

The Care Companion App: Managing parental stress in pediatric outpatient trajectories

Master Thesis | Pauline Eshuis



Delft, March 2024

Master Thesis | MSC Design for Interaction
Faculty of Industrial Design Engineering
Delft University of Technology

The Care Companion App: Managing parental stress in pediatric outpatient trajectories

by Pauline Eshuis

TU Delft Supervision

Chair | MSc. Mathieu Gielen

Mentor | Dr. ir. Niko Vegt

In collaboration with

the Hospital Hero Foundation

Company supervision

Dr. Charlotte Poot



ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Dear reader,

I am so happy to present to you the final milestone of my life as a student. Before you lies the thesis report of my graduation project for the MSc Design for Interaction at the Technical University of Delft.

The opportunity to do this project was given to me by the Hospital Hero Foundation. I am very grateful for the chance to work in such a meaningful environment. The passion and dedication that drive this team have been of great inspiration to me. Charlotte, thank you for your guidance during the past months. I learned a lot from you about navigating through a project, putting things in perspective and “killing your darlings”. Throughout the entire project, I experienced a great deal of freedom and I want to thank you for the many interesting people you helped me get in touch with. Nicole, you always made me feel warm and welcome, both in the office as well as at the pediatric outpatient clinic. Dayella, thank you for your positive energy and endless willingness to lend a helping hand. Britt, discussing my project with you always helped me see things more clearly when I could not see the forest for the trees. And, last but not least, thank you Marc for being my fellow rookie in this team and for our heart to hearts about graduation related struggles.

I also want to thank my supervisors from within the faculty of Industrial Design Engineering. Mathieu, even though we did not meet frequently, your genuine personal interest always made me feel supported. Thank you for that. Niko, thank you for your time and flexibility during our weekly meetings. Your ability to put things in perspective and to build confidence in me as a designer repeatedly gave me new energy throughout the project. Thank you for being my voice of reason and keeping me focused on my goal: graduating.

I would like to express my appreciation to all research participants, who helped and taught me a lot. To the healthcare professionals and experts, thank you for taking the time in your already busy schedules to share your expertise with me. And to the parents, thank you for being so open in sharing your experiences, even when discussing difficult and loaded topics. Additionally, I want to give a special shoutout to everyone who helped me get in touch with previously mentioned participants. Everyone I encountered was so willing to help me and I can genuinely say that I enjoyed conducting the interviews a lot.

I am of course so grateful for my friends and family who supported and helped me so much. Not only during this project but throughout the entire duration of my studies. Whether it was joined study sessions forcing me to get out of bed, taking coffee, walking or sporting breaks making sure that I also relaxed, listening to my stories and worries, celebrating achievements with me (even on a weekday!) or just checking in every once in a while. I deeply appreciated all these efforts that have gotten me to the finish line. A special thanks to both my parents, for the supportive phone calls, change of scenery and grammar checks, but most of all for your unconditional love and support. And to Mitchel, for your loving and encouraging words whenever I doubted myself, for keeping me grounded and for being the distraction I needed.

Lastly, I want to express a token of appreciation to Jolanda, who had faith in my ability to finish my master's degree when I did not myself. Thank you for convincing me to continue and pushing me to finish what I started.

Even though this journey towards graduation might have been a struggle sometimes, I look back at it filled with joy and pride. I am glad that it is over, but I am also so happy I did it.

Pauline

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Visits to the pediatric outpatient clinic are often accompanied by stress and anxiety, not only in the child but also within the parents. Within current trends in healthcare, parents are becoming more and more involved in the treatment of their child. The Hospital Hero Foundation, that already developed an app to reduce hospital related fear and anxiety in children, therefore showed interest in the question of how to support parents with this more engaged role.

IMPORTANCE OF PARENTAL SUPPORT

Literature showed that outside of the hospital context, when healthcare professionals are not present, children depend on their parents to provide the needed support. Also, during the outpatient visit parents play a very important role: children tend to look at their parents in stressful situations to determine an appropriate response. For parents to be able to execute existing strategies to reduce stress in their child, they need to possess the necessary knowledge and skills. More importantly, parents need to be able to manage their own stress, to not transmit this stress onto their child.

CHALLENGES OF PARENTS

Observations in pediatric outpatient clinics and interviews with parents and healthcare professionals confirmed and added to the previously described findings. According to this research, parents would ideally be honest, calm and radiate trust when supporting their child. The outpatient trajectory of their child, though, comes with an increase in (perceived) responsibilities of the parent possibly causing parents to be stressed. In this context, parents are generally fully focused on their child, making them unaware of their own increasing stress levels. Challenges parents experience in the context of the pediatric outpatient trajectory of their child are (1) Engaging with their social environment, (2) Gaining information, (3) Taking care of oneself, (4) Seeing their child in pain, (5) Supporting their child and (6) Working together with healthcare professionals. Support mechanisms to help parents deal with these challenges are limited and often not received by parents.

MANAGING PARENTAL STRESS

To manage parental stress, an intervention that supports parents of pediatric patients (aged 4-10 years old) with their challenges in the context of outpatient visits was designed. The focus thereby was to help parents to take care of themselves. Several brainstorming activities were executed in the ideation phase. The created bulk of ideas converged into 3 concepts, which were compared based on insights gained in this project and interviews with stakeholders. The most favorable concept was further developed into the Final Concept: the Care Companion app.

THE CARE COMPANION APP

The Care Companion app is a standalone app offered to parents by the Hospital Hero Foundation. It offers parents both affirmations as well as general tips for situations and challenges they can possibly encounter in the outpatient trajectory of their child. Each tip consists of advice from an expert and an experience from another parent. The provided tips can be read, saved and shared. A short evaluation with parents and an expert showed promising results for the concept of the Care Companion app.



TABLE OF CONTENTS

Acknowledgements	2		
Executive Summary	3		
Important Note	5		
Chapter 1 General Introduction	6	Chapter 5 Ideation and Concept Generation	36
1.1 The Context: Children Visiting the Hospital	7	5.1 Ideation	37
1.2 The Client: Hospital Hero	8	5.1.1 Methods	37
1.3 The Assignment	9	5.1.2 Results	38
1.3.1 Design Goal	9	5.2 Concept Generation	39
1.3.2 Project Scope	10	5.2.1 Methods	39
1.4 The Approach	11	5.2.2 Concepts	39
		5.2.3 Concept Evaluation	43
Chapter 2 Parental Support in Literature	12	5.3 Conclusion	44
2.1 Methods	13	Chapter 6 Final Concept	45
2.2 Importance of Parental Support	13	6.1 Methods	46
2.3 Strategies for Parental Support	14	6.2 Final Concept: The Care Companion App	47
2.4 Parental Stress and Anxiety	15	6.3 Design Choices	48
2.5 Conclusion	16	6.3.1 Affirmations	49
Chapter 3 Contextual Research on Parental Support	17	6.3.2 Tips	50
3.1 Methods	18	6.3.3 Swiping	53
3.2 The Role of the Parent in Supporting the Child	19	6.3.4 Viewing	55
3.2.1 Perceptions on the Role of the Parent	20	6.3.5 Sharing	55
3.2.2 The Current Role of the Parent	21	6.3.6 Other Details	56
3.2.3 The Ideal Role of the Parent	24	6.4 Evaluation	57
3.2.4 The Impact on the Parent	25	6.4.1 Methods	57
3.2.5 Conclusion	25	6.4.2 Results	58
3.3 The Challenges of the Parent	26	6.5 Conclusion	60
3.3.1 The Challenges of the Parent	27	Chapter 7 Final Reflections	61
3.3.2 Support for the Parent's Challenges	29	7.1 Recommendations	62
3.3.3 Conclusion	30	7.2 Limitations	64
Chapter 4 Design Objectives	31	7.3 Future Work	65
4.1 Design Brief	32	7.4 Concluding Remarks	66
4.2 Vision	33	References	67
4.3 Requirements and Wishes	34	Appendix	69
4.4 Conclusions	35		

IMPORTANT NOTE

In this report, the term “parents” refers to all caregivers responsible for children’s well-being, including biological parents, guardians, and other caregivers.

CHAPTER 1

GENERAL INTRODUCTION

This chapter presents the context of children and their parents in the hospital and introduces the Hospital Hero Foundation as client of this graduation project. Furthermore, it explains what the initial assignment of this project was and how this assignment was approached.

1.1 | THE CONTEXT: CHILDREN VISITING THE HOSPITAL

Almost every child, somewhere in their childhood, will get in touch with healthcare services. Some children are unhealthy and need to undergo medical treatment. Other children are healthy, but still need to be vaccinated, visit the dentist or they sustain an injury (Sobol-Kwapińska et al., 2020). Every year more than 1,5 million children visit the outpatient department in the Netherlands (CBS, 2023).

Medical procedures are often accompanied by stress and anxiety (Sobol-Kwapińska et al., 2020). This fear and anxiety in children visiting the hospital is, among others, caused by pain, fear of the unknown, concerns over separation from the parents, loss of control and lack of knowledge and preparation about what will happen (Bray et al., 2021; Mendels et al., 2022). These feelings may evoke strong behavioral responses in children (such as crying, withdrawal or showing uncooperative behavior), which can complicate the job of healthcare professionals (Lerwick, 2016). A child's negative experiences with healthcare can cause challenges in coping with future medical procedures, more negative attitudes towards or even fear for healthcare (professionals), and failure to show up for follow-up appointments (Bray et al., 2019; McCarthy et al., 2014). In some cases, it can even cause post-traumatic stress in both child and parent (Mendels et al., 2022; Sobol-Kwapińska et al., 2020).

In order to manage pediatric stress and anxiety, parents are becoming more and more involved. A current trend in (pediatric) healthcare is called Family Centered Care (Medisch Spectrum Twente, 2024; Radboudumc, z.d.; Reinier de Graaf Gasthuis, z.d.; St. Antonius Ziekenhuis, 2024). Family Centered Care is care that is focused on the family as a whole: not only the child but the whole family, including the parent, is seen as a patient. Family Centered Care assumes collaboration between patients, family and health care professionals (Medisch Spectrum Twente, 2024). The view is that, in pediatric care, parents play a crucial role since no one senses how the child is doing as well as the parents. The parent is therefore seen as an important partner for healthcare professionals (Radboudumc, z.d.) and they become more and more involved in the treatment of their child (Franck & O'Brien, 2019).

1.2 | THE CLIENT: HOSPITAL HERO

A party involved in managing pediatric stress and anxiety is the Hospital Hero Foundation. Their goal is to reduce fear and anxiety in pediatric patients before, during and after the outpatient visit. They want to achieve this goal to make the hospital visit better and more efficient. Their vision is to use safety, trust and fun to empower the user. In order to do so, the Hospital Hero app was created.

The Hospital Hero app shows children what their hospital visit will look like (as preparation beforehand) and engages them in their hospital journey by offering distraction and relaxation during the waiting. The Hospital Hero app combines several strategies to reduce fear and anxiety, by using for example preparation and distraction, enhancing the sense of control and using helpful language in one product. The app is designed to be freely used by children between the age of 4 and 10 years old, by offering a visually popping style and offering information in a child-oriented and child-friendly manner.

The Hospital Hero app consists of a map showing the route of the journey of the child to and in the outpatient clinic. In this route, the child encounters several interactive modules.

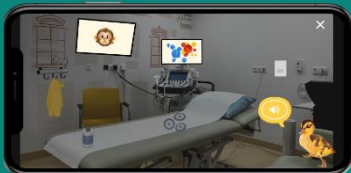
Meten en wegen

The child practices the actions of measuring and weighing in a playful manner. As a result, the actions become predictable, leading to increased confidence in their abilities.



Bij de dokter

The child is encouraged to think about what questions they want to ask the doctor and to write them down in the app. This helps the child to be more engaged in the conversations with the doctor.



Even Spielen

The child becomes familiar with the examinations and treatments and builds confidence through positive experiences and associations. The child recognizes the rooms making them more familiar and less scary.

The Hospital Hero Foundation has not yet been around that long and there is still a shelf full of ideas, wishes and goals. One of those wishes is to collaborate with all (children's) hospitals in the Netherlands, in such a way that every child that has to go to a hospital in the Netherlands can use the Hospital Hero app. Another wish is to keep extending the content that is offered in the Hospital Hero app. This could be by adding modules to support children with their outpatient visit, but also looking at the possibility to support other hospital trajectories besides outpatient visits.

Dieren zoeken

The child searches for animals from Naturalis in QR-code stickers hidden in the waiting room. This distracts the child and makes them less focused on waiting.



1.3 | THE ASSIGNMENT

1.3.1 | DESIGN GOAL

The rise of Family Centered Care changes the interactions between healthcare professionals, parents and pediatric patients in the context of outpatient visits. Within Family Centered Care healthcare professionals are more aware of the care a parent might need. Besides that, parents fulfill a more active role in the context of outpatient visits, in which the parent is considered a partner of the healthcare professional (Figure 2). However, while this more engaged active role is expected of parents, it is unclear how parents fulfill this role in practice. Healthcare professionals indicated that, while parents have their child's best interests at heart, parents are not always able to provide the support the child and/or healthcare professionals need. This suggests that parents might need some help fulfilling this partner role. That is why at the Hospital Hero Foundation the question arose: How can we support parents with this more engaged role? Therefore, the Design Goal of this project is formulated as follows:

DESIGN GOAL

To design a product and/or service that helps parents of pediatric patients (aged 4-10 years old) to behave in such a way that it supports their child during and before outpatient visits.

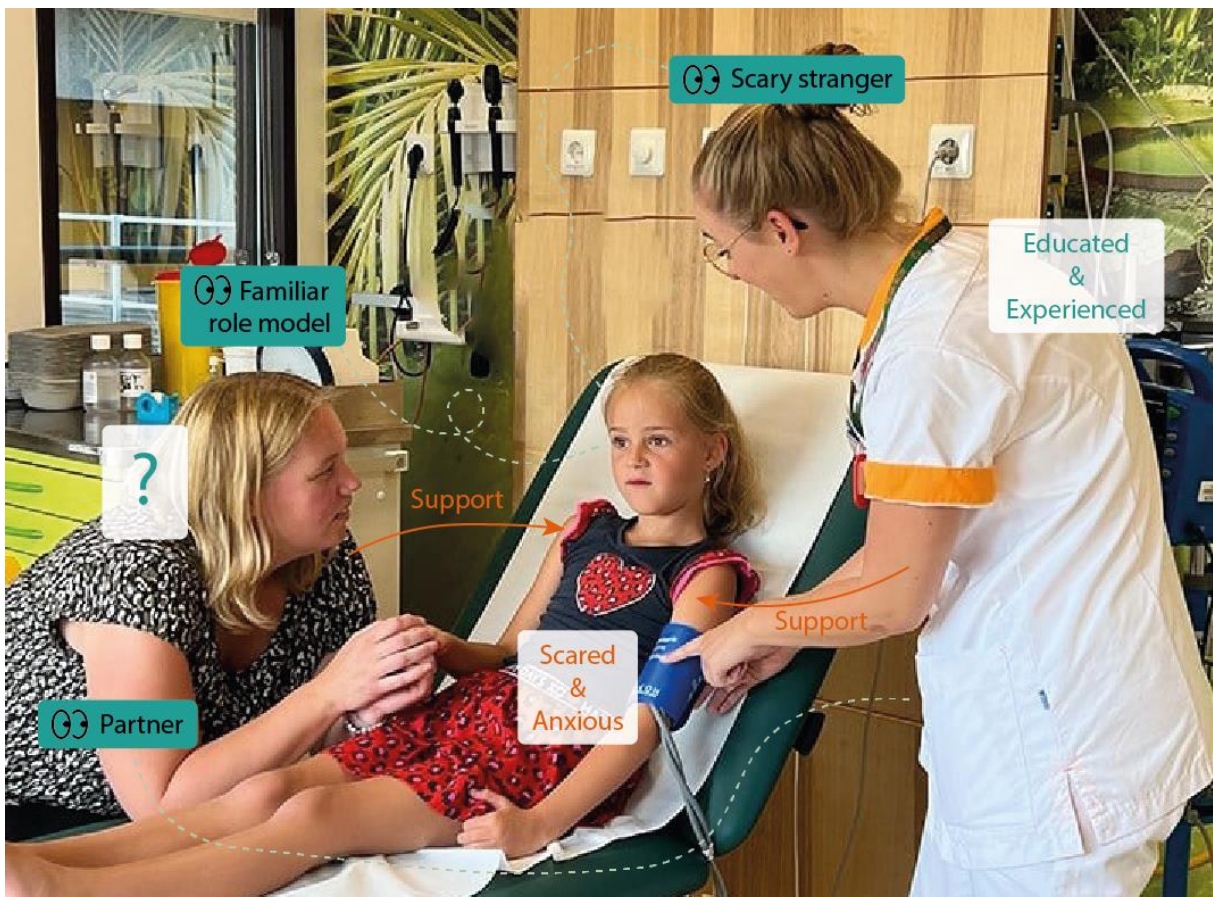


Figure 1, Relevant stakeholders

To be able to explore different aspects of parental support of pediatric patients and to identify design opportunities suitable for the Hospital Hero foundation, the assignment was intentionally chosen to start off broad. Later in this project, the assignment will become more focused, making choices on for example time frame (focusing primarily on preparation before or guidance during), location (at home, in the hospital), etc.

1.3.2 | PROJECT SCOPE

To scope the initial project assignment the following restrictions and decisions have been made:



Outpatient visits

Since the Hospital Hero app currently only supports outpatient visits research, this project will also focus on outpatient visits.

Outpatient visit is defined as the contact with a health professional such as physicians (both generalists and specialists), nurse, midwife, dentists, etc. and is not admitted to any health care facility and does not occupy a hospital bed for any length of time (World Health Organization, 2024).



Dutch Hospitals

Since the Hospital Hero app is a Dutch app and is developed to function in the Dutch healthcare system this project will take place in the context of the Netherlands.

Currently the Hospital Hero app is launched in 4 Children's Hospitals in the Netherlands. Since the aim of Hospital Hero is to become the norm in all (Children's) Hospitals in the Netherlands this project will not be limited to only the current participating hospitals.



Design Limitations

No requirements regarding the type of intervention (i.e. product, service or product-service combination) were provided. Nonetheless it is important that the intervention fits with the current product line of the Hospital Hero Foundation. The intervention therefore should be integrated with or used complementary to the existing Hospital Hero app. Also, if not harming the function or aim of the intervention, the graphic and interaction style of the intervention should be in line with the currently existing style of the Hospital Hero app.



Target Group

The target group for the Hospital Hero app is pediatric patients between the ages of 4 and 10 years old. For this reason, the target group for this project will be parents of pediatric patients between the ages of 4 and 10 years old.



End-Goal

The intervention should eventually support the goal of Hospital Hero to decrease fear and anxiety in pediatric patients during and before their outpatient visits. Also, the sense of control for pediatric patients created by the Hospital Hero app should not be undermined by the intervention.

1.4 | THE APPROACH

DOUBLE DIAMOND METHOD

During this project, the double-diamond method was used. The double-diamond method consists of four phases: (1) Discover, (2) Define, (3) Develop and (4) Deliver (Van der Wardt, 2022).

1. The Discover phase aims to create a deeper understanding of the initially identified problem by looking for different perspectives and gaining experience with the context.
2. In the Define phase the gained information and perspective is used to further define the problem.
3. In the Develop phase we look for as many possible solutions to the previously defined problem. This is a creative phase where idea generation is key.
4. The Deliver phase aims to say goodbye to ideas that don't work and to further develop the ideas that do.

RESEARCH & DESIGN PROJECT

In this project, both research activities and design activities were executed. The starting point and context of this project is described in Chapter 1 "General Introduction". The first diamond (Discover & Define) of the double-diamond method can be seen as the research phase of this project. This research phase is described in Chapters 2 "Parental Support in Literature" and 3 "Contextual Research on Parental Support". Chapter 4 "Design Objectives" describes the midpoint between the two diamonds. The second diamond (Develop & Deliver) of the double-diamond method can be seen as the design phase of this project, with the content of Chapter 4 as starting point. This design phase is described in Chapters 5 "Ideation and Concept Generation" and Chapter 6 "Final Concept". In Chapter 7 "Final Reflections" the recommendations and limitations will conclude the second diamond of the double-diamond method (Figure 2).

CHAPTER 2

PARENTAL SUPPORT IN LITERATURE

In this chapter, we **discover** what is already known about the parental role in pediatric care in literature. We look at why parental support is important for the child, what parents can do to support their child and what might cause parents to have difficulties executing this involved role.

2.1 | METHODS

The results of this chapter are based on desk research through existing (online) literature. A list of interesting and important publications gathered by the Hospital Hero Foundation and the book *Voorbij De Angst* by Marlies Keijzer and Sharon Vleugel-Ruissen were used as starting point for this research. Subsequently interesting references in the reviewed literature were added to the research materials. Additionally, the research was expanded by making use of Google Scholar. Search terms used in Google Scholar included: Parents, Pediatric Patients, Support, Parental Role, Hospital, Needs, Comfort Talk. A bulk of information was gathered and then structured to find useful insights and answers to the research questions mentioned before.

2.2 | IMPORTANCE OF PARENTAL SUPPORT

RQ - Why are parents important in the support of pediatric patients?

Children undergoing medical procedures often experience stress and anxiety. Most studies on (how to decrease) the stress of pediatric patients focus on the stress that takes place during a treatment, called procedural stress (Poot et al., 2023). But pediatric stress does not only occur within the hospital: it can also be built up before the hospital visit at home (Fernandes et al., 2014; Wright et al., 2007). This stress is called preprocedural stress and is about the anticipation of the visit and the pain induced by the procedure (Poot et al., 2023). Also, children might experience stress after the procedure, called postprocedural stress (Caumo et al., 2000).

Pre- and postprocedural stress take place outside of the hospital or medical facility. Healthcare professionals are not available to support the child in this context. Children thus rely on their parents to provide the needed support (Figure 2). Parents, for example, play a key role in facilitating children's access to and understanding of preparatory information (Bray et al., 2019). Up until the age of 7, children are very reliant on their parents (Vleugel-Ruissen & Keijzer, 2019). Parents are the ones who know the child and its needs best. In the context of the home, the parent is thus the only and most important support system the child has.

During a medical procedure, besides the parents also healthcare professionals are present to support the child. But in the last decade it is increasingly acknowledged that parents still play a very important role. This is amongst others based on the notion that the presence and involvement of the parent with the pediatric patient in the hospital has a positive effect on the child (Brown et al., 2018; Vleugel-Ruissen & Keijzer, 2019). However, the exact effect of the presence of the parent on their child depends on the specific behavior of the parent (Brown et al., 2018). Children, especially the younger ones, tend to look at their parents to assess the situation and to determine an appropriate response: emotion co-regulation. This is particularly the case in stressful situations such as medical treatments (Brown et al., 2018; Sobol-Kwapińska et al., 2020). Multiple studies have reported an association between the level of parental stress and the stress of their child during pediatric medical procedures (Rodriguez et al., 2012; Sobol-Kwapińska et al., 2020).

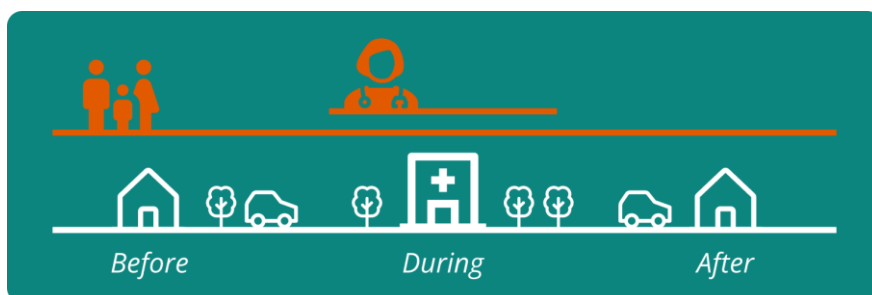


Figure 2, Stakeholders involved in the phases of the hospital visit of the child

2.3 | STRATEGIES FOR PARENTAL SUPPORT

RQ - Which strategies to avoid or reduce fear and anxiety in pediatric patients currently exist for parents?

STRATEGIES

In literature possible strategies to reduce stress in pediatric patients are mentioned. Only a few strategies were found that are specifically aimed to be used by parents. Most found strategies are aimed towards adults in general or sometimes even specifically at healthcare professionals. Table 1 shows strategies that are either specifically meant for parents or assessed (by common sense) to be applicable for parents. Both Lerwick (2016) and Mendels et al. (2022) propose the use of a combination of strategies in order to reduce distress in pediatric patients.

