from the University of Wisconsin–Madison interested in designing a patient positioning aid prototype for the RERC on AMI National Student Design Competition. Each team member is assigned a role: team leader, team communicator, student committee chair, and webmaster. In addition to the hours of design work outside of class, my team meets once a week with a faculty advisor who will mentor my team. We have also established contacts through local health care industries at TomoTherapy Incorporated and GE Healthcare who can also serve as resources throughout the design process. Furthermore, formal presentations throughout the course of the year will provide peer critiques and feedback as well.

With regards to scheduling, the fall semester is dedicated to having a working prototype by the end of the term. As a team, we have already completed the outlining of our preliminary design specifications. The next step in our design progression involves brainstorming and evaluating several design alternatives in a design matrix before choosing a final design for the construction of a functional prototype. Materials will be ordered early October so that development can begin promptly. The spring semester will be dedicated to testing and modifying the prototype. We will also seek the approval of our prototype by the Institutional Review Board in hope of testing on human subjects. A drafted Human Subject Protocol will be the basis for our request to conduct human testing. The results of this testing will be used to finalize the prototype. The design will be completed the first week of May, 2006.

This coming year, our team will be dedicated to developing a product that ensures every individual access to the technology medicine has to offer. We look forward to hearing your response regarding our participation in the competition. Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

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