Table 1, Possible strategies for parents to reduce pediatric stress

Giving the child decisional control (Blount et al., 1989; Lerwick, 2016)	By for example offering the child a choice of left or right arm for receiving an injection or a choice of the procedure beginning in three or seven seconds.
Avoiding behaviors that increase levels of distress (Blount et al., 1989)	By not reassuring the child, apologizing to the child and criticizing the child.
Offering distractions to the child (Blount et al., 1989; Mendels et al., 2022)	By using nonprocedural talk to the child and/or humor directed to the child to focus the attention of the child on something else than the medical procedure.
Using positive language (Groeneveld et al., 2020; Mendels et al., 2022)	By avoiding words that evoke negative feelings, such as "pain" and making use of suggestions aimed at a positive outcome.
Preparing the child (Bray et al., 2019; Fernandes et al., 2014; Mendels et al., 2022)	By providing the child with procedural information that is child-centered, honest, easily accessible, engaging and understandable.
Involving the parent in the preparation of the child (Wright et al., 2007; Vleugel-Ruissen & Keijzer, 2019)	By letting the parent prepare the child for a medical procedure.
Using comfort positions (Vleugel-Ruissen & Keijzer, 2019)	By making use of well thought out poses, to make the child feel safe in the arms of the parent while the parent holds the child in a way that limits the freedom of movement of the child.
Prevention (Mendels et al., 2022)	By checking if the medical procedure is necessary and needs to be performed now.
Post procedural care (Mendels et al., 2022)	By consciously reflecting on what went well.

CONDITIONS

Even though parents know their child and its needs very well (Brown et al., 2018) and they want to be actively involved with the support of their child (McCarthy et al., 2014; Wright et al., 2007), this does not mean that they know how to support their child during a medical procedure (Blount et al., 1989; Brown et al., 2018). Parents need to have the knowledge and skills to be able to execute the above-mentioned strategies. If this is not the case, parents might encounter barriers when trying to support their child. When looking at specific strategies, parents can encounter specific barriers. For example, preparation for a medical procedure can very well be done by parents (Vleugel-Ruissen & Keijzer, 2019). But barriers that parents encounter when preparing their child for a hospital visit include (1) not being able to find (the right) information, (2) not knowing what information to share, (3) not knowing how to share the information and (4) a lack of emotional guidance during the preparation process (Müller, 2023). Thus, for parents to be able to use these strategies, it might be a good idea to provide parents with (some form of) training (Brown et al., 2018; McCarthy et al., 2014).

When parents take on the responsibility of supporting their child it also requires considering and addressing the parent's own psychological state (Brown et al., 2018). It is important that they are relaxed and confident when supporting their child (Vleugel-Ruissen & Keijzer, 2019). When this is not the case, they will radiate their own stress onto the child, as described in Chapter 2.2. It might therefore be useful, when asking the parent to coach their child, to provide them with strategies to manage their own psychological distress as well (Brown et al., 2018).

2.4 | PARENTAL STRESS AND ANXIETY

RQ - Why do parents struggle with avoiding or reducing fear and anxiety in their child?

Literature richly demonstrates that parental stress related to an outpatient visit cannot be isolated from stress that is associated with other parts of the hospital trajectory (Brown et al., 2018; Caumo et al., 2000; Franck & O'Brien, 2019; Groeneveld et al., 2020; Kain et al., 1999). Their child's injury or illness diagnosis and the resulting treatment may cause a range of parental psychological distress reactions including anxiety, depression, posttraumatic stress and guilt. Not only during medical treatment, but also in the period before, parents may experience this anxiety (Fernandes et al., 2014). These distress responses particularly occur in the case of more severe conditions of the child (Brown et al., 2018).

Some causes for stress and anxiety in parents were mentioned in literature. Observing the distress behavior of their child during medical treatment, for example, has negative psychological effects on the parent (Brown et al., 2018). On the other hand, denying parents to be present can also lead to elevation of parental anxiety (Wright et al., 2007). Not knowing what to do to help the child is a situation that is likely to increase the distress and anxiety of the parent (Blount et al., 1989). Further knowledge regarding the underlying factors of the parental stress-response is quite limited (Vleugel-Ruissen & Keijzer, 2019).

The stress and anxiety that parents experience has been linked to their expression of distress behavior (Brown et al., 2018). A range of psychological distress symptoms may impact parental sensitivity during medical treatment, influencing parent's perceptions of their child's distress (Brown et al., 2018; Rodriguez et al., 2012). Other distress-related behaviors that parents can show can be: (unconscious) projection of own psychological distress, provision of reassurance, empathic comments and excessive explanations and apologies to their child (Poot et al., 2023) (Figure 3).

Through distress-related behaviors, parental stress may be communicated and transmitted to the child, increasing children's distress levels (Blount et al., 1989; Brown et al., 2018; Fernandes et al., 2014; Poot et al., 2023; Rodriguez et al., 2012). Studies have shown that parental stress and anxiety have a negative influence on the experience of their child both during and before procedures (Brown et al., 2018).



Figure 3, The relation between distress in parent and child

2.5 | CONCLUSION

Parents play an important role in managing pediatric stress, both during the procedure in the hospital as well as before and after the procedure at home. There are several strategies for parents to support their child but to be able to execute these strategies parents need training and support with their own experienced stress.

These conclusions were based purely on insights from literature. Literature also describes that research into the current behavior of parents in the context of outpatient visits and its impact on pediatric stress, is still limited (Sobol-Kwapińska et al., 2020; Vleugel-Ruissen & Keijzer, 2019). Therefore, in the next chapter, we take a look at the parental role in pediatric outpatient trajectories in practice.

CHAPTER 3

CONTEXTUAL RESEARCH ON PARENTAL SUPPORT

In this chapter the conducted research in context into the role of the parent in the outpatient trajectory of their child is presented. First, we further **discover** what the parental role in pediatric care looks like in practice. Second, we **define** the challenges of the parents in the context of the pediatric outpatient visit.

3.1 | METHODS

RESEARCH METHODS

To research the role of the parent, several research methods were combined.

Observations

Pediatric patients and their parents were observed (Van Boeijen et al., 2013i) in the waiting room of the hospital, both by the researcher as well as other team members of the Hospital Hero Foundation (Figure 4). To ensure consistency in the collection and documentation of the data gathered by a variety of observers, an observation form (Appendix C) was created. The main goal of executing these observations for this project was to observe the interactions between parents and their child in the context of the outpatient visit and while using the Hospital Hero app. A secondary goal was to recruit parents to participate in future research activities of this project.



Figure 4, Observations

Interviews: Research in Context

Semi-structured interviews (Van Boeijen et al., 2013d) of 30 minutes were conducted 1 on 1 (either physically or online) with 13 healthcare professionals from different ages, functions and hospitals (Appendix B). They were mainly recruited through the contacts of the Hospital Hero Foundation. They were, among others, asked about their perspective on the current and ideal role of the parent in the outpatient trajectory of their child. Also support for the parents and the role of healthcare professionals in it were discussed (Appendix D).

To get insight into the perspective of the user, 1 on 1 (either physically or online) semi-structured interviews (Van Boeijen et al., 2013d) of 45 minutes were conducted with 7 parents of pediatric patients. They were recruited by speaking to parents during the observations and through connections from the Hospital Hero Foundation. During the interviews, among others (Appendix E) the current role and ideal role from their perspective were discussed for the contexts: at home, in the waiting room and in the treatment room. First ideas (Appendix F) were presented to the parents, in order to check the insights and assumptions (gathered in the observations and interviews with healthcare professionals) they were based upon.

Prior to participation, participants were presented with an informed consent form containing information about, among others, transcription and pseudonymization of recordings, handling of identifiable information and the voluntary nature of the participation. By asking for the participants' informed consent, this research activity was approved by the Human Research Ethics Committee of the TU Delft.



Figure 5, Analysis on the Wall

ANALYSIS METHODS

To analyze the qualitative data gathered in the research activities described above, an "analysis on the wall" (Sanders & Stappers, 2013) was executed (Figure 5). Quote cards were created by selecting interesting quotes and observations, with the established research questions to be answered kept in mind. Three rounds of clustering quote cards were executed, basing the initial themes for each clustering round on previously gathered insights. The first round of clustering resulted in first solution directions, the second round resulted in two design directions (helping the parent to support their child versus supporting the parent) and the third round resulted in parent's challenges described later in this chapter.

CHAPTER 3.2

THE ROLE OF THE PARENT IN SUPPORTING THE CHILD

In this first part of Chapter 3, we **discover** more about parental support in practice. This subchapter is about the outcomes of the research activities based on the original Design Goal. The views of healthcare professionals and parents on the role of the parent are discussed, followed by a description of both the current and ideal role of the parent in the pediatric outpatient trajectory of their child. We finish this subchapter by looking at how the outpatient trajectory actually has an impact on the parent as well.

3.2.1 | PERCEPTIONS ON THE ROLE OF THE PARENT

RQ – How do parents and healthcare professionals perceive the role of the parent?

Most parents expressed that their main goal in the context of the outpatient visit is to take care of the wellbeing of the child. Both the observations and the interviews showed that, when visiting the outpatient clinic, parents are generally fully focused on their child. A parent explained: “When we pass through those doors [hospital entrance], it's really all about her [the daughter].” Observations in the waiting room supported this finding. A parent explained that, in her opinion, her role is to be on team-child and to guard the safety of her child. She explained that this consists of, for example, setting boundaries when the child is not able to and checking the necessity of treatments, but also to, in some cases, follow through when the child does not want to (since that’s eventually also in the interest of their child).

Multiple healthcare professionals acknowledged that parents, in general, have the best intentions for supporting their child. They indicated that both parents and healthcare workers aim to act in the best interest of the child. Multiple parents showed awareness of this shared goal and expressed their intentions to work together with the healthcare professionals in order to support their child. A nurse even said that: “Actually, you might think of the parent and the healthcare professional as two care providers.” Many healthcare professionals described the parent as their partner in supporting the child (Figure 6).

Most healthcare professionals assessed the role of the parent in the outpatient visit of their child as a very important one. A healthcare professional explained this by the fact that parents are the ones that go through the entire process of the outpatient clinic together with their child. According to a nurse, the attendance of the parent has a calming effect on the child. Besides being physically there, the bond of trust between a parent and their child is very strong, according to another healthcare professional. A parent confirmed this by saying: “A child has a lot of faith in its parents. If the parents say 'you need this', then he thinks 'that must be true, I must need it'.” A healthcare professional explained that parents therefore have the power to let their child trust the healthcare professionals and what they do.

Even though healthcare professionals and parents might thus be seen as partners in the support process of the child, there is an important difference. Healthcare professionals working at the outpatient clinic generally indicated that they are taught about how to support a child in their education. Parents did not receive this education.



Figure 6, Parents and healthcare professionals as partners in the support of the child

3.2.2 | THE CURRENT ROLE OF THE PARENT

RQ – What does the role of the parent look like in practice?

CONTEXT OF PARENTAL SUPPORT

As observed in the waiting room of the pediatric outpatient clinic, usually one of both parents accompanies the child to the hospital (Figure 7). Several parents explained that which of the parents joins the outpatient visit, as well as whether the child's siblings accompany them, is based on practical and convenience reasons. A parent explained that the predicted stress level of the appointment determines whether a second adult is invited to join the outpatient visit, as observed was the case in some situations. According to several healthcare professionals, the pediatric patient and its parent(s) can be seen as "a unity where the child occupies center stage".

How often parent-child couples visit the outpatient clinic varies greatly. The duration of the outpatient trajectory differs a lot per pediatric patient. Parents indicated that this could last up to the rest of the lives of their child. The frequency of visits, as mentioned by parents, can vary from weekly visits to one visit per year (or even less). Several parents indicated that the frequency of visits was highest at the beginning of the outpatient trajectory, when their child just became ill, and decreased over time. A parent also explained that when treatment is needed the frequency of the visits increases again, only to slowly decrease again afterwards. Several parents mentioned that they are not able to keep track of the total number of times they visited the outpatient clinic anymore: "We've been there so many times, I can't even name the number."



Figure 7, Mother with daughters in waiting room

ASPECTS OF PARENTAL SUPPORT

In the interviews with parents and healthcare professionals several aspects of parental support were indicated (Figure 8). Parental support consists of parents engaging in these activities to some extent.

Preparation Beforehand: Informing & Discussing needs

Several healthcare professionals indicated that parents can prepare their child for the outpatient visit at home. Three parents explained that they prepare their child by providing very detailed info about what will happen and discussing the wishes and needs of their child. Other parents, as explained by a healthcare professional, keep the preparation as simple as telling them where they are going when leaving the house. Another healthcare professional stated that "All forms of preparation are helpful in a positive way."

Support During: Reassuring & Distracting

Multiple parents mentioned that they see it as their job to keep their child calm, for the healthcare professional to be able to do their job. One parent explained that she tries to calm down her daughter by explaining the necessity of what is happening and reassuring her it is okay. As observed in the waiting room, parents also support their child by providing and participating in distraction for their child.

Care Afterwards: Reflecting & Rewarding

Multiple parents mentioned that they keep taking care of their child after the hospital visit. A parent explained that, after a procedure, she takes her daughter to have a drink in the restaurant where they discuss what happened. Several parents also indicated that they bribe their child with the promise of a reward, e.g. Kinder chocolates, after the outpatient visit.

General: Giving control

Several healthcare professionals explained that it is important to give children control over certain, framed, aspects of outpatient visits. A mother explained that she lets her daughter decide which toys they bring to the outpatient clinic, since she finds it important for her daughter to keep thinking about what she wants and finds important. Observations in the waiting room showed many situations where parents give the child control over the distraction tool provided.

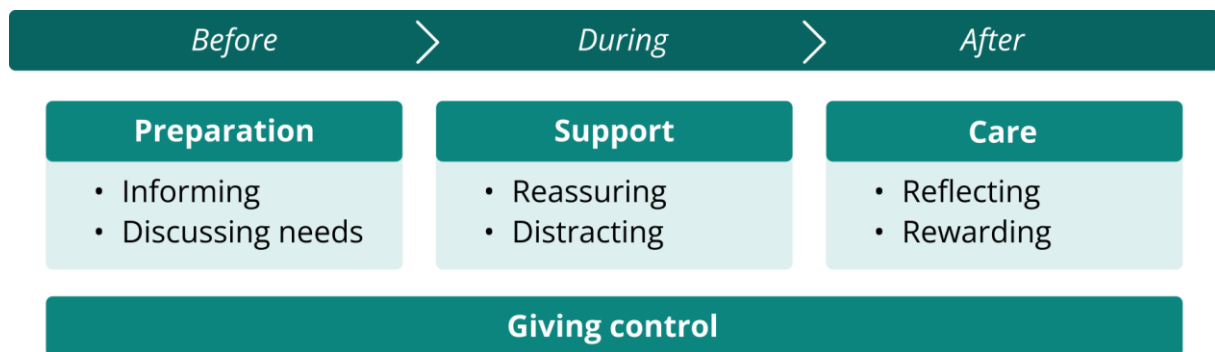


Figure 8, Overview of aspects of parental support

FACTORS INFLUENCING PARENTAL SUPPORT

In what amounts parents support their child in the above-mentioned aspects varies because every child is different and has different needs, as explained by multiple healthcare professionals. Several situation sketches were created to build a picture of what parental support may look like in practice (Appendix G). Healthcare professionals indicated several factors that, in their experience, have an influence on how parents support their child (Figure 9).

Personal differences

Besides the fact that every child is different, every parent is also different. A healthcare professional (MPZ) explained that every parent deals with the outpatient visit of their child differently: “Where one parent completely withdraws and lets me do everything, another parent is so actively involved that I hardly have to do anything.” Several healthcare professionals confirmed this by mentioning personal character traits, education level, own fears and cultural differences to explain differences between parents.

Prior experiences and habituation

How often parents (and their child) have visited the outpatient clinic influences the parental support provided by the parent. Multiple parents indicated that the beginning of the hospital trajectory of their child, when everything is still new, is quite overwhelming. They argued that over time it gets easier: “Because we have gotten used to it.” Habituation, over time, may familiarize parents with the context and make it less scary. Controversially, another parent mentioned that “even after all this time” he still experiences stress when going to the outpatient clinic with his child.

Not only the number of experiences acquired within the outpatient clinic does play a role, but also parent’s own previously gained experiences in the hospital and/or with a certain disease influence the amount of support parents provide their child with. A parent illustrated this by saying: “Since I am a regular in the hospital myself, it is not something scary or new anymore. I know what to expect, so I can adjust to it well.”

Contextual aspects

Other more contextual aspects mentioned by a healthcare professional (expert) are circumstances that influence the solid foundation of the family, such as: employment status, income, housing, relationship status. Also, how close to the hospital the family lives and if there are siblings involved are mentioned as influencing aspects.

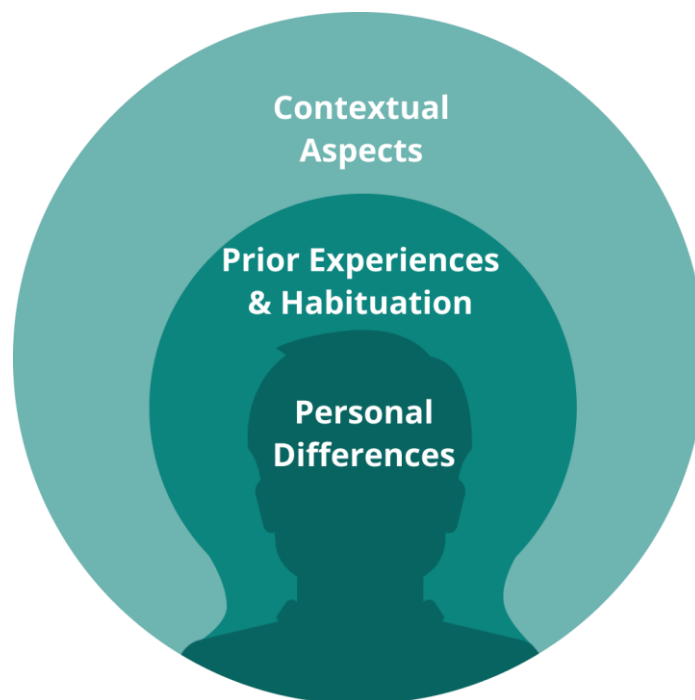


Figure 9, Factors influencing parental support

3.2.3 | THE IDEAL ROLE OF THE PARENT

RQ – What would the role of the parent ideally look like?

Since parents play an important part in the outpatient experience of their child, we now look at how they would ideally fulfill this role. According to multiple healthcare professionals, in the ideal situation, parents would be honest, be calm and radiate trust when supporting their child before, during and after the outpatient visit (Figure 10).

Honest

Since (in general) parents are the safety net of their child and children trust their parents fully, it is important that parents do not violate this trust. A medical pedagogical caregiver illustrated this by giving an example: “Before surgery, some parents tell their child they do not have to go to sleep [undergo anesthesia]. When this must happen after all, the child starts to panic, because the parent told them differently.” Also, as indicated by both healthcare professionals and parents, the parent fulfills a translator role between healthcare professional and child, especially at a younger age. A healthcare professional (MPZ) explained that it is important that parents give honest and complete information about their child. Only then the medical staff is able to provide the best possible care for the child.

Calm

Parents are, as observed, always there with their child in the context of the outpatient visit as well as fully focused on their child. But a healthcare professional indicated that parents need to be available not only physically but also emotionally to their child. She explained that children need their parents to listen to them and to be their sounding board; parents need to be calm to be able to do this.

Trust

A healthcare professional (MPZ) described that healthcare professionals have to establish a relationship of trust with the child in a very short period of time. Because of the bond of trust parent and child have, a nurse indicated it to be helpful when parents radiate trust in the medical staff and procedure. She explained: “This gives the child confidence that what we are doing is okay.” A parent confirmed this by saying: “If you show your own fear to your child, he will also get scared. And when he is scared, the procedure will only become more difficult.”

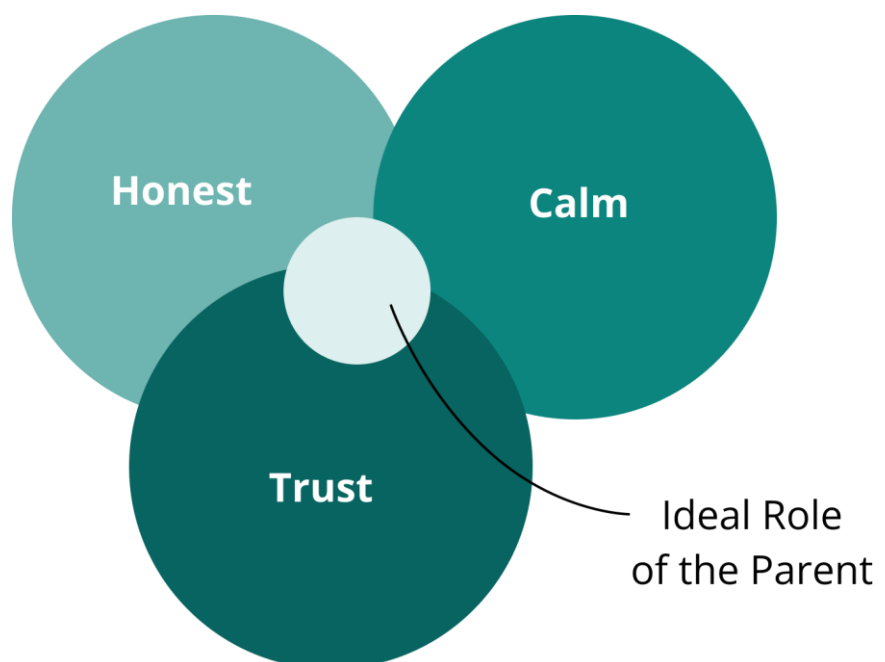


Figure 10, Aspects of the ideal role of the parent

3.2.4 | THE IMPACT ON THE PARENT

RQ – What impact does the outpatient visit of their child have on the parent?

Several parents indicated that seeing their child being distressed has a huge impact on them. It's something they do not want to experience, but at the same time they see it as their responsibility to support their child. Both healthcare professionals and parents, as well as observations, indicated that parents are insecure about how to properly support their child, which results in parental stress and anxiety. A healthcare professional explained that parents do not want 100% but 200% good care for their child and that this might put a lot of pressure on the parents.

Besides the pressure of wanting to properly support their child and all parental support aspects involved, the interviews showed that the outpatient trajectory of their child comes with two other extra tasks for the parent: logistics and communication. As explained by a healthcare professional, parents are the ones responsible for the child to be at the correct place at the correct time. Thinking about timing, transportation and cancelling school, work or sports/hobbies are extra tasks for the parent. As explained by both healthcare professionals and parents, parents are also responsible for all communication to the social network of the family and other involved parties (e.g. school, work, sports club) about the current situation, consequences for the daily life of the child and follow-up steps to be taken. Multiple parents indicate that this communication is often executed digitally in order to reduce the size of this task. A healthcare professional indicated that parents sometimes even outsource this task to a close friend or family member.

As mentioned by both healthcare professionals and parents, besides pediatric stress and anxiety, parental stress and anxiety occurs in the context of a pediatric outpatient visit as well. A healthcare professional explained that the stress of a parent makes it harder for a parent to remain honest, calm and radiate trust in order to properly support their child. Accordingly, both a nurse and a medical pedagogical worker described that parents are often in need of support themselves.

Parents that have been in outpatient trajectories for a long period of time explained that they were not aware of their own stress at the beginning of the trajectory. A parent explained: "We knew we were worried, but we were not aware of how that worry was weighing on us all day and the effect it was having on our daily lives." A medical pedagogical worker indicated that this unawareness of their own mental wellbeing often causes requests for support of parents to reach healthcare professionals quite late. She explained that the earlier parents' distress can be addressed the less help they need.

3.2.5 | CONCLUSION

The main goal of both the parent and the healthcare professional is the wellbeing of the child. Both healthcare professionals and parents recognize the importance of the role of the parent and they describe that parents can hugely influence the course and outcome of the medical procedure of their child because of the bond of trust they have with their child. Parental support takes place before, during and after the outpatient visit of their child and consists of respectively preparing, supporting and caring for their child. To what extent these aspects are executed depends mainly on personal differences, prior experiences and habituation of the parent. To provide their child with ideal support and positively influence the medical procedures in the outpatient visit, parents need to be honest, be calm and radiate trust towards the child. But the increase in (perceived) responsibilities of the parent causes the parent to be stressed in the context of the outpatient visit, keeping them from executing the ideal parental support. Parents are in need of support in order to properly support their child, but they are often not aware of this until afterwards, causing their request for help to be too late.

CHAPTER 3.3

THE CHALLENGES OF THE PARENT

Both in literature (Chapter 2) and in context (Chapter 3.2) we discovered the stress and anxiety that is present within parents. In this second subchapter of Chapter 3, we **define** possible challenges parents experience in the context of the outpatient visit of their child causing this previously found stress and anxiety. Also, we look at existing support for parents with these challenges.

3.3.1 | THE CHALLENGES OF THE PARENT

RQ – What challenges do parents encounter when their child has to go to the hospital?

When looking for challenges that parents encounter, six themes were identified from the third round of clustering in the analysis. Each challenge is described below.



Figure 11, The challenges of the parent

Challenge 1 – Engaging with their social environment

Some parents stated that they feel lonely and have the feeling that they are the only ones going through this process. “I needed to hear that other people experienced this too.” They also mentioned that sometimes they have the feeling that their social environment does not understand them. They explained this by the fact that for others it is not always possible to relate to the situation you are in (“You can try to explain..., but they will not understand what you are going through.”) and by the fact that their social environment is not always aware of (the severity) of their situation (“I noticed that my friends did not realize how bad it was.”). Besides that, parents can struggle with feeling unnoticed since, in the context of the pediatric outpatient visit, all attention goes towards the child. “Nobody ever asks me how I’m doing. People usually only ask how my son is doing.”

Challenge 2 – Receiving tailored information

The uncertainty about the child’s health is something that worries parents. “The moment you know something is going on, but you do not know what. That is quite a tense period.” Also, some parents indicated that they received insufficient information about what was going to happen, prior to the hospital visit. “That is really nice, when you at least have a slight idea of what is going to happen.” The timing of the information provisioned from the healthcare professionals towards the parents is not always aligned with what the parent wants. “I always like to see the whole picture, but he [the doctor] only took it step by step.”

Challenge 3 – Taking care of oneself

Parents only pay attention to the wellbeing of their child. “When we pass through those (hospital) doors it is really all about her.” This causes parents to forget about their own well-being or to think it is not necessary to care for themselves. “You are in this process, and you just have to get through it.” Besides this, not all parents are aware of their own emotions and the effects that they have on their child. “It is only now [in hindsight] that we realize how nice it currently is at home. We knew we were worrying a lot. But apparently, those worries weighed on us all day and had a much bigger impact on how we behaved than we were aware of.” This can, for example, be caused by not finding the time to take a moment to focus on themselves. “Right from the start you do not have much time to reflect on it [your own feelings]. ... Your whole life is turned upside down.” Some parents even consciously suppress their own feelings and emotions. Healthcare professionals explained that parents might find it challenging to be vulnerable and a parent indicated that they do not want to exaggerate. “It can always be worse.”

Challenge 4 – Seeing their child in distress

Knowing that their child is in pain is something that affects parents. “I just hope that she does not suffer too much.” For some parents it becomes easier to see their child in distress when they know that there is not a lot of pain involved. “At the moment, it is a bit less stressful. ... I know that, for her, the thoughts are worse than the actual pain.” Also, the waiting before an appointment and thereby the anticipation for the possible pain is a challenge to some parents. “It is just like at the dentist; the longer you have to wait the more the tension builds.”

Challenge 5 – Feeling capable of supporting their child

Some parents experience a lack of (accessible) instruction. “I have really thought about that a lot, about what you can say to your child.” Healthcare professionals also indicated that this is a problem they know. “The internet is full of valuable sources of information, but you need to know how to search for it, where to find it and how to read it.” More specifically, parents struggle with the fact that they might unintentionally not support their child in the right way. “Sometimes during an examination, I think ‘shit, I forgot to mention this [during the preparation]!’” Healthcare professionals explained that from their understanding parents need more confirmation about how they support their child. “They often actually know what to do, they just need confirmation.” But for healthcare professionals it is also important to make a connection with the child. “Well, I actually always deliberately focus on the child first, not on the parents.”

Challenge 6 – Working together with healthcare professionals

Healthcare professionals also indicated that the bond of trust between parent and healthcare professional sometimes needs to be established still. “The trust from parents towards healthcare professionals sometimes needs some time to grow, because of previous negative experiences.” Also, parents do not always feel taken seriously by the healthcare professionals. “I was a panicking mom and that was not good.” Parents are responsible for their child, but at the same time, they are dependent on the healthcare professionals as the expert on their child’s illness or disease. When parents get contradictory information, are frequently referred to other healthcare professionals or have to wait a long time for test results, they can feel quite desperate. “You’re dealing with the general practitioner, the consultation office and the cardiologist... You’re being sent from pillar to post.”

3.3.2 | SUPPORT FOR THE PARENT'S CHALLENGES

RQ – What support exists for parents for dealing with their own challenges?

Now that the challenges that parents encounter have been identified, it is interesting to look at what mechanisms are in place to support parents with each of these challenges.

Challenge 1 – Engaging with their social environment

Both healthcare professionals and parents mentioned that contact with peers is supportive for parents of pediatric patients. A parent argued this by saying: "I needed to hear others had this too." Several parents mentioned using Facebook groups to get in touch with peers. One parent mentioned a day for parents with children having similar diseases, but explained that "Sadly, this was a one-time thing."

Challenge 2 – Receiving tailored information

A healthcare professional (MPZ) explained that she often urges parents to ask questions and indicate their needs. By doing so, she hopes that parents feel empowered to not just roll with the process but to take matters into their own hands.

Challenge 3 – Taking care of oneself

Parents indicated that they feel supported by healthcare professionals. Accordingly, a medical pedagogical worker explained that she was trained and educated to talk to parents and empower them by, for example, normalizing certain behaviors and feelings. Multiple parents indicated that this helped them to acknowledge their own feelings. A parent indicated that she feels extra supported when she encounters familiar healthcare professionals in the hospital.

Challenge 4 – Seeing their child in distress

Parents draw support from the second parent when their child goes through a very difficult period. A parent explained that, when seeing her child in so much pain this was so overwhelming that she called her husband to come relieve her. "I needed to get away, to take a break. But she [the daughter] could not leave and I was not going to leave her there by herself."

Observations showed that the distraction tools available in the waiting room for children sometimes also functioned as distraction for the parent. This was mainly the case when the child tried to involve the parent. A parent confirmed this by saying: "When we play a game together [in the waiting room], it distracts me just as much as it distracts her."

Challenge 5 – Feeling capable of supporting their child

Parents also draw support from the second parent or from a grandparent, an aunt/uncle or another adult when they predict the outpatient visit to be a stressful moment. Observations confirmed a second adult sometimes attending the outpatient visit. A parent explained: "For more stressful moments, my wife often joins in [the outpatient visit] as well." This way, the parents can support their child together.

Parents also indicated that they feel supported by healthcare professionals. A parent explained that a medical pedagogical worker taught her some things about how to support her child.

Challenge 6 – Working together with healthcare professionals

A nurse mentioned that the positive use of language that healthcare professionals use to not scare children is helpful for parents as well. This can help to decrease stress levels of the parent in general and helps to create a bond of trust between parent and healthcare professional.

As already explained by the challenge of taking care of oneself, parents are not always aware of, or open to, the fact that they need support themselves. A medical pedagogical worker mentioned that the parents' need for help often reaches the healthcare professionals too late because of this. Observations also showed that, in the context of the outpatient visit, parents assume that all support is aimed at their child and therefore not at them. Parents may therefore experience less support than is available to them.

3.3.3 | CONCLUSION

In practice, we have seen that the role of the parent is important in the outpatient experience of their child. How parents execute this parental support in practice depends on personal differences, and prior experiences and habituation. But most importantly, parents experience stress themselves, making it more difficult for them to execute ideal parental support. Support mechanisms for parents themselves are limited and often not received by the parent.

Challenges of the parent

1. Engaging with their social environment.
2. Receiving tailored information
3. Taking care of oneself
4. Seeing their child in distress
5. Feeling capable of supporting their child
6. Working together with healthcare professionals

In order to support parents with their own experiences stress, the identified challenges they encounter need to be addressed. That is why, in the next chapter, a shift in focus will be documented.

CHAPTER 4

DESIGN OBJECTIVES

This chapter is the endpoint of the first diamond of the Double Diamond approach. While in reality this division is not that strict, this chapter represents the conclusion of the research phase of this project and the starting point of the design phase of this project.

4.1 | DESIGN GOAL

As identified in Chapter 1, parents play an increasingly important role in the support of the child when going to the hospital. That's why the initial Design Goal was formulated as follows: To design a product and/or service that helps parents of pediatric patients (aged 4-10 years old) to behave in such a way that it supports their child during and before outpatient visits. Chapter 2 showed us several strategies for parents to support their child, but also explained that parents need training and support with their own experiences of stress to be able to execute these strategies. The research in context of Chapter 3 confirmed and complemented these findings and led to the insight that it is important to fully focus on the experiences of the parent first, in order to achieve proper parental support for the child. That's why a new and revised Design Goal was required.

We shift the focus to managing parental stress (and by doing that, diminishing pediatric stress and anxiety). Since we indicated these challenges that parents experience and which may cause them stress, we focus on supporting parents with their challenges. To remain connected to the goal of Hospital Hero, the focus remains on parents of pediatric patients (aged 4 to 10 years old). For the same reason, the focus remains on the context of outpatient visits.

This resulted in the following revised Design Goal:

DESIGN GOAL

To design a product and/or service that supports parents of pediatric patients (aged 4-10 years old) with their challenges in the context of outpatient visits, in order to manage parental stress (and thereby diminish pediatric stress and anxiety).

4.2 | VISION

ACHIEVABILITY OF THE CHALLENGES

Not all identified challenges that parents encounter are within the scope of this project or within my reach as a designer. That's why we take a look at the achievability of the challenges and make a selection of achievable challenges to address. The achievability is assessed by checking whether a product or service can provide direct support with the challenge and by looking at the extent to which a solution in this direction places the parent at a central position. The goal is to design something to help the parent.

By using these criteria, the challenges of engaging with their social environment, taking care of oneself and feeling capable of supporting their child were selected. Those challenges are all very personal to the parents and their close surroundings. They focus on the parent's feelings and emotions, without being deeply integrated within the hospital system or needing a design solution aimed at another stakeholder than the parent itself. This selection of challenges merely represents a focus during ideation and conceptualization. The other challenges will still be kept in mind.

VISION ON THE CHALLENGES

Besides assessing the achievability of the challenges, a vision on the challenges was also developed. As explained in the revised Design Goal in Chapter 4.1, the goal of this project (in short) is to help parents (with their challenges) to manage parental stress.

During the interviews parents mentioned that they are often not aware of their own stress levels at the start of the hospital journey of their child. Parent: "At that moment, you are only focused on your child." Only when things settle down and there is more time to think, parents start to realize what actually happened. Parent: "Now that things are going better, we sometimes look back and think: 'Wow, quite a lot has actually happened.'" This reflection is also the moment parents realize that the whole experience did have an impact on them. Several parents indicated that it would have helped them to be aware of (the influence of) their emotions sooner. Parent: "I should have asked for help earlier. Maybe the question 'How are you doing?' or 'Do you want to talk about it?' could have helped as well. A bit of awareness, that it's okay to think about those things."

Based on these insights, my vision is to focus on designing for the challenge of parents of taking care of oneself (Figure 11). To help parents manage their stress, the first step would be to create awareness of parents' own wellbeing and the importance of taking care of it. As long as parents are not aware of the fact that they experience stress or do not see the importance of dealing with this stress, supporting them with the other challenges might be missing the point.



Figure 11, The focus on the challenges of the parent in this project

4.3 | REQUIREMENTS AND WISHES

To be able to substantially compare and select the most promising ideas and concepts later in the project, a list of requirements and wishes (Roozenburg & Eekels, 1998; Van Boeijen et al., 2013f) was created. These requirements and wishes were extracted from interviews with parents and healthcare professionals conducted within this project as well as from conversations with team members of the Hospital Hero Foundation. Requirement 1 and Wish 1, for example, were formed by discussing how and when the biggest impact can be made, to make sure the design solution is useful to and will be used by the target group. Requirements 2 and 3, for example, were based on comments from parents and healthcare professionals about how the hospital visit of their child overwhelms the parent and, as a result, how little mental space that they have left. Some requirements and wishes are based on the vision of the designer. For example, Wish 8, which is based on the designer's vision to always take the environmental impact of a design into account.

REQUIREMENTS

Will the concept be used by the (right) target group?

1. The intervention is relevant for parents whose child is visiting the outpatient clinic.
2. The parent is intrinsically motivated to use the intervention or the intervention has an external trigger to motivate usage by the parent.
3. The threshold for parents to use the intervention is low.

Does the concept achieve the intended goal?

4. The intervention supports the parent with (dealing with) the challenge taking care of oneself.
5. The intervention (eventually) manages parental stress.
6. The intervention is integrated in or used complementary to the existing Hospital Hero app.

Does the concept hinder other involved parties?

7. The intervention keeps the workload of healthcare professionals the same as it is now.
8. The intervention preserves the sense of control for pediatric patients created by the Hospital Hero app.

Does the concept align with the company's goals?

9. The intervention can relatively easily be scaled up to be implemented in other hospital's / used by parents regardless of which (children's) hospital in the Netherlands they are visiting.
10. The parents can use the intervention at no cost.

Things I can design for in every concept.

11. The visual style of the intervention is appealing to the parent.
12. The main language of the intervention is Dutch.
13. The intervention uses B1 language which makes it understandable for the vast majority of adults.
14. The visual style of the intervention is in line with the existing style of the Hospital Hero Foundation.
15. The intervention uses "focustaal" when applicable.
16. The intervention presents information in an easily accessible format.

WISHES

How useful is the concept (reach & impact)?

1. The intervention is useful to parents (as) early in the outpatient trajectory (as possible).
2. Besides the “main challenge” the intervention also provides a solution for one or more of these challenges: engaging with their social environment, receiving tailored information, seeing their child in distress, feeling capable of supporting their child and working together with healthcare professionals.

What are the effects of the concept on other parties involved?

3. The intervention supports the goal of Hospital Hero to decrease fear and anxiety in pediatric patients (aged 4-10 years old) during, before and after their outpatient visits.
4. The intervention decreases the workload of healthcare professionals.

What are the feasibility and future outlook of the concept?

5. The provider of the intervention does not collect and store personal data.
6. The intervention fits well within the mission of the Hospital Hero Foundation to use safety, trust and fun to empower the user.
7. The intervention is scalable and offers the opportunity for further development, either within the intervention (e.g. possibilities for additional supporting modules) and/or within the market (e.g. possibilities to expand towards support in different aspects of the hospital visit).
8. The intervention does not have a major negative environmental impact.

Things I can design for in every concept.

9. The second language of the intervention is English.

4.4 | CONCLUSION

The Design Goal is revised to be: To design a product and/or service that supports parents of pediatric patients (aged 4-10 years old) with their challenges in the context of outpatient visits, in order to manage parental stress (and thereby diminish pediatric stress and anxiety). In order to find a focus during ideation and conceptualization, the challenges of engaging with their social environment, taking care of oneself and feeling capable of supporting their child are selected. In the vision of the designer, the main focus will be on the challenge of taking care of oneself. The list of requirements and wishes explains what the created intervention should look like.

CHAPTER 5

IDEATION AND CONCEPT GENERATION

In this chapter, the first part of the design phase is described. It explains, with the revised Design Goal as starting point, how ideation was used to **develop** a lot of different ideas. After that, the forming and evaluation of concepts was used to converge and eventually **deliver** a final concept choice at the end of this chapter.

5.1 | IDEATION

5.1.1 | METHODS

FIRST IDEATION

In the first part of the project, during the ideation phase, some initial ideas already came to mind while talking to healthcare professionals and observing parents and their children in the outpatient clinic. Those New Views and Initial Ideas (Sanders & Stappers, 2013) were documented and used as inspiration for the interviews with parents, as described in Chapter 3.1.

BRAINSTORM HOSPITAL HERO

A brainstorm (Van Boeijen et al., 2013a) with five members of the Hospital Hero team was organized to kick off the ideation phase (Figure 12). The goal for this brainstorm was formulated as follows: How can Hospital Hero support parents, considering the identified challenges, with the aim of reducing their stress? It was emphasized that there are no functional limitations or restrictions related to the current position of the Hospital Hero Foundation to the ideas, so that the participants could in this case view "Hospital Hero" as a person in order to fully focus on the needs of the parents and think out of the box.

After an introduction of among others some brainstorming rules (IDEO, 2019) and an explanation of the identified challenges, an icebreaker activity was initiated. The icebreaker was meant to stimulate the act of drawing and to start thinking about what certain emotions do to a parent. After the icebreaker the brainstorm started. The participants were asked to start off with an individual brainstorm of 10 minutes, writing and drawing their ideas on post-its. Next, everyone presented their ideas to each other while placing the post-it on a sheet of paper. Participants were asked to complement each other's ideas with the individually created post-its and to build on each other's ideas by adding new post-its. At the end of the session every participant could cast 5 votes on the ideas that they liked and 1 special vote on the idea that was their absolute favorite.



Figure 12, Brainstorm with Hospital Hero



Figure 13, Clustered ideas

INDIVIDUAL BRAINSTORM

During an individual brainstorm session, all previously gathered ideas were brought together by the designer. Those ideas came from the first ideation during the analysis phase, the brainstorm with Hospital Hero and New Views and Little Ideas which were documented during different phases of the analysis on the wall (see Chapter 3.1). This overview was used as inspiration to add even more ideas to the mix. Eventually all ideas were clustered based on the identified challenges that parents encounter in the context of the outpatient visit of their child (Figure 13).

5.1.2 | RESULTS

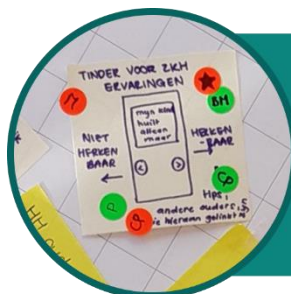
BRAINSTORM HOSPITAL HERO

Summary of the ideas

Learning through experiences was a theme that occurred in several ideas: from having an 'Virtual Reality E-learning Experience Game' and a 'Parent Escape Room' (where useful support skills can be practiced) to the 'Hospital Hero Hotline' and 'Tinder for Hospital Experiences' (where experiences can be shared). Another theme was the focus on and communication of own emotions. For this theme ideas like the 'Krachtpaspoort for Parents', a 'Traffic-Light Bracelet' or the 'Kanjerketting for Parents' (to communicate moods), a 'Parental Mood Meter' and the 'Parental Starter Kit' (including the 'Parent Diary') came up. Furthermore, some ideas to receive feedback on current provided support (like the 'Compliment Button' for children to communicate what they like in the support their parent provides), some ideas for teaching specific support skills to parents (like 'Duolingo for Comfort Talk') and some distraction ideas (like 'Searching for Animals for Parents') were thought of. Lastly, ideas were suggested with the aim of making parents feel noticed: a reminder to think about own emotions at the hospital coffee corner, receiving a letter from a more experienced parent and affirmations stickers spread through the entire hospital.

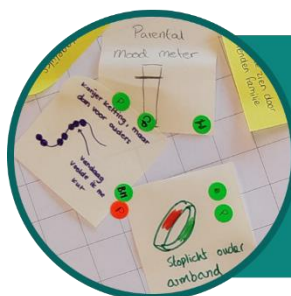
Most interesting ideas

The two ideas(-combinations) ranked as the most interesting ideas by the team members of the Hospital Hero Foundation were the ideas of 'Tinder for Hospital Experiences' (Figure X) and the 'Parental Mood Meter', 'Traffic-Light Bracelet' and 'Kanjerketting for Parents' together combined to the idea of a 'Parental Mood Meter and Communicator' (Figure X). "Tinder for Hospital Experiences" was described to be about what is recognizable, what can you do at home and how do you feel. The 'Parental Mood Meter and Communicator' was described as: you know how you feel and now you want to talk about it with someone. It was mentioned that you might first need 'Tinder for Hospital Experiences' (to learn about recognizing your own feelings) to be able to properly use the 'Parental Mood Meter and Communicator' (to identify and communicate those feelings), but that it could also be interesting to find a combination of the two.



Tinder for Hospital Experiences

- The screen shows situations you can encounter as a parent (e.g. my kid won't stop crying) to normalize them.
- Swipe left if recognizable. Swipe right if not recognizable.
- Receive tips about how to deal with such a situation. From healthcare professionals for supporting both parent and child. From other parents to feel less lonely.



Parental Mood Meter and Communicator

- Parents receive a reminder to keep track of their emotions, creating awareness of their own feelings.
- The emotions are tracked in a visual way (e.g. Kanjerketting for Parents or Traffic-Light Bracelet).
- The social surroundings of the parent can take into account the emotions of the parent.

INDIVIDUAL BRAINSTORM

When clustering the bulk of all gathered ideas based on the identified challenges that parents encounter in the context of the outpatient visit of their child, we saw that most ideas revolved around the challenges of taking care of oneself and engaging with their social environment. Many ideas placed somewhere in between these two challenges, helping parents to focus on, identify and communicate their own feelings.

5.2 | CONCEPT GENERATIONS

5.2.1 | METHODS

FROM IDEATION TO 3 CONCEPTS

To process the bulk of ideas of Chapter 5.1.2 towards more detailed concepts, the following steps were executed: First, nine interesting ideas were selected by the designer intuitively, based on the gained knowledge during the research phase, in combination with the votes cast by the team members of the Hospital Hero foundation. Second, these interesting ideas were compared to the previously indicated challenges (Appendix H). Third, the Itemised Response and PMI methods (Van Boeijen et al., 2013e) were used (Appendix I) to evaluate early design ideas quickly and intuitively in a systematic way. This was done to find interesting aspects of the ideas that could possibly be combined into concepts. Fourth, combinations were made and iterated upon to come up with three concepts. These three concepts were visualized with drawings (Van Boeijen et al., 2013b) and storyboards (Van Boeijen et al., 2013h) (see Chapter 5.2.2) to be able to clearly communicate them.

FROM 3 CONCEPTS TO FINAL CONCEPT

Harris Profile

To go from the formed 3 concepts to one final concept, the concepts were compared on their ability to meet the requirements and wishes (see Chapter 4.3). This comparison was executed by using a Harris Profile (Roozenburg & Eekels, 1998; Van Boeijen et al., 2013c). The assessment was based on a combination of the gained knowledge in the previous parts of the project and the results of conducted interviews described below.

Interviews: Discussing Concepts

Interviews (Van Boeijen et al., 2013d; Van Boeijen et al., 2013g) were conducted with 3 parents with children who visit(ed) the outpatient clinic, 2 healthcare professionals (a medical pedagogical care provider and a psychologist in the WAKZ) and 2 experts in the field of supporting children (and parents) in the context of hospital visits. These interviews took 30 to 45 minutes and included an explanation of each concept, room for an open first response of the participant and some prior specified questions (about the expected usage, concept-specific assumptions and compliance with the Design Goal) (Appendices J and K).

Prior to participation, participants were presented with information about, among others, transcription and pseudonymization of recordings, handling of identifiable information and the voluntary nature of the participation. By asking for the participants' informed consent, this research activity was approved by the Human Research Ethics Committee of the TU Delft.

5.2.2 | CONCEPTS

Based on the insights obtained using the Itemized Response and PMI methods (Van Boeijen et al., 2014), combinations of the first idea selection were made and iterated upon to eventually result in three concepts. The goal of Concept A – SereniTEA is to make parents aware of their own state of mind and wellbeing and to help them reflect on that. Concept B – CareChronicles.com mainly aims to simplify the parents' burden of sharing the hospital journey of their child with the social environment. To do this, it allows parents to document their child's hospital journey and their own emotions in relation to this. The primary focus of Concept C – The Hospital Pro App is to offer parents a sense of affiliation with other parents, as well as tips on how to support both themselves and their child. As you can see, the challenge of taking care of oneself is included in all three concepts, however, it does not play an equally big role in each concept. In the coming paragraphs, each concept will be further explained.

CONCEPT A – SereniTEA: Support Package

The concept (Figure 14a) provides a physical tool to focus the attention of parents on their own wellbeing and gives them permission to spend a moment taking care of themselves. The concept consists of a box of tea and a booklet. Each bag of tea in the box comes with a sticker, which contains an inspirational quote, question, anecdote or affirmation. The tea bags with stickers inside function as a physical trigger for the parent to become aware of their own feelings. By integrating the concept into a daily routine (drinking tea), it encourages parents to engage with the concept. The booklet consists of pages containing an area to place a sticker and space to write down thoughts or feelings that this sticker elicited. By providing this dedicated space for personal thoughts and experiences the booklet promotes self-reflection. The stickers provide parents with inspiration and guidance during the moment of self-reflection. Besides these standard pages, the booklet also contains a page to refer to professional help for parents if needed. The parent receives this concept from a healthcare professional in the hospital. By giving healthcare professionals the responsibility to signal the parent's need for support, they also gain the opportunity to make the parent feel seen. This offers the possibility to develop a bond of trust between the healthcare professional and the parent.

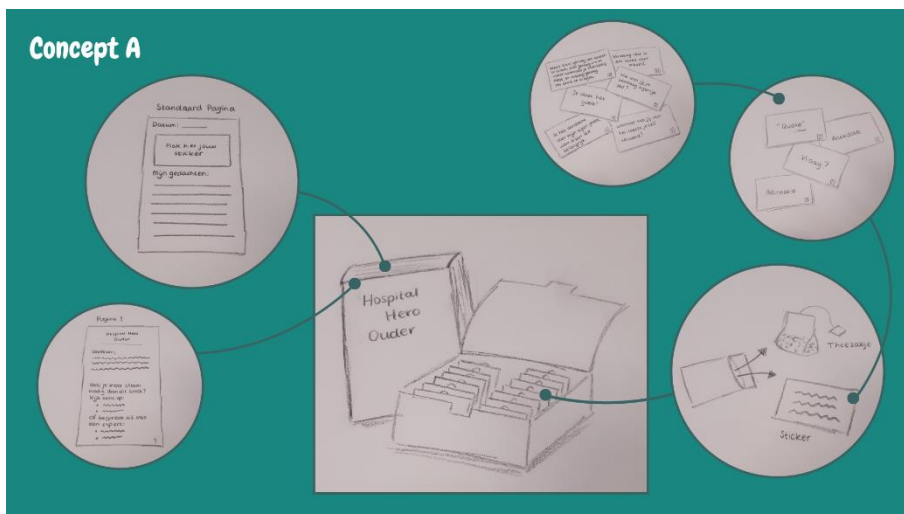


Figure 14a, Visual representation of Concept A

Scenario A

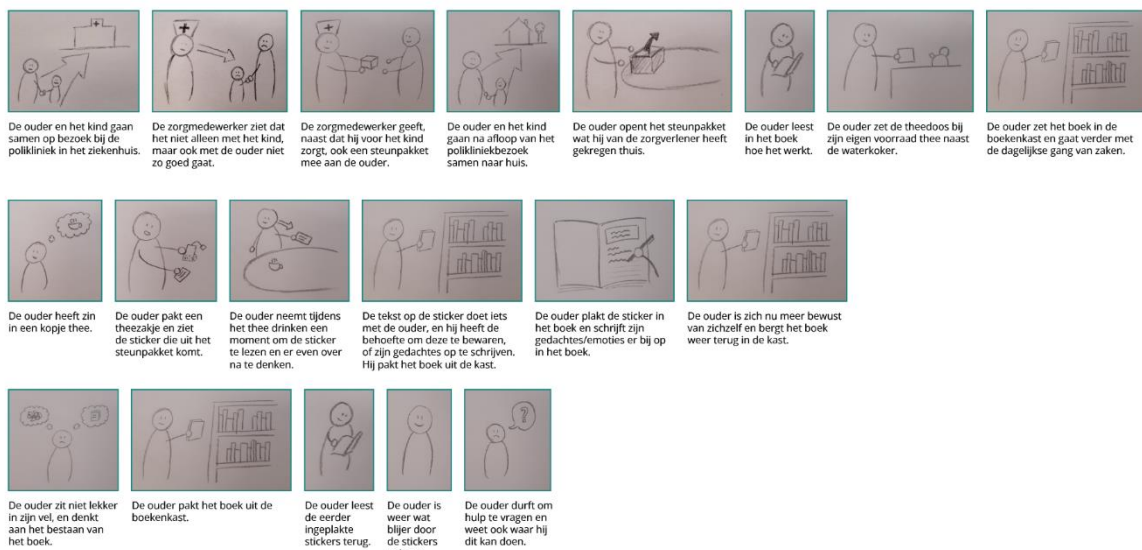


Figure 14b, Scenario of Concept A

CONCEPT B – CareChronicles.com: Sharing a Story

The concept (Figure 15) offers the parent a platform to document and share everything about the hospital journey of their child. By offering the possibility to share among friends, family and others involved, a network of understanding and support can be created. By giving the parent the authority to decide who (not) to share the documented information with, a safe sharing space is created for the parent. To share an experienced event with their social environment, parents can add a step to the webpage. Adding a step consists of two parts. The first part shows multiple choice questions about the experienced emotions of the parent. By providing a platform to express and share feelings, the emotional aspect of hospital experiences is recognized and addressed. By shaping this into multiple choice questions, the goal is to make dealing with and sharing those emotions less difficult and scary. The second part shows open questions about the experienced event. These questions serve as inspiration and guidance during documentation. Offering a tool to openly document experiences in one's own words creates a valuable resource for reflection. When a step is added, it appears on the webpage. The webpage consists of two parts. The left side of the page shows the history of all added steps, which allows parents to retrieve memories of past events. The right side of the page shows the emotional journey of the parent during all these documented events. This provides parents with awareness of their own emotional state.

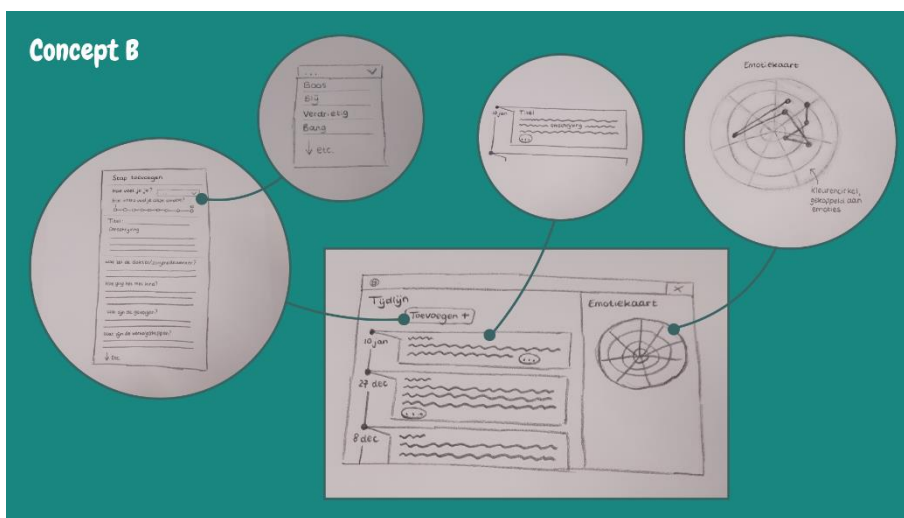


Figure 15a, Visual representation of Concept B

Scenario B

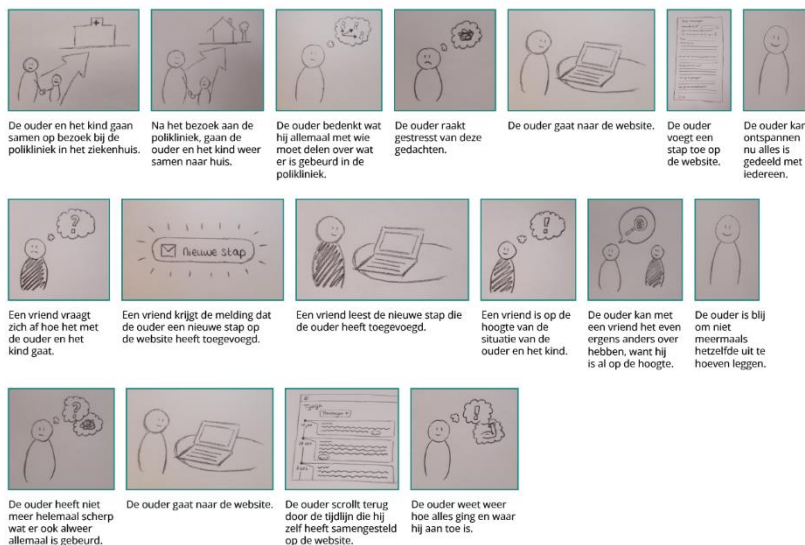


Figure 15b, Scenario of Concept B

CONCEPT C – Hospital Pro App: Parent-to-Parent Tips

The concept (Figure 16) provides parents with a platform where they can find tips and tricks based on real stories about supporting both themselves and their child. The concept is an app for smartphones. The home screen shows different categories which parents can select, which offer parents tips tailored to specific contexts. This contextual guidance recognizes that different situations require different approaches. Each context contains a database of tips based on real stories. Providing parents with actionable tips that they can implement in real-life situations empowers parents to take practical steps. Offering tips based on experiences of other parents makes parents feel understood and supported in the challenges they encounter. The perspectives of various parents ensure diversity in the stories and tips, recognizing that every parent-child pair is different. Each tip can be discarded by swiping it to the left or saved by swiping it to the right. The saved tips can be accessed in a different section of the app. Giving parents the opportunity to save tips and access them later offers them a sense of control. The tips contain content on how to support both the child and the parent themselves. By offering tips on how to support the child, parents receive the needed information to learn, improve and feel confident. Providing parents with tips on how to support themselves normalizes the fact that parents need support as well.



Figure 16a, Visual representation of Concept C

Scenario C

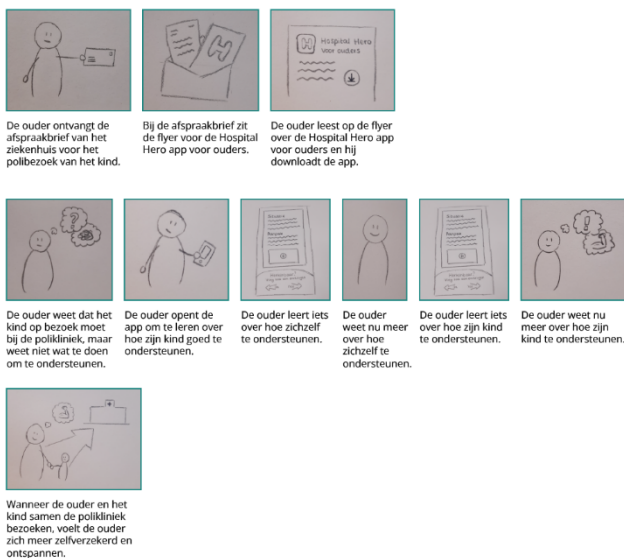


Figure 16b, Scenario of Concept C

CONCEPTS IN RELATION TO THE CHALLENGES

Table 2 shows which challenges of the parents are addressed by the 3 concepts.

Table 2, Concepts in relations to the challenges

	Concept A	Concept B	Concept C
Engaging with their social environment	X	X	X
Receiving tailored information	-	-	X
Taking care of oneself	X	X	X
Seeing their child in distress	-	-	-
Feeling capable of supporting their child	-	-	X
Working together with healthcare professional	X	-	-

5.2.3 | CONCEPT EVALUATION

To take the step from the created three concepts to one final concept, the concepts were compared on their ability to meet the requirements and wishes by using a Harris Profile (Van Boeijen et al., 2013c). The reasoning behind the assessment can be found in Appendix L. Below, the most notable results in the Harris Profiles will be discussed.

REQUIREMENTS

When we compare the concepts based on to what extent they meet the requirements (Figure 17), the first thing that stands out is that Concept A does not meet requirement 3 and 7. All three parents spoken to indicated that they thought Concept A was a cute idea, but they would not use it in real life. A mother explained: "During the treatment, I did not have the mental space for that." (Requirement 3). Besides this, handing out the support package is an extra task and responsibility for the healthcare professionals involved (Requirement 7). We must therefore conclude that Concept A does not meet all requirements. Interesting to mention is that Concept A does support parents with taking care of themselves (Requirement 4) more than Concept B and C do.

Both Concept B and C meet all the requirements. The clear tips for parental support from Concept C can already be useful with a single visit, while the solution provided by Concept B for sharing with the social surroundings is not a pressing issue yet with a single outpatient visit (Requirement 1). Concept B does help parents to simplify a task they already have, while parents have to adopt a new behavior to use Concept C (Requirement 2). Concept C is easier to use than Concept B though, especially in the busy overwhelming lives of parents of pediatric patients (Requirement 3). As you can see in Figure X, Concept C seems to meet the requirements better than Concept B, but the difference is not substantial.

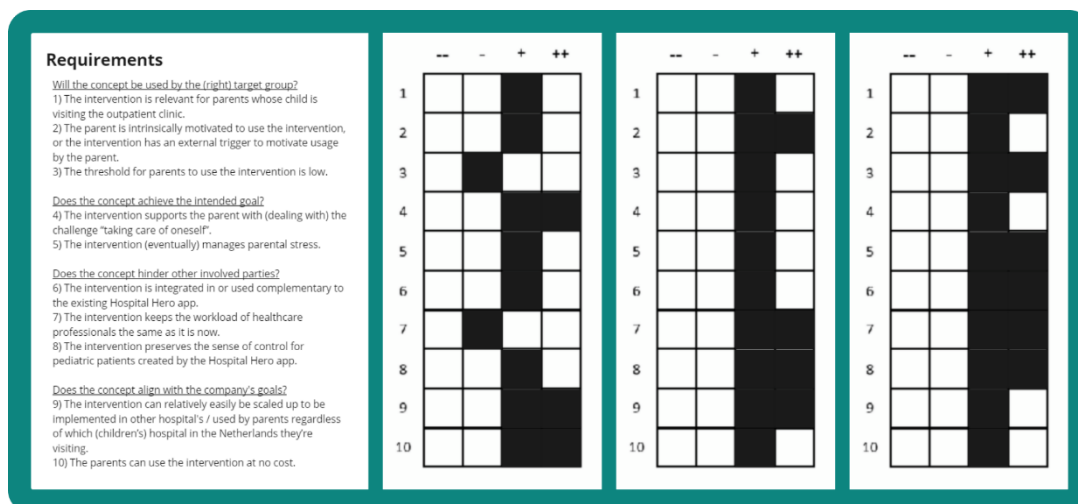


Figure 17, Harris Profile based on Requirements, LTR Concept A, B, C

WISHES

When we compare the concepts based on to what extent they meet the wishes, a more substantial difference between Concept B and Concept C appears (Figure 18). Concept B does not meet Wishes 1, 5, 6 and 7. Especially Wish 5 is rated very low. This is caused by the fact that Concept B revolves around documenting and storing personal experiences and private information which can be challenging especially in the context of healthcare.

Concept C does meet all wishes. The provided tips are perceived by parents to be especially useful before a first outpatient visit as preparation (Wish 1). Furthermore, it is possible to create the content of the tips in such a way that they also give parents tools to deal with all the other indicated challenges they encounter (Wish 2). So, by using the Harris Profile as a tool, we showed (see Figure X) that Concept C clearly fits best with the formulated wishes (and requirements).

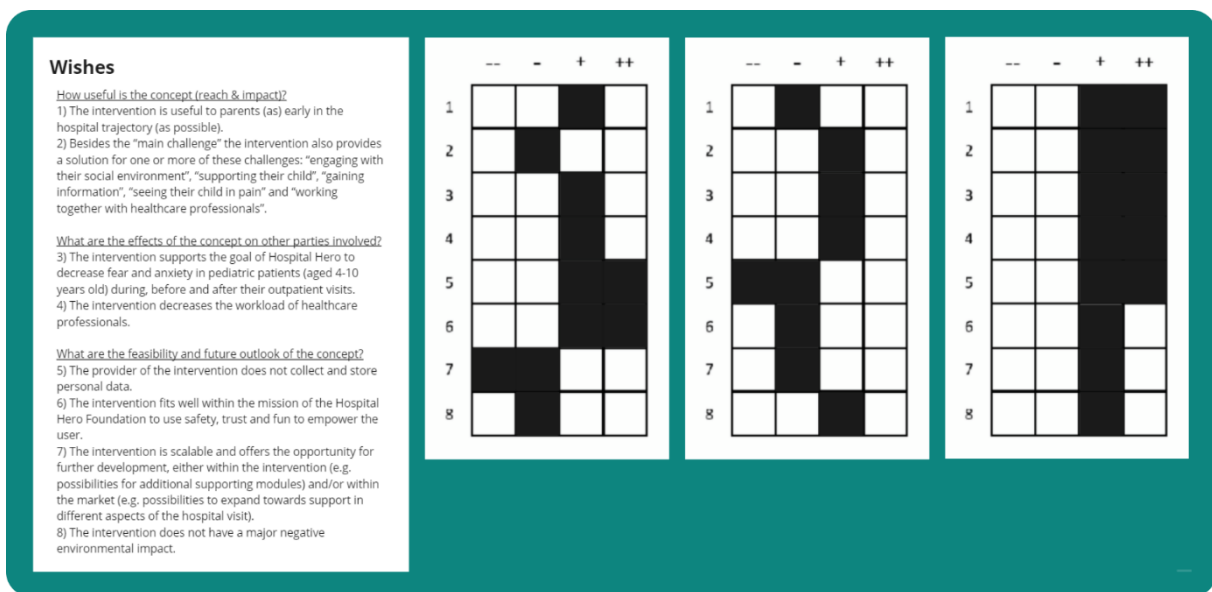


Figure 18, Harris Profile based on Wishes, LTR Concept A, B, C

5.3 | CONCLUSION

Based on its most favorable fit with the requirements and wishes for the formulated Design Goal, Concept C will be further developed into a Final Concept. The interviews revealed some adjustments to Concept C, that were suggested to take into the next phase:

1. Combining the experience of a parent with a tip based on expert advice.
2. Focusing on answering general (non-disease-specific) questions.
3. Implementing the affirmations of Concept A in the app with notifications.

CHAPTER 6

FINAL CONCEPT

This final chapter of the design phase was written to **deliver** the presentation of the Final Concept. It explains which iterations and concept choices were made in the final phase of the concept development. Subsequently it presents the short evaluation of the Final Concept that was carried out.

6.1 | METHODS

To further develop the concept chosen in the previous chapter into a Final Concept, several iterations on different aspects of the concept were made. The design choices that are explained in Chapter 6.3 are based on the knowledge gathered by the designer during the entirety of the project in combination with the set list of requirements and wishes in Chapter 4.3. To determine which elements of the chosen concept should be prioritized when further developing the Final Concept, the MoSCoW-canvas (Business Model Innovatie, 2024) was filled in (Appendix M).

6.2 | FINAL CONCEPT: THE CARE COMPANION APP



6.3 | DESIGN CHOICES

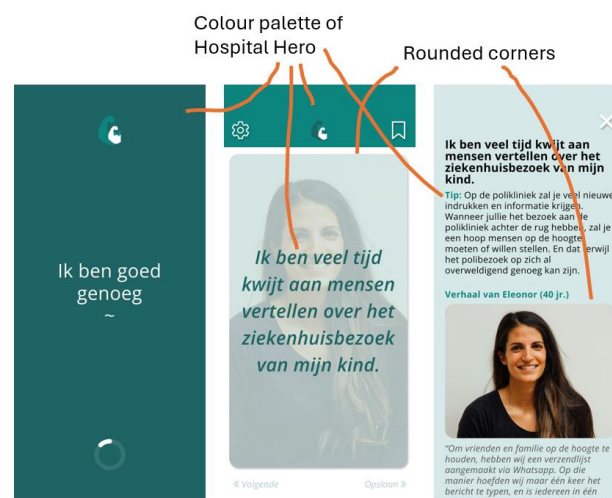
A standalone app

The Final Concept is an app, called the Care Companion app, offered to parents by the Hospital Hero Foundation. The Hospital Hero Foundation also offers the Hospital Hero app, which is an app designed for children. To not interfere with one of the main strengths of the Hospital Hero app, giving the child control, (Requirement 8) the Care Companion was chosen to be a separate app. This decision offers the opportunity to tailor (the design of) the Care Companion app specifically to the needs and wishes of parents.

Simplistic appearance

The basis of the Care Companion app was created with the existing style of the Hospital Hero Foundation in mind (requirement 14). The alliteration in both the names "Care Companion" and "Hospital Hero" creates a connection between the two and the logo of the Care Companion app (Figure 19) is inspired by the muscular arms from the Hospital Hero logo. The subtitle of the Care Companion app, "Raising a Hospital Hero", is a clear reference to the Hospital Hero app as well.

In the appearance of the Care Companion app certain design aspects, such as color palette and corner radius, can be recognized from the Hospital Hero app (Figure 20). Nonetheless, parents can be quite overstimulated in the outpatient trajectory of their child. To be appealing to parents (Requirement 11), the visual style of the Care Companion app was chosen to be quite simplistic and sleek as opposed to the stimulating and popping style of the Hospital Hero app.



6.3.1 | AFFIRMATIONS

Methods

First, the first 4 Google hits when searching for “affirmaties” and affirmations provided by the “I am”-app were used to find examples of affirmations. Second, a list of affirmations relevant in this context was created. Third, delicate matters (e.g. “I know that this situation is only temporary” while some children are chronically ill) were eliminated from the list. Fourth, affirmations were adjusted by the designer to best fit the context without being too specific (e.g. “Today, I prioritize how I feel” was changed to “I pay attention to my own feelings” since we already know the number one priority of the parent is their child and not themselves).

Affirmations while loading the app

While the Care Companion app is loading when opening the app, an affirmation (Figure 21) is shown to the parent in order to provoke positive thoughts and to make the parent feel seen and empowered (Wish 6). Every time the app is opened, a new randomized affirmation from the collection of affirmations (Appendix N) is shown. The affirmation screen has got a single-color background and just shows the text, so all attention will be focused on the content of the affirmation. To give the parent enough time to read the affirmation, the affirmation does not automatically disappear when the app has finished loading. Instead, the loading icon will change into a button that can close the affirmation when clicked on. To keep the functionalities of the Care Companion app clean and simple, it was chosen not to offer the possibility to save affirmations for later within the app. Offering this function could be confusing in combination with the function of saving tips (as explained in Chapter 6.3.3). However, when it is desired to save an affirmation, it can always be saved outside of the app by making a screenshot with the phone.



Figure 21, Part of the collection of affirmations

6.3.2 | TIPS

Methods

In the tips shown as examples in this report, the advice from experts is based on the interviews conducted with healthcare professionals and experts in combination with informative flyers for parents found at the websites of Stichting Kind & Ziekenhuis (Stichting Kind en Ziekenhuis, 2023) and Skills4Comfort (Skills4Comfort, 2023). The experiences from parents are based on the interviews conducted with parents during this project.

The images used as visuals in the example tips in this report were found on the websites of Pexels, Pixabay and Unsplash. Used search terms were: parent, mother, father, woman, man, face, portrait, person, adult. No attribution is needed for these images.

Advice & Experience

The Care Companion app offers parents tips for situations and challenges they can possibly encounter in the outpatient trajectory of their child. Each Tip Page consists of two components: an advice, based on information from experts, in combination with an experience, based on the story of a parent (Figure 22). This combination was chosen to make the tips in the app both reliable (expert advice) and relatable (parental experience) (Requirement 6).

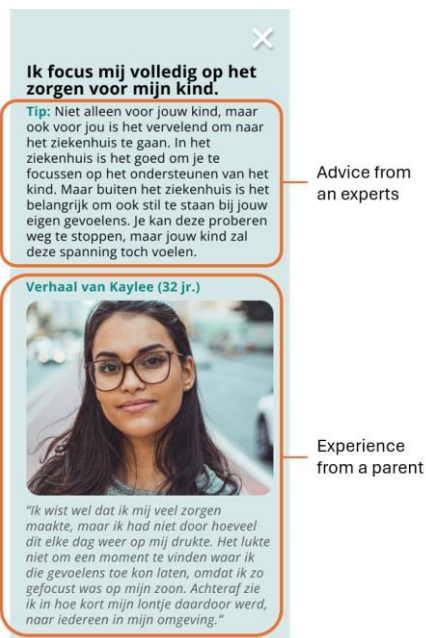


Figure 22, Tip Page, consisting of advice and experience

Non-disease-specific content

The tips offered in the Care Companion app (Figure 23) focus on general, non-disease-specific, content. They intend to help parents with the challenges, as formulated in this project, that they experience in the context of the pediatric outpatient visit of their child. This way, the app can be relevant for parents whose child is visiting the outpatient clinic, no matter what they are in for (Requirement 1) or which (children's) hospital they are visiting (Requirement 9).

Because of this focus on non-disease-specific questions, the Care Companion app will not answer all questions parents have. In fact, parents also have many questions specifically about the disease or treatment of their child. The Care Companion app does provide tips on where to find this information but does not answer these questions itself. The Hospital Hero app (for children), more specifically the new "Even Spieken"-module, does provide information about specific treatments in the pediatric outpatient clinic. Even though the Hospital Hero app is designed for children, it can still be helpful for parents as well. The general guidance that the Care Companion app provides parents with therefore nicely complements the treatment-specific information the ("Even Spieken"-module in the) Hospital Hero app offers (Requirement 6).

Parents are highly motivated to tackle some of the found challenges, such as feeling capable of supporting their child, but not as motivated for some others, such as taking care of oneself. Since these challenges are just as important or, in the vision of the designer, maybe even more important, the Care Companion app offers tips for all challenges in a combined manner (Requirement 5) (Wish 2). By combining both wanted and needed tips, the Care Companion app motivates usage by the parent (Requirement 2) without forcing tips upon the parent. Within the app, all tips pass by, but parents retain the power to decide which tips they save and read, and which they discard.

Dynamic database of tips

The Care Companion app relies on the existence of a database filled with tips. This database is owned and managed by the Hospital Hero Foundation. Upon releasing the Care Companion app, the database consists of an initial number of tips sufficient for parents to actively start using the app. After the app is released, the Hospital Hero Foundation will (in collaboration with healthcare professionals, parents and experts, e.g. Stichting Kind & Ziekenhuis) review and renew the content of the database every few months. This timeframe was chosen because it is important to keep this database alive to keep up with new trends in healthcare and to keep the support relevant to parents. The database offers the possibility of being expanded with expansion packages of tips (Wish 7). For example, both tip-packages for specific diseases or treatments, as well as for other aspects of the hospital trajectory (e.g. Emergency Department or hospitalization), could be added to the database. They could be seen as expansion packages to the basic set of general tips.

Content based on experience level

Since parents need a different kind of support based on the amount of experience they have with outpatient visits, the tips were chosen to be split up into 3 categories: no experience, some experience, or a lot of experience with outpatient visits. In order to provide the parent with the appropriate tips, one of the introductory questions is: "What applies to you? I have (1) no, (2) some, (3) a lot of experience in the pediatric outpatient clinic." The answer to this question can later always be changed in the settings section of the app. Depending on the answer, tips that fit with the parent's experience level will be shown to the parent. This feature enables the app to be relevant to parents already before the first visit to the outpatient clinic (Wish 1), but also later in the outpatient trajectory (Requirement 1). To be able to make this division in which tips a parent does and does not see, it is not needed to collect or store personal data (Wish 5).

Interactions: Swiping and Viewing

The Care Companion app basically offers parents two types of interactions with the tips: swiping and viewing. Swiping is the process of selecting the tips by its relevance for the parent (see Chapter 6.3.3). Viewing is the process of reading the tips that were saved for later in the previous step (see Chapter 6.3.4). The interaction of Swiping is less time consuming and easier in nature than the interaction of Viewing. This division in interactions and the ability for parents to decide when they want to engage in which type of interaction, creates a low threshold for using the app (Requirement 3).

Ik ben veel tijd kwijt aan mensen vertellen over het ziekenhuisbezoek van mijn kind.

Tip: Op de polikliniek zal je veel nieuwe indrukken en informatie krijgen. Wanneer jullie het bezoek aan de polikliniek achter de rug hebben, zal je een hoop mensen op de hoogte moeten of willen stellen. En dat terwijl het polibezoek op zich al overweldigend genoeg kan zijn.

Verhaal van Eleonor (40 jr.)



"Om vrienden en familie op de hoogte te houden, heb ik een verspreid aangevoel via Whatsapp. Op die manier hoefden wij maar één keer het bericht te typen, en is iedereen in één keer op de hoogte van de situatie, zonder dat zij allemaal samen in een Whatsapp groep zitten."

Ik plan het bezoek aan de polikliniek van mijn kind tussen wat afspraken door, zodat het precies in onze planning past.

Tip: Naar het ziekenhuis gaan op zich kan al voor spanning en onrust zorgen, voor jouw kind maar ook voor jou zelf. Wanneer je ook nog gehaast bij het ziekenhuis aankomt en na de afspraak snel weer door moet, zorgt dit alleen maar voor meer stress. Zorg dus dat je de tijd neemt. De website van het ziekenhuis biedt daarnaast vaak (praktische) informatie die jou ook kan helpen voorbereiden.

Verhaal van Kevin (28 jr.)



"Ik trek tegenwoordig mijn hele middag voor het polibezoek uit, ik zorg dat we op tijd zijn en dat we niet hoeven te haasten, zodat we heel rustig op het tempo van mijn dochter naar de wachtkamer kunnen lopen. Wachten hoort er nou eenmaal bij. Daer mij in te stellen op een lange dag, en snacke mee te nemen en geen (werk)afspraken na afloop te hebben, ben ik een stuk minder gestrest. Ook creëert dit tijd achteraf om alles te verwerken en het een plekje te geven."

Ik focus mij volledig op het zorgen voor mijn kind.

Tip: Niet alleen voor jouw kind, maar ook voor jou is het vervelend om naar het ziekenhuis te gaan. In het ziekenhuis is het goed om je te focussen op het ondersteunen van het kind. Maar buiten het ziekenhuis is het belangrijk om ook stil te staan bij jouw eigen gevoelens. Je kan deze proberen weg te stoppen, maar jouw kind zal deze spanning toch voelen.

Verhaal van Kaylee (32 jr.)



"Ik wist wel dat ik mij veel zorgen maakte, maar ik had niet door hoeveel die elke dag weer op mij drukte. Het lukte niet om een moment te vinden waar ik die gevoelens toe kon laten, omdat ik zo gefocust was op mijn zoon. Achteraf zie ik in hoe kort mijn fontje daardoor werd, naar iedereen in mijn omgeving."

Ik vertel niet te veel over het ziekenhuisbezoek, want ik wil mijn kind niet bang maken.

Tip: Het klinkt misschien gek, maar alle voorbereiding helpt altijd positief. Wanneer je jouw kind eerlijk vertelt wat er gaat gebeuren, zal jouw kind het ziekenhuisbezoek veel beter aan kunnen. Er wordt soms gedacht dat deze details alleen maar spanning geven, maar in praktijk blijkt juist het tegenovergestelde. Als je dingen verzwijgt, gaan kinderen daar zelf over fantaseren wat vaak schadelijker is dan eerlijk antwoorden geven. Focus in de voorbereiding wel op dingen die jouw kind zal ervaren.

Verhaal van Kenzo (34 jr.)



"Ik kan mijn dochter het beste zo veel mogelijk details vertellen vooraf. Overvreesachtige dingen zijn juist de dingen waar zij van overtuurd raakt in het ziekenhuis. Wanneer bijvoorbeeld het licht uit moet voor een onderzoek en ze heeft daar niet op gerekend, zijn we zo weer 10 minuten verder om haar te kalmeren en uit te leggen dat het oké is. Als ze dat van te voren had geweten, was er niks aan de hand geweest."

No experience

Mijn vrienden en familie begrijpen niet wat mijn kind en ik meemaken.

Tip: Om steun te krijgen van jouw naasten, is het belangrijk om met ze te communiceren. Communiceer niet alleen over uitslagen van testen, (ziekenhuis)onderzoeken en andere nieuwe informatie, maar ook over jouw eigen ervaringen en behoeftes. Het kan lastig zijn om hier open over te zijn. Mensen willen jou graag helpen, maar weten niet hoe ze dat het beste kunnen doen tenzij jij dit aan ze vertelt.

Verhaal van Milou (29 jr.)



"Mijn vriendinnen hadden niet altijd door hoe erg de situatie was. Wanneer ik en mijn dochter niet mee gingen naar de kinderspeelruimte, kwam er een luchtige 'oke volgende keer', terwijl mijn dochter aan het strijden was voor haar leven. Later besefte ik mij dat ik hen ook weinig vertelde, omdat ik niet te dramatisch wilde doen. Dat zij niet passend reageerden, lag dus ook aan mij."

De dokter geeft niet de informatie die ik op dit moment wil weten.

Tip: Durf te vragen! Als iets niet duidelijk is of je behoefte hebt aan meer of andere informatie, geef het vooral aan bij het medisch personeel. Jouw wensen zijn belangrijk en mogen gehoord worden.

Verhaal van Natassja (38 jr.)



"Onze arts heeft ons altijd wel goed voorgelicht, maar hij wilde niet te ver op dingen vooruit lopen. Hij ging altijd stapje voor stapje, misschien omdat je meer informatie tegelijk als ouder niet goed aan kan. Ik had het fijner gevonden om het hele plaatje af te zien."

Ik merk dat ik niet lekker in mijn vel zit.

Tip: Wanneer je behoefte hebt om met een professional te praten over je gevoelens kun je dit aangeven. Dit kan bijvoorbeeld bij de huisarts of bij het zorgteam van je kind, zij kunnen je doorverwijzen. Wacht niet te lang met het vragen om hulp, hoe eerder je erbij bent, hoe beter.

Verhaal van Stijn (35 jr.)



"Ik ben zelf in de problemen gekomen doordat het niet lukte om mijn gevoelens toe te laten en een plekje te geven. Ik had hier eerder hulp mee moeten zoeken, om te voorkomen dat ik in een diep dal kwam. Wees dus vooral niet bang om met iemand te gaan praten. Als je twijfelt of je hulp nodig hebt, twijfel dan niet langer en vraag om hulp."

Mijn kind wil niet meer gaan slapen als ik heb verteld dat we morgen naar het ziekenhuis moeten.

Tip: Je kind voorbereiden op het ziekenhuisbezoek is altijd goed, maar de timing hiervan is belangrijk. Elk kind is hier anders in, maar in het algemeen geldt: Zorg ervoor dat je dit doet op een rustig moment, zodat je jouw kind de tijd geeft om erover te praten en er ook ruimte is om daarna weer te ontspannen.

Verhaal van Puck (31 jr.)



"Als mijn dochter gekrikt moet worden, wat zij erg vervelend vindt, vertel ik dit pas 's ochtrends bij het opstaan. Ze gaat dan niet naar school voordat we naar het ziekenhuis gaan. Als ik het de avond ervoor vertel, gaat ze niet slapen omdat ze zo tegenop ziet. Naar de psycholoog gaan vindt zij niet erg, dus dat kunnen we dus gerust al eerder vertellen. Meer dan 1 dag van te voren heeft dan alleen ook weer geen zin, want dan onthoudt ze het niet."

Some experience

Ik voel mij erg alleen in het doormaken van dit traject.

Tip: Je kans soms het gevoel hebben dat jij de enige bent in jouw situatie, en dat kan een wanhopig gevoel geven. Het kan dan prettig zijn om ervaringen uit te wisselen met andere ouders in een soortgelijke situatie. Je kan in contact komen met lotgenoten via georganiseerde evenementen, via ouder- of patiëntenverenigingen, of via verschillende - online en offline - oudergroepen (zoals via Facebook).

Verhaal van Sander (34 jr.)



"Mij zijn naar een bijeenkomst geweest die was georganiseerd voor ouders van kinderen met de ziekte die onze zoon ook heeft. Dat was voor ons echt een eye-opener. We zijn niet alleen! Wij zijn helemaal niet hele outgroup mensen, maar dat hadden we echt eerder moeten doen. Het besef dat de dingen waar je mee zit, dat andere dat ook hebben, en dat het inderdaad waar is. Dat gaf veel steun."

Ik twijfel aan het oordeel van de dokter, maar durf niet tegen te spreken.

Tip: De dokter heeft natuurlijk veel medische kennis. Maar als ouder ken jij jouw kind het beste. Zeker als je al langer met jouw kind in het ziekenhuis loopt, weet je hoe jouw kind op deze omgeving reageert. Geef het daarom vooral aan bij het medisch personeel wanneer jij ergens twijfels over hebt of als iets niet goed voelt. Samen met jou kunnen zij kijken naar de mogelijkheden.

Verhaal van Somaya (36 jr.)



"Mijn dochter had al vaker vervelende ingrepen gehad. Het was niet fijn, maar ik was er altijd zeker van dat het haar wel zou helpen. Bij deze behandeling wilde het niet goed. Ik zag de levenslust in haar verdwijnen, maar durfde de arts niet tegen te spreken. Toen ik uiteindelijk toch mijn zorgen uitsprak, gaf het medisch personeel mij gelijk en hebben we een andere manier gevonden om mijn dochter te helpen."

Soms voelt het alsof mijn hele leven draait om de ziekte van mijn kind.

Tip: Het is belangrijk om voor jezelf te blijven zorgen, zeker in een lang ziekteverlooftraject. Neem af en toe de tijd voor ontspanning en afleiding, als is het maar voor even. Je hoeft je niet schuldig te voelen om dingen te blijven doen waar jij je goed bij voelt. Die ontspanning heb jij nodig om vervolgens jouw kind weer zo goed mogelijk te kunnen ondersteunen.

Verhaal van Julia (31 jr.)



"We praten soms zo veel over het ziekenhuis, dat het bijna irritant wordt. Ik heb echt wel eens tegen mezelf gezegd: 'Oke we gaan nu uit eten, we gaat het even ergens anders over hebben'. En erover praten is ook goed hoor. Maar het is ook fijn als andere delen van je leven ook wat ruimte kunnen krijgen."

Nieuwe zorgmedewerkers kennen de trucjes die het beste werken bij mijn kind niet.

Tip: Wanneer je vaker met jouw kind in het ziekenhuis komt, kan je veel verschillende gezichten tegenkomen. Als ouder ken jij jouw kind het beste. Dus de mensen van jouw kind duidelijk te communiceren naar de zorgverleners, kan de behandeling zo voorspoedig mogelijk verlopen.

Verhaal van Samantha (42 jr.)



"Mijn dochter wil dat iedereen minstens tijdens de procedure, zodat zij volledig op kan gaan in haar spelletje of filmje, en de echte wereld kan vergeten. Dit is heel tegenstrijdig voor zorgmedewerkers, want die hebben geleerd tegen een kind te spreken tijdens een procedure om het kind af te leiden. Ik benadruk dus altijd van te voren dat stil zijn echt het beste werkt, zodat we zo vloeiend mogelijk door de behandeling heen kunnen."

Much experience

Figure 23, Collection of Tip Pages

6.3.3 | SWIPING

During the swiping interaction, the parent mainly sees Tip Covers (Figure 27). Based on its relevance to them, the parent can decide to either discard the tip (by swiping left) or save the tip for later (by swiping right). When the Tip Cover does not provide the parent with enough information to make this decision, the parent can also go to the Tip Page (by clicking on the Tip Cover) to read the entire tip (Figure 24).



Figure 24, Swiping interactions



Figure 25, Cover Page



Figure 26, Tip Page with visual

Picture of a Parent

To make tips more accessible to parents while swiping (Requirement 16), the Care Companion app shows a tip in the format of a Cover Page during this interaction (Figure 25). The Cover Page shows the image of a parent in combination with a sentence that describes the tip. This description accurately represents the content of the tip and offers parents the possibility to relate to it. The text on the Cover Page is large and placed over the image of the parent. The image of the parent is blurred. Both these choices were made in order to clarify to the parent that it is not the person but the content that the user swipes (Figure 26).

The persons in the images...

- ...are parents without their child, to direct attention to the parent.
- ...look you in the eye in a friendly manner, to create a connection.
- ...do not look either sad or very happy, to give hope without causing aversion.
- ...are diverse (e.g. in age, gender, origins), to enable recognition.

Also, the Tip Page itself is quite textual. To make the Tip Page more accessible to parents (Requirement 16), it was chosen to show the image of the parent here as well. Along with this image, the name and age of this person are also presented. This way, the Care Companion app creates an empathic connection with this other parent and their experience.



Figure 27, Collection of Cover Pages

6.3.4 | VIEWING

During the interaction of viewing, the parent takes time to read the Tip Pages. To open a Tip Page, the parent can either click on the Cover Page or open it from the collection of saved tips. In order to read the entire texts of the advice and the experience, the parent can scroll down within the Tip Page.

Saved tips shown as unread

As explained before, the Care Companion app offers the possibility to save and later look at tips. The collection of saved tips can be accessed from the main screen and shows a difference in layout between the tips that have been read and the tips that have not been read (Figure 28), to stimulate parents to read the tips that they have saved.

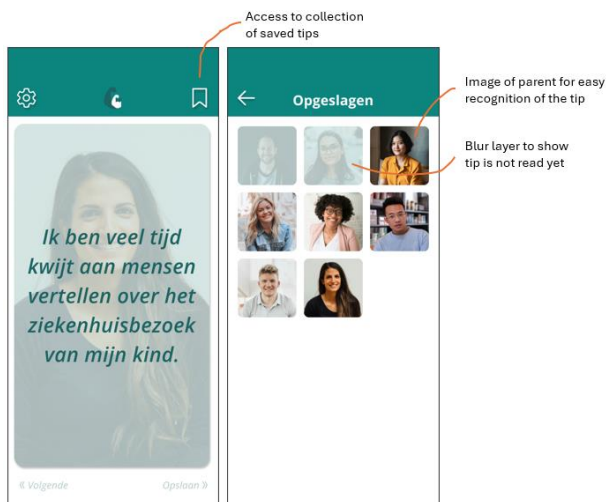


Figure 28, Saved tips collection

6.3.5 | SHARING

Sharing tips outside of the app

Tips can also be shared outside of the Care Companion app. At the bottom of each tip, there is a button that allows the parent to share a tip through, for example, WhatsApp or Gmail (Figure 29). By sharing the tips that resonate with them, their social surroundings might better understand the parents.

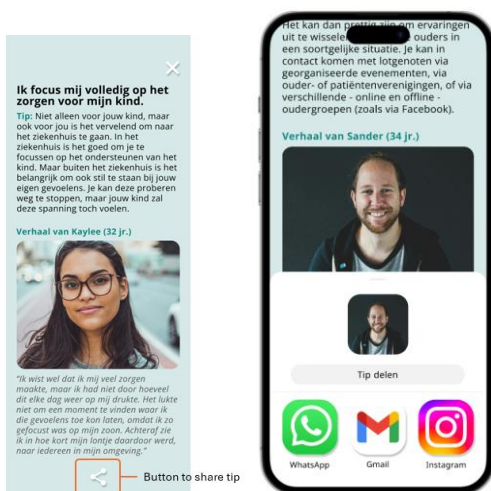


Figure 29, Share function

6.3.6 | OTHER DETAILS

Customizable notifications

Since every pediatric outpatient trajectory and every parent is different, the desired usage of the Care Companion app will most likely differ per parent as well. Notifications can be important to remind parents to take a moment to look at the app, but it is not wanted to bother parents with an overload of notifications while they already feel overwhelmed (Wish 6). Therefore, when first opening the app, the parent is asked about their notification preferences (Figure X). The answer to this question can later always be changed in the settings section of the app.

Understandable language

The Care Companion app is created in Dutch (Requirement 12) and uses B1 language which makes it understandable for the vast majority of adults (Requirement 13). To make the texts more relatable, an introduction question is: Who will you visit the pediatric outpatient clinic for? (1) My son, (2) My daughter, (3) My child, (4) Other, (5) I don't want to say (Figure X). Depending on the answer, tips will be formulated as "My son...." for answer 1, "My daughter...." for answer 2, "My child..." for answer 3 or "The child..." for answers 4 and 5 (Figure 30). The answer to this question can later always be changed in the settings section of the app.



Figure 30, Personal formulation of tips

6.4 | EVALUATION

After developing the Final Concept, it was presented to possible users of the app and an expert in this context, to evaluate the concept of the idea (as opposed to e.g. usability). The goal of this evaluation was to find out if parents would use the Care Companion app and if using the Care Companion app will help parents with managing their stress.

RQ - Would parents use the Care Companion app?

RQ - Will using the Care Companion app help parents manage their stress?

6.4.1 | METHODS

Semi-structured interviews to evaluate the concept (Van Boeijen et al., 2013g) of 30 minutes were conducted 1 on 1 through an online video call. Participants included 5 parents of pediatric patients and an expert in this context. All participating parents had a child in the age range of 4 to 10 years old who has experience visiting the outpatient clinic. Severity of disease, frequency of visits and hospitals visited varied. Participating parents were recruited by reaching out to the social surroundings of the designer and the parent advisory council of Stichting Kind & Ziekenhuis. None of the parents were familiar with the Hospital Hero app or Foundation, reducing the risk of social desirability bias. The expert was familiar with both the Hospital Hero Foundation and app, which helped to place the Final Concept into context.

First, an introduction of the designer and the project was given to the participant. While few basic details regarding the project were provided, the app was presented as a stand-alone item, with almost no explanation about its content or context. Second, a video presenting the functionalities of the app was presented to the participants (Van Boeijen et al., 2013j). An initial response was asked for, followed by questions regarding the functionalities and usage of the app. Third, a prototype containing a set of 4 tips (selected based on their indicated level of experience) was shown and discussed based on relevance, attractiveness and formulation. When there was time to spare, the discussed set of tips was expanded to a maximum of 12. Fourth, the experiences of participants in the context of outpatient visits were discussed to be able to place previously given answers into context (Appendices O and P).

Prior to participation, participants were presented with information about, among others, transcription and pseudonymization of recordings, handling of identifiable information and the voluntary nature of the participation. By asking for the participants' informed consent, this research activity was approved by the Human Research Ethics Committee of the TU Delft.

The conducted interviews were analyzed by gathering:

- Feedback on the functionalities of the app (Chapter 6.4.2)
- Quotes to substantiate the answers to the research questions (Chapter 6.4.2)
- Recommendations for improving the Final Concept (Chapter 7.1)
- Content-related feedback on specific tips (Appendix Q)

6.4.2 | RESULTS

The initial responses of both the parents and the expert were generally positive, acknowledging the value of the concept of the Care Companion app. A parent said: "In my opinion there is still too little attention for how to make parents feel supported in their role, so I really appreciate seeing this." Without being asked, parents mentioned the design of the app to be clear and the video to be easy to follow. Based on this video, several aspects of the app were discussed.

Affirmations

Most parents positively responded to the Affirmations. A parent said: "It is always very nice to receive some encouragement." One parent mentioned the affirmation in the video to evoke resistance. She explained this by saying: "I was in survival mode to take care of him [the son], especially in the beginning of our hospital trajectory. I get that my feelings are important too, but in that moment, it does not make sense to focus on those feelings. As a parent you have to be strong, to get you and your child through those visits." To conclude, the affirmations in general supports parents, but the content of those affirmations should be further reviewed.

Tips

Most parents indicated the advice from an expert and experiences from other parents to be a valuable combination. Although one parent said, "I don't think it would matter to me who the tip comes from, I care more about the content of the tip", several other parents mentioned the experience of the other parent to add extra value to the tip. Also, the expert mentioned that this element of the app will probably give parents a feeling of recognition. When asked if the tips should only contain the experiences of other parents and no advice from experts, participants generally indicated "No", explaining that the combination is good. It can be concluded that the advice from experts and the experiences of parents are a valuable combination to parents.

Swiping

Most parents liked the idea of having the power to decide which tips are relevant to them and which are not. A parent explained: It [the swiping functionality] is great because you can assess: Does it help you? Is this something you struggle with yourself? If not, you can simply move on to the next tip. That's very convenient that you can read what is useful for you." Parents indicated that this swiping interaction is a quick and easy interaction that helps you find a way through the tips in an intuitive way. The interaction of swiping the tips can thus be considered valuable.

Viewing

Parents liked the option to view saved tips at a later moment. A parent explained: "It's convenient that you can easily read it back at a later moment if you don't have the time for it now [when swiping]." Another parent said: "You cannot always focus on reading when your child is around", explaining the required difference between the interactions of swiping and viewing.

Sharing

Parents' opinions about the sharing function vary. A parent explained that she would not see herself share tips with anyone besides her husband: "To explain why, I revisit the fact that I don't feel like the people in my surroundings can understand. It feels pointless to try, we will just get through it ourselves." Two parents contradicted this statement by saying that by sharing tips with your social environment people will be able to read about what you struggle with and therefore learn to understand. Another parent explained that she would share tips with other parents of pediatric patients. This way she would use the sharing functionality of the app not to help herself be more understood by her social network, but to provide other parents with tips. The sharing functionality should thus be maintained in the Care Companion app, since it can be used for several different purposes.

WOULD PARENTS USE THE CARE COMPANION APP?

When asked, the small majority of parents was convinced that they would use (or would have used) the Care Companion app in the context of the pediatric outpatient trajectory of their child. A parent explained: "You often receive such long and boring e-mails... But an app like this, that's different!" When asked about the perceived needs of parents, the expert responded: "I absolutely do think that parents require something like this app. Not a lot of information is currently available to parents." We can therefore say that an app like this would fill the needs of parents, triggering internal motivation to use the Care Companion app.

Both parents and the expert mentioned that a planned pediatric outpatient visit can be the reason for parents' usage of the app. When asked about the headspace a parent is in when receiving an appointment letter for the first time, a parent explained: "Yes, I do think I would have taken the time to download the app in that moment. You want to be well-prepared for such an appointment, therefore you do take time to read such things." Answers to the question of how often a parent would like to use the app or receive reminders were very diverse. Suggestions were made that this preference depends on the frequency of outpatient visits. Parents will thus use an appointment at the pediatric outpatient clinic as a reason to use the app, also (or maybe even especially) when it is their first time visiting.

Multiple parents suggested the appointment letter to be the best way to introduce the app to parents. A parent explained the importance of actively promoting the app by saying that: "If I were to seek help on my own, I would be more likely to see a psychologist than to download an app." While we expected that providing the app by the hospital could lead to negative associations, results of this evaluation indicated the opposite. A parent mentioned: "How promising is it when you know you have an appointment with Doctor X, and they have contributed to this app. Well, I'd like to go there. It seems they take me as a parent very seriously." Several parents indicated a positive association when the app would be provided by or created in collaboration with either the hospital or patient organizations: "...then I would trust the tips to be useful to me."

While discussing the content of the app, the potential for expansion of the target ground was uncovered. A parent with experience in a more intensive care trajectory mentioned: "I see that you address very real topics in the app, but they touch upon a broader context than just the outpatient visit." Another parent, who recently started the outpatient trajectory and does not experience a lot of stress because of the non-severeness of the disease, indicated that: "I think that for me, this [app] would be one step too far". She also said: "My initial impression is that it might be more suitable for chronic illnesses and hospital admissions than for outpatient visits."

WILL USING THE CARE COMPANION APP HELP PARENT MANAGE THEIR STRESS?

In general, parents indicated that they think the app would help parents to manage their stress. A parent said: "I think many caregiving parents can benefit enormously from this [app]." Some of the parents did note that they do think it would have helped them earlier in the pediatric outpatient trajectory of their child, but that they question if it would still help them now that they have gotten more familiar and experienced with visiting the outpatient clinic. Using the app will thus help parents with managing their stress especially when they are still feeling unfamiliar and insecure (and therefore stressed) in the context of the outpatient visit.

When the expert was asked this question, she indicated that she does think using the Care Companion app will help parents to manage their stress. She explains that, in the hustle and bustle of everyday life, parents often forget to take care of themselves and that she thinks that this app can create awareness. When asked if she would recommend the Care Companion app to parents visiting the outpatient clinic, she said: "Yes, absolutely!" She explained that it would be very helpful when parents are less stressed when visiting the outpatient clinic: "When the parent is calm, the child can handle it better too."

6.5 | CONCLUSION

The Care Companion app is an app that provides parents with tips based on the advice of experts and the experiences of other parents. These tips can be discarded or saved based on recognition by swiping left or right, besides being shared outside of the app. The app provides parents with affirmations as well. An evaluation showed promising results for parental usage of the Care Companion app and indicated that the app will most likely help parents to manage their stress.

CHAPTER 7

FINAL REFLECTIONS

This final chapter is the endpoint of both the Double Diamond and this report. Both recommendations for further developing the app and limitations of the executed research are presented, followed by some suggestions for future work and concluding remarks.

7.1 | RECOMMENDATIONS

CONTENT OF TIPS

Feedback on the content and formulation of the 12 example tips created in this project was provided by participants of the evaluation study. This feedback contains recommendations on both content (Is it relevant, and to which parents with level of experience?) and formulation (Which phrases to use or avoid?). Additionally, a positive use of language (Comfort Talk) is recommended to be implemented in the tips (Requirement 15).

Suggestions for the structure of the Tip Pages were made by participants of the evaluation study. A parent mentioned that the advice of the expert in some cases comes off a bit pedantic. He suggested splitting up the advice into a set of concrete actions and more information about the why of these actions (placing this last part below the experience of the parent for parents who want to scroll through more information). For the experience of the parent, a participant mentioned: "This is one of the existing stories. Perhaps several different experiences could be added to a tip." When potentially implementing these suggestions, it should be considered that each tip should contain a manageable amount of information for parents to absorb.

The expert of the evaluation study highlighted the opportunity this app offers to support parents who do not speak Dutch. She emphasized that those parents especially struggle with finding information and preparing themselves. Because of language limitations, the support these parents receive might be less than the support parents receive as described in Chapter 3.3.2. It is therefore recommended to in the future not just focus on translating the created database but also adapt the content of the database to contain tips for challenges that specifically these parents encounter.

The database of tips currently contains non-disease-specific and non-hospital-related tips. This is a valuable initial set of tips, but the concept of the database offers the possibility to add expansion packages of tips. During the evaluation study, one parent explained that he was mainly searching for information about the disease and treatment of his child: "In the moment, you are mainly focused on: What is going on [with the child]? What are the risks? How does it [the treatment] work? What are the possibilities?" He suggested to look at the existing information folders of hospitals and the possibility to incorporate these in the app. Also tips specifically related to their hospital were mentioned to be thought of as valuable by participants. Expanding the database of tips with disease- or hospital-specific tips could be interesting, but the appropriate timing for such expansions should be investigated. Additionally, if implemented, questions about the disease of the child and/or the hospital to visit should be added to the introductory screens, to only show the relevant tips to the parent. This can be done in the same way as it is done in the Hospital Hero app, so still no storage of personal data is needed (wish 5).

CONTENT OF AFFIRMATIONS

As seen in the evaluation study, the idea of the affirmations was generally received positively. To make sure though that the affirmations will not evoke resistance, as mentioned by one parent, the content of the affirmations should be reviewed. This can be done by submitting the created affirmations to a number of parents and asking them what emotion are evoked by reading such the text.

USAGE

One parent mentioned being concerned about their privacy when swiping tips left and right. It was questioned if this would cause you to enter a certain algorithm, just like on social media, and which information was stored to do so. This is not the case and no personal information is stored in the app or by the Hospital Hero Foundation, but this should be communicated to parents to relieve them of such worries.

When first opening the app, parents are asked about their preferences regarding receiving notification. Because of the distinction made between the interactions of swiping and viewing and the different contexts that these interactions are performed, preferences for reminders might also differ for these two interactions. This distinction could be made in the settings section of the app. Parents should not be asked about their preferences for these different types of interactions in the introductory screens when first opening the app, since at that point they don't have enough knowledge about the different types of interactions offered by the app.

When discussing notifications, it should be investigated if the reminders of the app could be connected to the appointment the parents and their child have at the pediatric outpatient clinic. In the evaluation study, the expert suggested the app to be linked to the hospital systems. The achievability of such functionalities should be studied. Additionally, if this direct link to the hospital is made, it should be considered to design the layout of the app in a way that reflects the visual style of the hospital.

IMPLEMENTATION

When asked about how they would expect to be introduced to the Care Companion app, parents generally mentioned aspects in the context of the hospital. Almost all parents indicated the appointment letter (either physically or digitally) to be the ideal way to grasp the attention of the parent. Patient organizations were mentioned as well. A parent suggested posters with QR-codes to be hung both in the waiting room as well as in the doctor's office. Another parent mentioned that health insurance companies also offer a selection of services in which this app might fit. Nonetheless, she also did mention that she never in depth looked at these services even though she knew of their existence. It might therefore be a challenge to actually reach users when implementing the Care Companion app in such platforms.

7.2 | LIMITATIONS

The characteristics, background and experiences of the designer inevitably influence the perception and interpretation of data in the qualitative research executed in this project. This limitation could lead to potential misinterpretations of research results. By transparently stating the positionality of the designer in this paragraph, the subjective nature of the analysis and conclusions is highlighted.

PARTICIPANT RECRUITMENT

In the recruitment process for interviews an introduction of the project was provided to the approached parents. Parents who identify with the researched topics might more positively perceive its relevance, potentially causing them to be more likely to participate in such studies. It is important to consider that results regarding usage and relevance of the app potentially tend to positive outcomes because of this.

Almost all healthcare professionals and experts that participated in the interviews during this project were recruited through the contacts of the Hospital Hero Foundation. This may, on the one hand, be a limitation since it potentially resulted in more positive responses because of the social desirability bias. On the other hand, it may be an advantage since it could have resulted in context-aware responses (such as ideas about how the Care Companion could be implemented alongside the Hospital Hero app).

Because of time constraints, interview participants for discussing the three concepts were primarily recruited from the pool of participants that had engaged in prior research activities. A limitation of reusing participants is the potential for responses to validate previous research findings without further substantiation. However, between these two rounds of interviews the focus of the project had shifted. The effects of this limitation can therefore be considered minimal. Nonetheless, none of the participants of the evaluation study participated in previous research activities in this project.

In retrospect, it was found that the majority of participating parents are (or have been) navigating an intensive care trajectory with their child. The hospital experiences of these parents are not limited to appointments in the outpatient clinic. Even though during the interviews parents were explicitly asked to solely draw upon their experiences in the outpatient clinic, it cannot be assumed that parents were able to fully disassociate these experiences.

EVALUATION STUDY

The evaluation study was aimed at receiving feedback on the Care Companion app on a conceptual level. Participants could not independently interact with the concept and interview questions were formulated to help participants think about the app on a conceptual level (e.g. What do you think about the app's functionality of Swiping/Viewing/Sharing?). Hard conclusions about the design and usability of the app can therefore not be drawn from this evaluation study.

Parents without experience in the pediatric outpatient clinic did not participate in studies during this research project. When evaluating the final concept on its relevance before the first visit we therefore depend on the recalling skills of the participants. A first limitation is that, since these answers are based on speculation, the reliability of result might be impaired. Also, when reflecting on the past, the age of children may not fit the target, being a second limitation.

7.3 | FUTURE WORK

If and when the Hospital Hero Foundation would decide to further develop the concept of the Care Companion app, certain steps should be taken.

DEVELOPMENT

First, future work should focus on further developing the Care Companion app. The recommendations that resulted from the evaluation of the Final Concept, as presented in Chapter 7.1, should be implemented in the app. This entails further developing some aspects of the app, such as the content of the initial set of tips, notifications to stimulate usage of the app (possibly connected to planned appointments in the pediatric outpatient clinic) and development of the app for parents who don't speak Dutch (translating as well as adjusting content to be relevant to those parents), before implementing and launching the app. Design and usability of the app needs to be considered when further developing the app as well. Verifying preliminary interpretations with participants can be of value, to ensure the correctness of research results.

EVALUATION

Second, future work should include an elaborate evaluation of the Care Companion app. An interactive prototype should be created, to be able to evaluate the interactions with the app and the app's usability without having to draw conclusions based on speculation. To assess the timing and frequency of app usage, this interactive prototype should be tested in a real-world context. The testing period should include time before, during and after the outpatient visit. After testing, interviews should be conducted with participants.

Participants should fit into all 3 experience level categories and should be navigating care trajectories with various levels of intensity, to be able to evaluate the relevance of tips for both stressed and not stressed parents in the context of pediatric outpatient visits.

When carrying out this evaluation study, ethical considerations should be taken into account, particularly when working with parents with no prior experience in the outpatient clinic. Prior research has shown these parents to potentially be in a fragile emotional state.

As opposed to the previously performed research (which solely included parents who identified with the research topics and might therefore more positively perceive its relevance), future work should include parents who indicate that they do not need or want support. This is important to be able to see if using this app could (to their surprise) be helpful to them anyway. If so, further research should be conducted into how to convince these parents to start using the Care Companion app.

IMPLEMENTATION

Third, future work should focus on the crucial step of the implementation of the Care Companion app. An implementation strategy should be created, among others including how to activate parents to download the app and how to involve various stakeholders in promoting the app. Examples could be presenting the Care Companion app to relevant stakeholders (so they are well-informed about the benefits it could provide to parents) and including a download button in the Hospital Hero app (to reach parents that are already familiar with the Hospital Hero Foundation).

For creating this implementation strategy, the recommendations about implementation described earlier in this report can be used as starting point. Also, existing support mechanisms for parents were only studied by conducting interviews with healthcare professionals and parents in this project. More existing support (such as the BeterDichtbij app, the I Am app and Indiveo) later came to the designer's attention. When further developing and implementing the Care Companion app, it would be interesting to look at such existing support mechanisms. Questions about whether these support interventions reach parents and why (not) could teach about the implementation of the Care Companion app. Besides carrying out further research, relevant connections of the Hospital Hero Foundation, such as the National eHealth Living Lab, may also be consulted.

7.4 | CONCLUDING REMARKS

This graduation project started off with the wish to support parents of pediatric patients, without knowing how this could be done or what the needs of these parents were. Prior to this graduation project I had no experience in the context of pediatric outpatient visits, so I did not quite know what to expect. What I did know was that the goal of the Hospital Hero Foundation to reduce fear and anxiety in pediatric patients, so that their hospital visits could be nicer and more efficient, was really inspiring to me.

Throughout the project, research uncovered parental stress and a set of six challenges experienced in the context of pediatric outpatient trajectories, substantiating a shift in focus from “how to help parents with supporting their child” to “how to support parents themselves, so they can manage their own stress”. As a result, I designed the Care Companion app with the sole goal of helping these parents with their own challenges. During this graduation project, I have experienced focusing on supporting these parents, who dedicate themselves entirely to taking care of their child, as a very humbling task. I can only hope that somewhere in the future my research can positively add to the real-world hospital experiences of children and their parents.



Pauline

REFERENCES

- Blount, R. L., Corbin, S. M., Sturges, J. W., Wolfe, V. V., Prater, J. M., & James, L. (1989). The relationship between adults' behavior and child coping and distress during BMA/LP procedures: A sequential analysis. *Behavior Therapy, 20*(4), 585–601. [https://doi.org/10.1016/s0005-7894\(89\)80136-4](https://doi.org/10.1016/s0005-7894(89)80136-4)
- Bray, L., Appleton, V., & Sharpe, A. (2019). 'If I knew what was going to happen, it wouldn't worry me so much': Children's, parents' and health professionals' perspectives on information for children undergoing a procedure. *Journal Of Child Health Care, 23*(4), 626–638. <https://doi.org/10.1177/1367493519870654>
- Bray, L., Appleton, V., & Sharpe, A. (2021). 'We should have been told what would happen': Children's and parents' procedural knowledge levels and information-seeking behaviours when coming to hospital for a planned procedure. *Journal Of Child Health Care, 25*(1), 96–109. <https://doi.org/10.1177/13674935211000929>
- Brown, E. K., De Young, A., Kimble, R., & Kenardy, J. (2018). Review of a Parent's Influence on Pediatric Procedural Distress and Recovery. *Clinical Child And Family Psychology Review, 21*(2), 224–245. <https://doi.org/10.1007/s10567-017-0252-3>
- Business Model Innovatie. (2024). MoSCoW-Canvas. *Business Model Innovatie*. <https://www.businessmodelinnovatie.nl/innovatietools/moscow-canvas-design-criteria-canvas/>
- Caumo, W., Broenstrup, J. C., Fialho, L., Petry, S. M. G., Brathwait, O., Bandeira, D. R., Loguércio, A. D., & Ferreira, M. B. C. (2000). Risk factors for postoperative anxiety in children. *Acta Anaesthesiologica Scandinavica, 44*(7), 782–789. <https://doi.org/10.1034/j.1399-6576.2000.440703.x>
- CBS. (2023, 31 augustus). *Medisch Specialistische Zorg; DBC's naar diagnose, zorgkenmerken*. CBS Statline. Geraadpleegd op 2 februari 2024, van <https://opendata.cbs.nl/statline/#/CBS/nl/dataset/82471NED/table?ts=1707131393958>
- Fernandes, S. C., Arriaga, P., & Esteves, F. (2014). Providing preoperative information for children undergoing surgery: a randomized study testing different types of educational material to reduce children's preoperative worries. *Health Education Research, 29*(6), 1058–1076. <https://doi.org/10.1093/her/cyu066>
- Franck, L. S., & O'Brien, K. (2019). The evolution of family-centered care: From supporting parent-delivered interventions to a model of family integrated care. *Birth Defects Research, 111*(15), 1044–1059. <https://doi.org/10.1002/bdr2.1521>
- Groeneveld, E., Van Vliet, M., & Vlieger, A. (2020). Positief taalgebruik in de gezondheidszorg. *Nurse Academy, 3*, 11–15.
- IDEO. (2019). *Design Thinking In Een Dag*. Docplayer. <https://docplayer.nl/107627328-Design-thinking-in-een-dag.html>
- Kain, Z. N., Caramico, L. A., Mayes, L. C., Genevro, J., Bornstein, M. H., & Hofstadter, M. B. (1999). Preoperative Preparation Programs in Children: a Comparative Examination. *Survey Of Anesthesiology, 43*(4), 214–215. <https://doi.org/10.1097/00132586-199908000-00028>
- Lerwick, J. L. (2016). Minimizing pediatric healthcare-induced anxiety and trauma. *World Journal Of Clinical Pediatrics, 5*(2), 143. <https://doi.org/10.5409/wjcp.v5.i2.143>
- McCarthy, A. M., Kleiber, C., Hanrahan, K., Zimmerman, M., Ersig, A. L., Westhus, N., & Allen, S. (2014). Matching Doses of Distraction With Child Risk for Distress During a Medical Procedure. *Nursing Research, 63*(6), 397–407. <https://doi.org/10.1097/nnr.0000000000000056>
- Medisch Spectrum Twente. (2024). *Gezinsgerichte Zorg in VKC*. <https://www.mst.nl/p/Centra/vkc/gezinsgerichte-zorg/>
- Mendels, E. J., Zirar-Vroegindewij, A., Waagenaar, G., Versteegh, J., & Leroy, P. L. J. M. (2022). Kindgerichte zorg bij medische verrichtingen. *Huisarts en Wetenschap, 65*(9), 31–35. <https://doi.org/10.1007/s12445-022-1520-0>
- Müller, B. (2023). *Towards fear-free hospital visits: An application empowering children with Congenital Heart Defects and their parents* [Master Thesis]. Technical University of Delft.
- Poot, C. C., Meijer, E., Bruil, A., Venema, M., Vegt, N., Donkel, N., Van Noort, V., Chavannes, N. H., & Roest, A. A. (2023). How to use participatory design to develop an eHealth intervention to reduce preprocedural stress and anxiety among children visiting the hospital: The Hospital Hero app multi-study and pilot report. *Frontiers in Pediatrics, 11*. <https://doi.org/10.3389/fped.2023.1132639>
- Radboudumc. (z.d.). *Gezinsgerichte zorg*. Geraadpleegd op 12 februari 2024, van <https://www.radboudumc.nl/werken-bij/meeloopdag-kinderverpleegkundigen/waarom-werken/gezinsgerichte-zorg>
- Reinier de Graaf Gasthuis. (z.d.). *Gezinsgerichte zorg*. Reinier de Graaf. Geraadpleegd op 12 februari 2024, van <https://reinierdegraaf.nl/behandeling/gezinsgerichte-zorg>

- Rodriguez, C. M., Clough, V., Gowda, A. S., & Tucker, M. C. (2012). Multimethod Assessment of Children's Distress During Noninvasive Outpatient Medical Procedures: Child and Parent Attitudes and Factors. *Journal Of Pediatric Psychology, 37*(5), 557–566. <https://doi.org/10.1093/jpepsy/jss005>
- Roozenburg, N., & Eekels, J. (1998). *Productontwerpen, structuur en methoden*.
- Sanders, E., & Stappers, P. (2013). *Convivial Toolbox: Generative Research for the Front End of Design*.
- Skills4Comfort. (2023). *Home page*. <https://skills4comfort.nl/>
- Sobol-Kwapińska, M., Sobol, M. K., & Woźnica-Niesobska, E. (2020). Parental behavior and child distress and pain during pediatric medical procedures: Systematic review and meta-analysis. *Health Psychology, 39*(7), 558–572. <https://doi.org/10.1037/hea0000864>
- St. Antonius Ziekenhuis. (2024). *Gezinsgerichte zorg (Family Centered Care)*. Geraadpleegd op 12 februari 2024, van <https://www.antoniusziekenhuis.nl/geboortezorg/gezinsgerichte-zorg-family-centered-care>
- Stichting Kind en Ziekenhuis. (2023, 10 februari). *Home page*. <https://kindenziekenhuis.nl/>
- Van Boeijen, A., Daalhuizen, J., Van Der Schoor, R., & Zijlstra, J. (2013a). Brainstorm. In *Delft Design Guide* (p. 117). BIS Publishers.
- Van Boeijen, A., Daalhuizen, J., Van Der Schoor, R., & Zijlstra, J. (2013b). Design Drawing. In *Delft Design Guide* (p. 159). BIS Publishers.
- Van Boeijen, A., Daalhuizen, J., Van Der Schoor, R., & Zijlstra, J. (2013c). Harris Profile. In *Delft Design Guide* (p. 139). BIS Publishers.
- Van Boeijen, A., Daalhuizen, J., Van Der Schoor, R., & Zijlstra, J. (2013d). Interviews. In *Delft Design Guide* (p. 47). BIS Publishers.
- Van Boeijen, A., Daalhuizen, J., Van Der Schoor, R., & Zijlstra, J. (2013e). Itemised Response and PMI. In *Delft Design Guide* (p. 145). BIS Publishers.
- Van Boeijen, A., Daalhuizen, J., Van Der Schoor, R., & Zijlstra, J. (2013f). List of Requirements. In *Delft Design Guide* (p. 103). BIS Publishers.
- Van Boeijen, A., Daalhuizen, J., Van Der Schoor, R., & Zijlstra, J. (2013g). Product Concept Evaluation. In *Delft Design Guide* (p. 135). BIS Publishers.
- Van Boeijen, A., Daalhuizen, J., Van Der Schoor, R., & Zijlstra, J. (2013h). Storyboard. In *Delft Design Guide* (p. 97). BIS Publishers.
- Van Boeijen, A., Daalhuizen, J., Van Der Schoor, R., & Zijlstra, J. (2013i). User Observations. In *Delft Design Guide* (p. 45). BIS Publishers.
- Van Boeijen, A., Daalhuizen, J., Van Der Schoor, R., & Zijlstra, J. (2013j). Video Visualisation. In *Delft Design Guide* (p. 165). BIS Publishers.
- Van der Wardt, R. (2022). *Double Diamond Model (nieuwe versie): uitleg bij de 4 fases*. Design Thinking Workshop. <https://designthinkingworkshop.nl/double-diamond>
- Vleugel-Ruissen, S., & Keijzer, M. (2019). *Voorbij de angst: Distress bij kinderen in de paramedische setting*. Gompel&Svacina.
- World Health Organization. (2024). *Number of outpatient visits per person per year*. <https://www.who.int/data/gho/indicator-metadata-registry/imr-details/3117>
- Wright, K. D., Stewart, S. H., Finley, G. A., & Buffett-Jerrott, S. E. (2007). Prevention and Intervention Strategies to Alleviate Preoperative Anxiety in Children. *Behavior Modification, 31*(1), 52–79. <https://doi.org/10.1177/0145445506295055>

APPENDICES

- A | Initial Design Brief
- B | Participant Overview

Chapter 3

- C | Observation Form “Even Spieken”
- D | Topic List Interviews: Research in Context (HCP)
- E | Topic List Interviews: Research in Context (Parent)
- F | First Ideas
- G | Niet Zo Maar Zo’s

Chapter 5

- H | First Idea Selection
- I | Itemised Response and PMI
- J | Topic List Interviews: Discussing Concepts (HCP/Expert)
- K | Topic List Interviews: Discussing Concepts (Parent)
- L | Reasoning for Harris Profile

Chapter 6

- M | MoSCoW-canvas
- N | Collection of Affirmations
- O | Topic List Interviews: Evaluation (Expert)
- P | Topic List Interviews: Evaluation (Parents)
- Q | Evaluation Results: Feedback on Tips

introduction (continued): space for images

image / figure 1: _____

image / figure 2: _____

PROBLEM DEFINITION **

Limit and define the scope and solution space of your project to one that is manageable within one Master Graduation Project of 30 EC (= 20 full time weeks or 100 working days) and clearly indicate what issue(s) should be addressed in this project.

ASSIGNMENT **

State in 2 or 3 sentences what you are going to research, design, create and / or generate, that will solve (part of) the issue(s) pointed out in "problem definition". Then illustrate this assignment by indicating what kind of solution you expect and / or aim to deliver, for instance: a product, a product-service combination, a strategy illustrated through product or product-service combination ideas, In case of a Specialisation and/or Annotation, make sure the assignment reflects this/these.

PLANNING AND APPROACH **

Include a Gantt Chart (replace the example below - more examples can be found in Manual 2) that shows the different phases of your project, deliverables you have in mind, meetings, and how you plan to spend your time. Please note that all activities should fit within the given net time of 30 EC = 20 full time weeks or 100 working days, and your planning should include a kick-off meeting, mid-term meeting, green light meeting and graduation ceremony. Illustrate your Gantt Chart by, for instance, explaining your approach, and please indicate periods of part-time activities and/or periods of not spending time on your graduation project, if any, for instance because of holidays or parallel activities.

start date _____ - _____ - _____ end date

MOTIVATION AND PERSONAL AMBITIONS

Explain why you set up this project, what competences you want to prove and learn. For example: acquired competences from your MSc programme, the elective semester, extra-curricular activities (etc.) and point out the competences you have yet developed. Optionally, describe which personal learning ambitions you explicitly want to address in this project, on top of the learning objectives of the Graduation Project, such as: in depth knowledge a on specific subject, broadening your competences or experimenting with a specific tool and/or methodology, Stick to no more than five ambitions.

Vertical dashed line on the left side of the page.

FINAL COMMENTS

In case your project brief needs final comments, please add any information you think is relevant.

Vertical dashed line on the left side of the page.

Appendix B | Participant Overview

Healthcare Professionals / Experts

		Participated in					
		Research in Context	Discussing Concepts	Evaluation			
Parti	Description				Functie	Hospital	Location
P01	HCP/Expert	X	-	-	Verpleegkundige & Oprichter Stichting Hospital	WAKZ, Leiden	Office HH
P06	HCP	X	-	-	Psycholoog	WAKZ, Leiden	Hospital
P08	HCP	X	X	-	Psycholoog	WAKZ, Leiden	Hospital
P11	HCP	X	-	-	Verpleegkundige	WAKZ, Leiden	Hospital
P12	HCP	X	-	-	Doktersassistente	WAKZ, Leiden	Hospital
P13	HCP	X	-	-	Medisch Pedagogisch Zorgverlener	Alrijne, Leiderdorp	Office HH
P14	HCP	X	-	-	Arts (Nefroloog)	WAKZ, Leiden	Hospital
P15	HCP	X	-	-	Verpleegkundige	Groene Hart, Gouda	Hospital
P16	HCP	X	X	-	Medisch Pedagogisch Zorgverlener	WAKZ, Leiden	Hospital & Online
P21	HCP	X	-	-	Medisch Pedagogisch Zorgverlener	Het Van Weel-Bethesda Ziekenhuis, Dirksland	Online
P24	HCP	X	-	-	Verpleegkundige	Groene Hart, Gouda	Online
P26	HCP	X	-	-	Arts (Allergoloog)	Reinier de Graaf Gasthuis, Delft	Hospital
P33	HCP/Expert	X	X	-	Psycholoog & Trainer Skills4Comfort	Reinier de Graaf Gasthuis, Delft	Hospital & Online
P37	HCP	X	-	-	Verpleegkundige	Sophia Kinderziekenhuis, Rotterdam	Hospital
P38	Expert	-	X	-	Projectmanager Stichting Kind & Ziekenhuis	n.v.t.	Online
P44	HCP/Expert	-	-	X	Stafdoktersassistente	Sophia Kinderziekenhuis, Rotterdam	Online

Parents

		Participated in					
		Research in Context	Discussing Concepts	Evaluation			
Parti	Description				Knowledge of Hospital Hero	Hospital	Location
P19	Parent	X	X	-	Yes, testing Even Spieken during observation	WAKZ, Leiden	Online
P20	Parent	X	-	-	Yes, testing Even Spieken during observation	WAKZ, Leiden	Online
P23	Parent	X	-	-	Yes, helping Hospital Hero	Unknown	Online
P27	Parent	X	-	-	Yes, testing Even Spieken during observation	WAKZ, Leiden	Online
P28	Parent	X	-	-	Yes, testing Even Spieken during observation	WAKZ, Leiden	Hospital
P36	Parent	X	X	-	Yes, testing Even Spieken during observation	WAKZ, Leiden	Online
P39	Parent	-	-	X	No	Unknown	Online
P40	Parent	-	-	X	No	Gelderse Vallei, Ede	Online
P41	Parent	-	-	X	No	WKZ, Utrecht	Online
P42	Parent	-	-	X	Possibly?	WKZ, Utrecht & Sophia Kinderziekenhuis, Rotterdam	Online
P43	Parent	-	-	X	No	Unknown (omgeving Rotterdam)	Online

Appendix C | Observation Form “Even Spieken”

ALGEMEEN

Observeerder & interviewer: _____ Datum: ____ / ____ / _____

Wie zie je? + inschatting leeftijd kinderen

- Meisje (patiënt) ____ jaar Papa Broertje ____ jaar Opa Anders:
 Jongen (patiënt) ____ jaar Mama Zusje ____ jaar Oma _____

Kennen ze de Hospital Hero app al? Ja Nee

INTERVIEW

Vorbereiding

Doen jullie thuis iets aan voorbereiding, voordat jullie naar de kinderpoli komen? Ja Nee

Doe je voor jezelf, als ouder, ook iets aan voorbereiding, voordat jullie naar de kinderpoli komen?

- Ja Nee _____

Zijn er dingen die je mist, in jouw eigen voorbereiding of die van jouw kind?

Even Spieken

Want vinden jullie van de Even Spieken module?

In welke (andere) kamers zou jij/zouden jullie nog meer even willen spieken? *Waarom?*

Zou je/Zouden jullie dit thuis willen gebruiken, voordat je naar het ziekenhuis gaat? *Waarom?*

- Ja Nee _____

Hebben jullie nog tips en/of tops voor de Even Spieken module?

OVERIGE AANTEKENINGEN



INTERACTIE KJKDOOS

INTERACTIE APP

Wie staat waar? Schets de situatie/een plattegrond, teken pijlen voor interacties.

Probeert het kind de ouder/verzorger te betrekken? Ja Nee

Probeert de ouder/verzorger betrokken te zijn bij het kind? Ja Nee

Wie heeft de regie? Patiënt Ouder Broer/Zus Anders: _____

Helpen ouder en/of kind elkaar, of werken ze elkaar juist tegen? Helpen / Tegenwerken

OBSERVATIES KJKDOOS

OBSERVATIES APP ALGEMEEN

INTERACTIE DIEREN ZOEKEN

INTERACTIE EVEN SPIEKEN



Appendix D | Topic List Interviews: Research in Context (HCP)

TOPIC LIST SEMI-STRUCTURED INTERVIEW

INTRODUCTIE

Introductie

Pauline Eshuis. Afstudeerstudente **TU Delft**. (Decentrale) rol van ouders vóór en tijdens het **polikliniekbezoek** van hun kind: **4-10 jaar**, basisschoolleeftijd. Ik spreek verschillende zorgmedewerkers. Dankjewel, 30 minuten tijd om mij te vertellen over **jouw ervaringen**. **ICF**

Introductie

Huidige **functie**? Hoe lang al?

Wat heb je **hiervoor** gedaan? Probes: Functie? Ziekenhuis? Ervaring met kinderen?

ALGEMENE OMGANG

In jouw functie heb je, voor zover ik weet, **vooral contact met kinderen**.

Maar meestal zijn de **ouders bij het kind** tijdens het polikliniek bezoek.

Rol ouder Welke rol heeft de ouder, volgens jou, in het polikliniekbezoek van hun kind?

Probes: + Ondersteunend, helpend? - Tegenwerkend, onrustzaaiend?

LET OP: Aanvoelen of je de connectie al hebt.

Neg. Situatie

Komt het wel eens voor dat je in een **situatie** bent waarin het **lastig** is dat ouders aanwezig zijn?

Kan je een **voorbeeld** geven van zo'n situatie?

Waar lag dat volgens jou aan? Hoe ging jij hier mee om? Bespreek je dat met de ouder? Waarom wel/niet?

Pos. Situatie

Komt het ook wel eens voor dat het juist heel erg **helpt** dat de ouder aanwezig is?

Kan je een **situatie omschrijven** waarin de ouders juist (**bedoeld of onbedoeld**) erg meewerkend was?

Waar lag dat volgens jou aan? Bespreek je dat met de ouder? Waarom wel/niet?

HUIDIGE ROL

Zoals ik eerder zei, gaat het om de rol van de ouders **vóór én tijdens** het polikliniekbezoek van hun kind. **Jij** hebt natuurlijk **vooral** contact met ouder en kind **tijdens** het bezoek, **MAAR ook benieuwd** naar inzichten over **specifiek de voorbereiding**.

Vorbereiding

Hoe ziet, volgens jou, de **rol van de ouder** in het ondersteunen van het kind eruit, als je **specifiek** kijkt naar de **voorbereiding** voor het ziekenhuisbezoek?

Kan je een **voorbeeld** geven?

Heeft de **manier van voorbereiding** van ouder en kind **invloed** op hoe jij **je werk** kan uitoefenen tijdens het ziekenhuisbezoek van het kind?

Wat versta jij eigenlijk onder "**voorbereiding**"?

En wat versta je onder "**goede**" **voorbereiding**, wanneer zijn kind (en ouder) volgens jou goed voorbereid?

En dan nu in wat meer **algemene zin** over de rol van ouders.

Invloed

Hebben ouders volgens jou invloed op het **stressniveau van hun kind**? Op welke manier?

Zie je dit als positief of negatief? Waarom? Kan je een voorbeeld geven? Wat doe je op zo'n moment?

Hebben ouders invloed op **jouw werk**? Hoe beïnvloeden ouders jouw werk?

Is dit positief of negatief? Waarom? Kan je een voorbeeld geven? Wat doe je op zo'n moment?

LET OP: Als nog niet gevraagd, terug naar **positieve/negatieve situaties (z.o.z.)**.

Naast ouders zijn er soms ook **broertjes of zusjes** mee naar het polikliniekbezoek.

Brusjes

Welke rol hebben **broertjes of zusjes** (brusjes) tijdens een poli afspraak of daarvoor volgens jou?

Op welke manier? Heb je daar een voorbeeld bij?

ONDERSTEUNING

We gaan weer even **terug naar de ouders**. In de meeste kinderziekenhuizen wordt **van alles** gedaan om de **kinderen voor te bereiden** en/of te ondersteunen. **Maar**, zoals net besproken, hebben **ouders ook wel invloed** op de ziekenhuiservaring van het kind. Daarom wil ik het even hebben over de **ondersteuning van ouders**.

Ondersteuning

Ontvangen ouders **ondersteuning** over het poli-bezoek van kind? Probes: Mentale steun / Advies (Comfort Talk) / Flyers...

Zo ja: Wat voor ondersteuning ontvangen zij?

Waarom ontvangen zij ondersteuning? Wie wel, wie niet? Waar ligt dat aan?

Heb jij het gevoel dat deze ondersteuning nu heeft?

Zo nee: Waarom ontvangen zij geen ondersteuning? Heb jij het gevoel dat ze wel ondersteuning nodig hebben?

Wat voor ondersteuning hebben zij nodig? Wie wel, wie niet? Waar ligt dat aan?

Ondersteuning

Zijn er dingen die **jij bewust doet** om ouders te steunen? Probes: Geruststellen/ Uitleg / Oogcontact / Afleiding aanbieden.

Zo ja: Welke dingen doe je? Waarom? Bij wie wel, bij wie niet? Waar ligt dat aan? Op welke manier steunt dit hen denk je?

Zo nee: Waarom doe je dit niet? Bij wie wel, bij wie niet? Waar ligt dat aan?

Welke ondersteuning zou je ze bewust kunnen geven? Op welke manier zou dit hen kunnen helpen?

OPLEIDING

Je komt dus, zoals eerder besproken, **in jouw functie best veel in contact met ouders**.

Opleiding

Heb jij in jouw opleiding **informatie/training** gehad: **hoe om te gaan met ouders?**

Zo ja: Wat kwam er in de scholing aan bod? Probe: Omgaan met vervelende ouders (buiten de deur zetten)/ Ongestoord kunnen werken/ Ondersteunen / Ouder als partner gebruiken

In hoeverre pas je deze dingen in het echt toe? Wat is voor jou de ideale rol die een ouder inneemt?

Zo nee: Vind je dat dit **zou moeten?** / Mis je dit?

Zo nee: Waarom niet? Kan je een voorbeeld geven?

Zo ja: Waarom wel, **waar loop je tegenaan?** Kan je een voorbeeld geven?

IDEALE ROL

We hebben het **gehad over de huidige rol** van de ouder en hoe dit jouw werk beïnvloedt.

Ideale rol

Ik ben benieuwd hoe jij denkt dat de **rol van de ouder er idealiter uitziet?** Probe: Afzijdig/Betrokken? Stil/Bemoeiend?

Verschildt dit nog per situatie? Kan je dit toelichten? Probe: Thuis/Wachtkamer/Onderzoekskamer? Vooraf/Tijdens/Na afloop? Eenmalig/Meermalig bezoek? Leeftijd kind?

Hoe is deze ideale rol van de ouder, als je focust op **jouw eigen perspectief?**

Wat heb jij nodig van de ouder, om je werk zo goed mogelijk te doen? Kan je dit toelichten?

Hoe is deze ideale rol van de ouder, vanuit het **perspectief van het kind?**

Wat heeft het kind nodig van de ouder, volgens jou? Kan je dit toelichten?

Denk je dat deze ideale rol voor jou en/of het kind ook de ideale rol is vanuit het **perspectief van de ouder?**

Wat heeft de ouder zelf nodig, volgens jou? Kan je dit toelichten?

HAALBAARHEID

We hebben nu die **ideale rol** van de ouder **omschreven**.

Haalbaarheid

Hoe haalbaar is die ideale rol voor de ouder om te vervullen? Denk je dat ouders **meer of andere ondersteuning** nodig hebben dan ze nu krijgen om deze ideale rol te kunnen vervullen?

Wie wel, wie niet? In welke situatie wel/niet? Is dit **veranderlijk?** Waar ligt dat aan? Probes: Thuis/Wachtkamer/Behandelkamer? Vooraf/Tijdens/Na? Eenmalig/Meermalig bezoek? Leeftijd kind?

BELANGRIJKE VRAAG

Opleiding

Zijn er dingen die jij hebt geleerd die ook nuttig zijn voor ouders om te weten?

Probes: Hoe het kind te ondersteunen? Hoe zelf te dealen met emoties?

Zo ja: Welke dingen? Waarom denk je dat die nuttig zijn?

Zo nee: Waarom is alles wat jij hebt geleerd niet nuttig voor ouders?

HOSPITAL HERO

De **Hospital Hero app** is een app die kinderen helpt met **voorbereiding en afleiding** voor het polikliniekbezoek, **om angst en stress te verminderen**. De app is gemaakt voor kinderen tussen de **4 en 10 jaar**. Kinderen zijn op die leeftijd natuurlijk nog afhankelijk van hun ouders.

Hospital Hero

Wat is **jouw kennis/ervaring** met de Hospital Hero app?

Als weinig: Uitleggen / Laten zien.

Als veel: Welke interacties heb je gezien tussen kind en ouder bij spelen met app?

Probe: Samen zoeken/Ouder voorlezen/Inhoudelijk vragen info in app?

Hebben deze interacties (/heeft de app) **impact op de ouder?**

Probe: Stressniveau/Gemoedstoestand/Taalgebruik?

Wat voor impact? Hoe zou je deze impact omschrijven?

We hebben het **gehad over** hoe **ouders meer/beter kunnen helpen**, voor jou en voor het kind.

We hebben het ook gehad over **wat voor ondersteuning** de ouder zelf zou kunnen helpen.

BELANGRIJKE VRAAG

Hospital Hero

Hoe kunnen de **suggesties** die we hebben gegeven **een plek krijgen in de app?** Wat zijn **voor- en nadelen** hiervan?

AFSLUITING

Dan zijn we bijna aangekomen bij het **einde** van dit interview. Zijn er nog dingen die we **niet hebben behandeld** die **wel belangrijk zijn** om te benoemen? Mag ik nog even vragen **hoe oud** je bent?

Appendix E | Topic List Interviews: Research in Context (Parent)

TOPIC LIST SEMI-STRUCTURED INTERVIEW

VRAGEN VOOR DE OUDER

Introductie

Pauline Eshuis. Afstudeerstudente **TU Delft**. (Decentrale) rol van ouders vóór en tijdens het **polikliniekbezoek** van hun kind: **4-10 jaar**, basisschoolleeftijd. Ik heb met zorgmedewerkers gesproken, maar ben nu bezig met interviews met ouders. Dankjewel, tijd om mij te vertellen over **jouw ervaringen**. ICF

Ik heb begrepen dat uw kind soms naar het ziekenhuis moet.

Hoe **oud** is uw kind? Naar **welk ziekenhuis** gaan jullie dan meestal? En **hoe vaak** gaan jullie ongeveer?

En naast [eerder genoemde personen]. Wie **wonen** er bij jou **thuis**? Probes: Broertjes/Zusjes/Huisdieren
Moeten zij ook wel eens naar de dokter?

Als jullie naar het ziekenhuis gaan **Wie** gaan er mee?

Hoe lang en hoe vaak gaat uw kind naar het ziekenhuis? En **wanneer was de laatste keer** dat uw kind naar het ziekenhuis moest?

Als ik even begin met een vrij algemene vraag. Als we het hebben over het polikliniekbezoek van uw kind.

Hoe zou u **uw huidige rol** in en rondom dat polikliniekbezoek **omschrijven**? Waarom?

Laten we het laatste polibezoek van uw kind even stap voor stap doorlopen, beginnend bij thuis.

THUIS

Als we het even hebben over de periode voorafgaand aan het ziekenhuisbezoek.

Besproken Hadden jullie het **thuis gehad over** dat je vandaag naar het ziekenhuis zou gaan? **Met wie** had je het daarover gehad?

Wanneer hadden jullie het daarover gehad? Probes; 1 dag / 1 week vantevoren.

Wat besproken jullie precies? Probes: Soort onderzoek/ Wat is spannend/ Waarheen/ Hoe gaat het zijn?

Vorbereiding En buiten praten om.

Heb jullie **thuis iets gedaan** om je kind voor te bereiden op het ziekenhuisbezoek?

Probes: Speciale outfit? Website van ziekenhuis? HH app?

Hebben jullie het kind hierbij **geholpen**? Of deed die het **alleen**?

Heeft u **thuis iets gedaan** om **uzelf** voor te bereiden op het ziekenhuisbezoek?

Probes: Website ziekenhuis? HH app? Met mensen praten?

Met wie deed u dit? Probes: Samen / Alleen

Wanneer deed u dit? Probes: 1 dag / 1 week vantevoren.

Wat deed u precies? Probes: Soort onderzoek / Risico's / Afwegingen / Gevolgen

Gebruikelijk Bereid u zich **altijd** op deze manier voor? **Waarom** wel/niet?

Waar is dit van **afhankelijk**? Probes: Afhankelijk van soort onderzoek / Verandert met meer ervaring

Belang voorb. Denkt u dat het **voor uw kind belangrijk** is om voorbereid te worden? **Waarom** wel/niet?

Merkt u, voorafgaand aan het polibezoek, iets aan het **gedrag van uw kind**?

Wat doet dit **met u**?

Merkt u hier **verandering** in aan de hand van de voorbereiding?

Denkt u dat het **voor uzelf ook belangrijk** is om u voor te bereiden? **Waarom** wel/niet?

Dromen Wat had u **graag willen doen**, om u voor te bereiden, wat u nu niet hebt gedaan?

Waarom heeft u dit niet gedaan? **Wat** had ervoor kunnen zorgen dat u dit wel had gedaan?

Info. Voorz. **Wist** u, **voordat** u naar het ziekenhuis ging, al precies **wat u te wachten stond**?

Hoe heeft u dat **ervaren**? Probes: Was dit (on)nodig? Was dit vervelend / fijn? Meer / minder stress?

Welke informatie **miste** u?

Concept

Als ik een app zou ontwerpen voor informatievoorziening. Waarin u bijvoorbeeld meer informatie zou kunnen krijgen over de route naar het ziekenhuis, de behandelingen/onderzoeken van uw kind, een plattegrond van het ziekenhuis, etc. Zou u hier **behoefte** aan hebben? **Waarom** wel/niet? **Welke informatie** zou u hier graag in hebben?

Zou u deze app **gebruiken** ter voorbereiding? **Hoeveel tijd** zou u hieraan willen besteden?

WACHTKAMER

En toen jullie naar het ziekenhuis gingen, moest u vast even wachten in de wachtkamer.

Wachten **Hoe lang/ vaak** moest u wachten?

Heeft de **hoeveelheid** dat u moet wachten invloed op hoe u zich voelt? **Waarvoor** komt dat?

Wat deden u en uw kind toen, in de wachtkamer? Deed u dat **samen**? Of deed u het **alleen**?

Vond u het **fijn**, om zo uw tijd door te brengen in de wachtkamer? **Waarom** vond u het (niet) fijn?

Gevoel Hoe **gedroeg en voelde uw kind zich** tijdens het wachten? Waaraan **merkte** u dat?

Hoe **voelde u zich** tijdens het wachten? **Waarvoor** kwam dit?

Dromen Hoe zou u zich **willen voelen** tijdens het wachten? Wat zou daarbij kunnen **helpen**?

Wat had u het **allerliefst** gedaan, toen u moest wachten?

Waarom heeft u dit niet gedaan? **Wat** had ervoor kunnen zorgen dat u dit wel had gedaan?

Concept Afleiding kan helpen om de tijd tijdens het wachten sneller te laten gaan. Als ik iets zou ontwerpen waarmee u zich tijdens het wachten zou kunnen vermaken. Bijvoorbeeld dat u en uw kind samen dieren kunnen zoeken, of iets waarmee u contact met andere ouders kan leggen.
Zou u hier **behoefte** aan hebben? **Waarom** wel/niet?
Met wie zou u graag uw tijd doorbrengen tijdens het wachten? **Hoeveel tijd** zou u hieraan willen besteden?

----- BEHANDELKAMER -----

En toen mochten jullie met de verpleegkundige of met de dokter mee.

Gedrag kind Hoe **voelde uw kind** zich, tijdens het onderzoek? **Waar**aan merkt u dat? Wat doet dit **met u**?
Gevoel Hoe **voelt u zich** tijdens het onderzoek van uw kind? **Waar**door komt dat?
Hulp kind Probeerde u **uw kind** te helpen? **Hoe**? Had u het gevoel dat het **behulpzaam** was **voor uw kind**, wat u deed?
Was wat u deed behulpzaam **voor u zelf**? **Waarom** vond u het (niet) fijn?
Hulp zorgmed. Probeerde u **de zorgmedewerker(s)** te helpen? **Hoe**? Had u het gevoel dat het **behulpzaam** was?
Was wat u deed behulpzaam **voor u zelf**? **Waarom** vond u het (niet) fijn?
Gebruikelijk Zoals u nu omschreef uw kind te ondersteunen, doet u dit **altijd** op deze manier? **Waarom** wel/niet?
Probes: Afhankelijk van soort onderzoek / Verandert met meer ervaring
Dromen Wat had u nog meer **willen doen** om te helpen/ondersteunen bij het onderzoek?
Waarom deed u dit niet / **lukte het u niet** dit te doen?

Comfort Pos. Er bestaan trucjes en hulpmiddelen om uw kind te helpen en minder angst en stress te laten ervaren. Een voorbeeld: Comfort Positions.
Bent u **op de hoogte** van wat Comfort Positions zijn? Hebt u **ervaring** met Comfort Positions? **Hoe ervoer** u dit zelf?

Comfort Talk Een ander voorbeeld is Comfort Talk of Focustaal.
Bent u **op de hoogte** van wat Comfort Talk is? Hebt u **ervaring** met Comfort Talk? **Hoe ervoer** u dit zelf?

Concept Dit soort trucjes kunnen kinderen helpen om minder angst en stress te ervaren. Als ik een app zou ontwerpen waarbij u zich thuis alvast kunt inlezen of misschien zelfs kunt oefenen hiermee.
Zou u hier **behoefte** aan hebben? **Waarom** wel/niet? **Welke informatie** zou u hier graag in hebben?
Zou u deze app **gebruiken** ter voorbereiding? **Hoeveel tijd** zou u hieraan willen besteden?

----- ONDERSTEUNING -----

Dan wil ik het nog even hebben over hoe u ondersteund werd **tijdens** het onderzoek.

Hulp ouder Wat voor **ondersteuning** ontving u tijdens het onderzoek? Hoe **ervoer** u dit?
Probes: Zorgmedewerker zocht contact / gaf een taak.
Hoe zou u **idealiter** worden ondersteunt tijdens het onderzoek?

Ouder En dan nog even over het **algemeen** over ondersteuning, buiten dit voorbeeld om.
Wat voor ondersteuning is er, voor zover u weet, allemaal beschikbaar voor ouders?
Wat/Waar/Wanneer/Van wie kunt u dit ontvangen?
Maakt u hier **gebruik** van? **Waarom** wel/niet?

Gezien voelen Voelt u zich wel eens **alleen of ongezien**? **Waar**door komt dat? Hoe gaat u hiermee om?

Concept Als ik een app zou maken waarmee ik zou focussen op verbinding van ouders en hen het gevoel geven niet alleen te zijn.
Zou u in contact willen worden gebracht met **andere ouders, lotgenoten**? **Waarom** wel/niet?
Zou u hier **vooraf thuis of juist in de wachtkamer** behoefte aan hebben? **Waarom**?
Hoeveel tijd zou u hieraan willen besteden?

Concept Stel ik zou een app maken waarbij u gemakkelijk met vrienden en familie kunt delen waar u (en uw kind) doorheen gaat.
Zou u hier **behoefte** aan hebben? **Waarom** wel/niet?
Welke informatie zou u hier graag mee willen delen? **Waarom**?
Probes: Data van afspraken / Inhoudelijk de afspraken / Uw emoties
Hoeveel tijd zou u hieraan willen besteden?

----- HOSPITAL HERO -----

Kent u de **Hospital Hero app** al?

Ja Heeft **uw kind** de app **gebruikt** als **voorbereiding** / voor **dieren zoeken** ? Wat vond u daarvan?
Heeft **u zelf** de app gebruikt als **voorbereiding** / voor **dieren zoeken**? Wat vond u daarvan?
Heeft u de app **alleen** gebruikt, **of samen** met iemand? **Waarom** alleen/samen?
Wat voor **invloed** heeft de Hospital Hero app op **uw ervaring**?

Nee Met de Hospital Hero app kan je je **thuis al voorbereiden** op jouw ziekenhuisbezoek.
Zo kan je bijvoorbeeld **Even Spieken** in de behandelkamer zodat je alvast weet wat je daar allemaal tegen kan komen. Daarnaast kan je **in het ziekenhuis** allemaal **dieren zoeken**.

Dankuwel voor het beantwoorden van mijn vragen!

Appendix F: First Ideas

Inzichten

Inzicht: Ouder heeft de beste intambies voor het kind, maar niet altijd de beste uitvoering.

Inzicht: Ouder heeft hulp nodig bij de voorbereiding voor het polikliniekbezoek.

Inzicht: Ouder voelt zich alleen, niet geholpen en niet gezien.

Voorbereiding

Inzichten

Inzicht: Ouder is zich niet bewust van het belang van voorbereiden.

Tekst: Belang van voorbereiden uitleggen.

Inzichten

Inzicht: Ouders gebruiken (onbewust) taalgebruik wat kinderen afschrikt.

Module: Duolingo → Comfort Talk

Inzichten

Inzicht: Ouders voelen zich alleen.

Module: Steunende brief met tips van ervaren ouder.

Inzichten

Inzicht: Ouders moet weten wat ze staat te wachten.

Module: Vragen voor de dokter

Bij de dokter: Jouw vragen

Inzichten

Inzicht: Ouders moet weten wat ze staat te wachten.

Tekst: Adres van/Route naar het ziekenhuis.
→ Link naar website ziekenhuis

Foto: Buitenkant ziekenhuis.

Kom, laten we naar het ziekenhuis gaan!

Inzichten

Route:

- 1 Voorbereiding
- 2 Naar het ziekenhuis
- 3 Welkom in het ziekenhuis
- 4 Wachtruimte
- 5 Onderzoeken
- 6 Bij de dokter
- 7 Naar huis

Inzichten

Inzicht: Geef ouders een taak om op te focussen.

Inzicht: Comfort positions worden gebruikt om het kind een vertrouwd gevoel te geven.

Module: Duo Yoga → Comfort Positions

Inzichten

Inzicht: Ouders moet weten wat ze staat te wachten.

Inzicht: Het is belangrijk dat de ouder luistert naar het kind.

Module: Ruzzak vullen

- Identiteitsbewijs
- Afspraakbrief
- iets ter vermaak
- iets ter afleiding

Inzichten

Inzicht: Ouder doet belofes aan kind die niet nagekomen kunnen worden.

Inzicht: Het is belangrijk dat de ouder luistert naar het kind.

Module: Afspraken maken

Inzichten

Overzicht

Belang van voorbereiden benadrukken

- Duo Yoga – Comfort Positions
- Duolingo – Comfort Talk
- Ruzzak vullen: Wat neem je mee?
- Brief van ervaren ouder
- Afspraken maken
- Vragen voor de dokter

Inzichten

Inzicht: Ouders moet weten wat ze staat te wachten.

Tekst: Route naar polikliniek.
→ Link naar website ziekenhuis

Wat te doen als je aankomt.
→ Herhaling standaardtekst afspraakbrief

Inzichten



Module:
Uitlegfilmpje aanmeldpaal

Inzicht
Wanneer lang wachten.
Dwijfel bij ouder of
aanmelding goed is gegaan.

Inzichten



Module:
Samen dieren zoeken



Inzicht
Ouder wordt niet betrokken bij
-en heeft daardoor zelf geen-
aandeling in de wachtkamer.



Inzichten



Module:
Conversatie starters

Inzicht
Ouders voelen
zich alleen.



Inzichten



Module:
Opgeroepen worden
→ Uitleg scherm en geluid.
→ Plattegrond van de poli.

Inzicht
Ouders weten niet
waar ze heen moeten.

Inzicht
Ouders begrijpen
oproepscherm niet
of zijn bang om de
oproep te missen.



Inzichten



Modules:
Voor elk onderzoek een module
→ Tekst
→ Filmpje
→ Even Spieken

Inzicht
Ouders moet precies weten
wat ze staat te wachten.

Bloedrukmeter Bloedsnaam

Inzichten



Modules:
Deelfunctie bij elk onderzoek



Inzicht
Ouder voelt zich niet
gezien / geluond door
vrienden en familie.

Inzichten



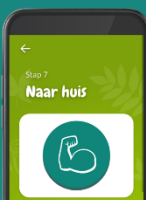
Module:
Vragen voor de dokter (herhaling)



Inzicht
Ouders moet weten
wat ze staat te wachten.



Inzichten

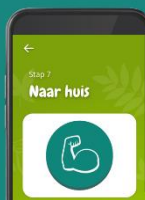


Tekst:
Uitleg van kind na het ziekenhuis
Benadrukken belang van nazorg

Inzicht
Nazorg is, net zo goed
als voorbereiding, de
verantwoordelijkheid
van de ouder.

Inzicht
Bij het naspelen van het
kind kunnen heftige
emoties vrijkomen.

Inzichten



Inzicht
Nazorg is, net zo goed
als voorbereiding, de
verantwoordelijkheid
van de ouder.

Module:
10 tips voor ouders
na het ziekenhuis



Inzichten



Module:
Schrijf een brief
(om andere ouders te helpen)

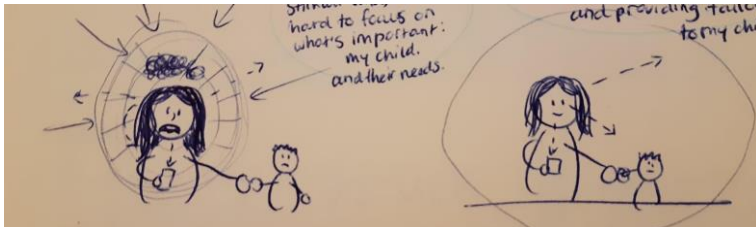
Inzicht
Ouders voelen zich niet
gezien / belangrijk.

Inzichten



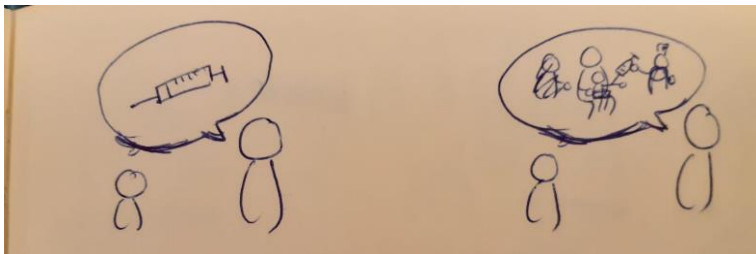
Appendix G | Niet Zo Maar Zo's

To be able to give an idea of what the current situation looks like and how this translates into the ideal situation, the "Niet Zo Maar Zo's" are created. The "Niet Zo Maar Zo's" are examples of situations showing the current situation vs. the ideal situation. The Niet Zo Maar Zo's are created by using the gathered information from the interviews and observations, and by filling in the gaps in stories of healthcare professionals and parents.



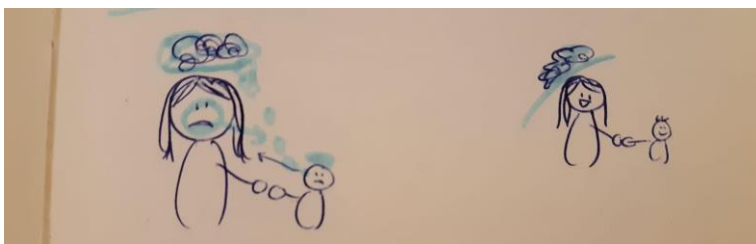
NIET ZO: When I feel stressed it becomes hard to focus on my child and what their needs are.

MAAR ZO: That's why I make sure to feel calm so I can focus on my child and give support tailored to their needs.



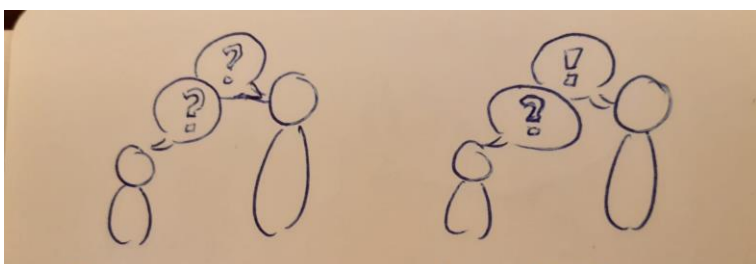
NIET ZO: When I don't, or partly, prepare my child for what's going to happen in the hospital, unexpected things happen which upset my child.

MAAR ZO: That's why I make sure I explain every detail about the outpatient visit and why it needs to be done beforehand.



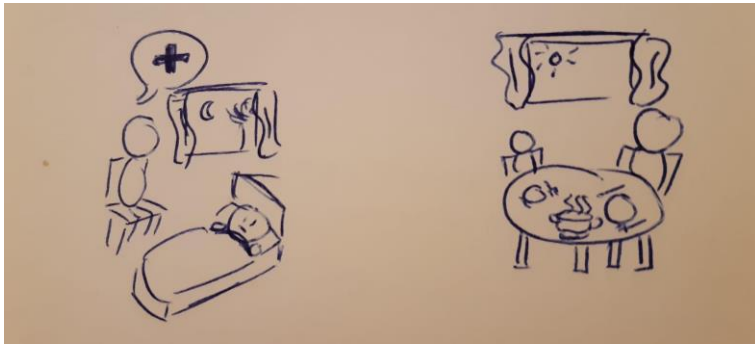
NIET ZO: When I show that I'm stressed, my child picks up on that and copies my emotions, making them stressed as well.

MAAR ZO: That's why, around my child, I hide my stress and radiate calmness and trust.



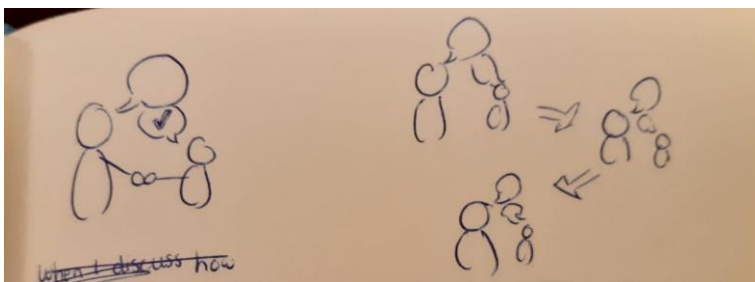
NIET ZO: When I am not able to answer questions my child has regarding the outpatient visit, I cannot take away their uncertainties, doubts and fears.

MAAR ZO: That's why I make sure that I am well-informed, so I can reassure my child.



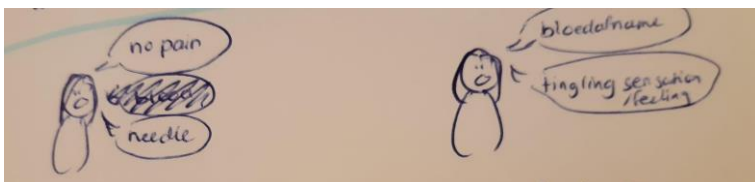
NIET ZO: When I tell my child about the hospital visit right before going to bed, my child does not want to go got sleep.

MAAR ZO: That's why I tell my child about the hospital visit already before dinner, so my child has time to process before going to bed.



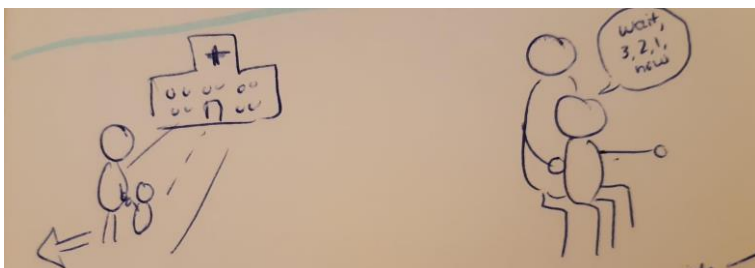
NIET ZO: When I make agreements with my child about how we're going to tackle the outpatient visit, my child forgets what we agreed upon.

MAAR ZO: That's why I repeat the made agreements several times to my child before visiting the outpatient clinic.



NIET ZO: When I use a certain type of language, it triggers a fear response in my child.

MAAR ZO: That's why I use "focustaal", to be able to inform my child without scaring my child.



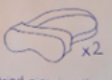
NIET ZO: When I listen to my child's wishes and give my child total control, we leave the hospital without the treatment having been succeeded.

MAAR ZO: That's why I provide my child with rules in which my child can take control of the situation without the ability to influence the outcome.

Appendix H | First Idea Selection

Challenge 1 Challenge 2 Challenge 3 Challenge 4 Challenge 5 Challenge 6

A Coop VR
Ouder & kind
spelen samen
→ Ouder ziet kind mee in pijn





B Tinder voor ZKH
Ervaringen van lotgenoten
+
TIPS hoe hermitie om
te gaan
(na herstelbaar)
→ (herstellen)
→ TIPS voor
lotgenoten




C Emotiekralen kiezen - SET
→ Moment voor
zelfreflectie
→ (kwaliteit)
waargenomen naar
omgeving
+ verken in
kleur code





D Voorbereidings - VR
Scenario's maken
mee & andere
comfort 2020, e-hermitie
→ Feedback op ordebevestiging & kind





E Pijn prikband
Simuleert pijn
by kind
→ Pijn in kind
valt eigenlijk
wel mee





F Steeplicht armband
Aan geven ~~aan~~
hoe je je op dit
moment voelt
→ Communicatie
naar omgeving



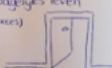

G Duclings - Comfort Taak
→ Aankeren van
Comfort Taak




H Koffie - momentje
Afminder eigen emoties
+
Conversatiestarter
in het ziekenhuis




I Even Spoken - Dagelijkse leven
(Voor verscheidende zaken)
de aflossing die je
thuis kan ervaren




Appendix J | Topic List Interview: Discussing Concepts (HCP/Expert)

TOPIC LIST SEMI-STRUCTURED INTERVIEW

INTRODUCTION

Hallo,
Fijn dat je tijd wilde maken voor mij.

Mijn ontwerpdoel: Om iets te ontwerpen om ouders de ondersteunen bij de uitdagingen die zij tegenkomen wanneer hun kind de polikliniek moet bezoeken.

In mijn onderzoek heb ik verschillende uitdagingen gevonden, en aan de hand daarvan ben ik gaan ontwerpen. Op dit moment heb ik 3 verschillende schetsen van concepten, en ik ben heel benieuwd wat daar jouw eerste reactie op is.

CONCEPT A

Wat is je eerste reactie?
Zou een ouder dit product gebruiken denk je? Waarom wel/niet?
Wat zijn negatieve aspecten aan dit ontwerp?
Wat zijn positieve aspecten aan dit ontwerp?

Denk je dat het drinken van thee voor ouders een goed moment is om stil te staan bij zichzelf?
Denk je dat deze manier van stilstaan bij jezelf en reflectie, kan zorgen voor meer rust?

Denk je dat dit concept ervoor kan zorgen dat er bij ouders minder spanning opbouwt?
Denk je dat dit concept ervoor kan zorgen dat ouders hun kind beter kunnen ondersteunen?

CONCEPT B

Wat is je eerste reactie?
Zou een ouder dit product gebruiken denk je? Waarom wel/niet?
Wat zijn negatieve aspecten aan dit ontwerp?
Wat zijn positieve aspecten aan dit ontwerp?

Denk je dat dit een goed platform is voor...
...ouders om dingen over de zorgreis van hun kind te delen met hun omgeving?
...ouders om hun eigen gevoelens te delen met hun omgeving?
Denk je dat ouders met dit concept op een goede manier op hun gevoelens reflecteren?
Denk je dat dit concept ervoor kan zorgen dat de omgeving ouders beter kan ondersteunen?

Optioneel

Wat zouden ouders willen delen over de zorgreis van hun kind? En met wie?
Wat zouden ouders willen delen over hun eigen ervaringen? En met wie?

Denk je dat dit concept ervoor kan zorgen dat er bij ouders minder spanning opbouwt?
Denk je dat dit concept ervoor kan zorgen dat ouders hun kind beter kunnen ondersteunen?

CONCEPT C

Wat is je eerste reactie?
Zou een ouder dit product gebruiken denk je? Waarom wel/niet?
Wat zijn negatieve aspecten aan dit ontwerp?
Wat zijn positieve aspecten aan dit ontwerp?

Denk je dat het zien van problemen die anderen tegenkomen een ouder zal helpen?
Denk je dat deze categorieën de uitdagingen die een ouder tegenkomt omvatten?

Denk je dat dit concept ervoor kan zorgen dat er bij ouders minder spanning opbouwt?
Denk je dat dit concept ervoor kan zorgen dat ouders hun kind beter kunnen ondersteunen?

FINISHING UP

Heel erg bedankt voor jouw tijd!

Appendix K | Topic List Interview: Discussing Concepts (Parents)

TOPIC LIST SEMI-STRUCTURED INTERVIEW

INTRODUCTION

Hallo,

Fijn dat je tijd wilde maken voor mij.

Mijn ontwerpdoel: Om iets te ontwerpen om ouders de ondersteunen bij de uitdagingen die zij tegenkomen wanneer hun kind de polikliniek moet bezoeken.

In mijn onderzoek heb ik verschillende uitdagingen gevonden, en aan de hand daarvan ben ik gaan ontwerpen. Op dit moment heb ik 3 verschillende schetsen van concepten, en ik ben heel benieuwd wat daar jouw eerste reactie op is.

CONCEPT A

Wat is je eerste reactie?

Zou je dit product zelf gebruiken denk je? Waarom wel/niet?

Wat zijn negatieve aspecten aan dit ontwerp?

Wat zijn positieve aspecten aan dit ontwerp?

Denk je dat het drinken van thee een goed moment is om stil te staan bij jezelf?

Denk je dat deze manier van stilstaan bij jezelf en reflectie, kan zorgen voor meer rust?

Denk je dat dit concept ervoor kan zorgen dat er bij jezelf minder spanning opbouwt?

Denk je dat dit concept ervoor kan zorgen dat je jouw kind beter kan ondersteunen?

CONCEPT B

Wat is je eerste reactie?

Zou je dit product zelf gebruiken denk je? Waarom wel/niet?

Wat zijn negatieve aspecten aan dit ontwerp?

Wat zijn positieve aspecten aan dit ontwerp?

Denk je dat dit een goed platform is voor...

...jou om dingen over de zorgreis van je kind te delen met jouw omgeving?

...jou om jouw eigen gevoelens te delen met jouw omgeving?

Denk je dat je met dit concept op een goede manier op jouw gevoelens reflecteert?

Denk je dat dit concept ervoor kan zorgen dat jouw omgeving jou beter kan ondersteunen?

Optioneel

Wat zou jij willen delen over de zorgreis van jouw kind? En met wie?

Wat zou jij willen delen over jouw eigen ervaringen? En met wie?

Denk je dat dit concept ervoor kan zorgen dat er bij jezelf minder spanning opbouwt?

Denk je dat dit concept ervoor kan zorgen dat je jouw kind beter kan ondersteunen?

CONCEPT C

Wat is je eerste reactie?

Zou je dit product zelf gebruiken denk je? Waarom wel/niet?

Wat zijn negatieve aspecten aan dit ontwerp?

Wat zijn positieve aspecten aan dit ontwerp?

Denk je dat het zien van problemen die anderen tegenkomen jou zal helpen?

Denk je dat deze categorieën de uitdagingen die jij tegenkomt omvatten?

Denk je dat dit concept ervoor kan zorgen dat er bij jezelf minder spanning opbouwt?

Denk je dat dit concept ervoor kan zorgen dat je jouw kind beter kan ondersteunen?

FINISHING UP

Heel erg bedankt voor jouw tijd!

Appendix L: Reasoning for Harris Profile

Selection

Not all requirements are useful to include in the Harris Profile. The goal of the Harris Profile is to expose the differences between the 3 concepts. Requirements 11 t/m 16 can be designed for in every concept, so they won't make a difference. Therefore, they are not included in the Harris Profile. The same applies to Wish 9.

Things I can design for in every concept.

Requirement 11: The visual style of the intervention is appealing to the parent.

Requirement 12: The main language of the intervention is Dutch.

Requirement 13: The intervention uses B1 language which makes it understandable for the vast majority of adults.

Requirement 14: The visual style of the intervention is in line with the existing style of Stichting Hospital Hero.

Requirement 15: The intervention uses "focustaal" when applicable.

Requirement 16: The intervention presents information in an easily accessible format.

Things I can design for in every concept.

Wish 9: The second language of the intervention is English.

Requirements

Will the concept be used by the (right) target group?

Requirement 1: The intervention is relevant for parents whose child is visiting the outpatient clinic.

Ouders die de polikliniek bezoeken, hebben het meeste aan Concept C. Deze geeft duidelijke handvaten over hoe zichzelf en het kind te ondersteunen, die ook bij een enkel bezoek al nuttig kunnen zijn. Concept A en Concept B zijn meer nuttig bij een intensieve zorgperiode voor het kind, waarin de ouders nauwelijks nog mentale ruimte over hebben voor 'selfcare' of voor het gestructureerd delen van informatie met betrokken partijen. Gezien niet elke ouder die de poli bezoekt in een intensieve zorgperiode zit, wordt Concept C hoger gerankt dan A en B.

Requirement 2: The parent is intrinsically motivated to use the intervention, or the intervention has an external trigger to motivate usage by the parent.

Uit de interviews met ouders en zorgverleners werd duidelijk dat een belangrijke verantwoordelijkheid van de ouder de communicatie met betrokken partijen is. Dit moet gebeuren en doen ouders dus al. Wanneer Concept B deze taak gemakkelijker kan maken, zullen ouders dus automatisch erg gemotiveerd zijn om dit concept te gebruiken. Ouders zijn ook gemotiveerd om hun kind goed te ondersteunen, maar ondernemen nu niet perse actie om hierover te leren. Vandaar dat Concept C iets minder gerankt is dan Concept B. Concept A speelt vooral in op aandacht voor zichzelf nemen. Ouders zijn niet gemotiveerd om dit te doen, maar door het te koppelen aan een dagelijkse activiteit is er een externe trigger die hen motiveert. Daarom wordt deze gelijk gerankt met Concept C.

Requirement 3: The threshold for parents to use the intervention is low.

Een moment nemen om op de sticker te reflecteren en je gedachten hierbij op te schrijven, is iets wat ouders normaal gesproken niet doen en wat wel even tijd kost. Daarom is Concept A dus een extra last voor ouders. Het communiceren met de omgeving, van Concept B, wordt al gedaan door ouders, dus is in dat opzicht niet een extra last. Maar je moet hier wel echt even voor gaan zitten, een moment voor nemen, wat lastig kan zijn om die te vinden. Daarom niet de maximale score voor Concept B. Concept C is erg laagdrempelig om te gebruiken, gezien het op de telefoon is en er zo veel/weinig tijd per keer aan kan worden besteed als gewenst. Daarom de maximale score voor Concept C.

Does the concept achieve the intended goal?

Requirement 4: The intervention supports the parent with (dealing with) the challenge "taking care of oneself".

Concept A draait volledig om aandacht voor jezelf te krijgen en te reflecteren op hoe het eigenlijk met je gaat, vandaag de maximale score. Concept B en C hebben beiden een andere kern (respectievelijk: nazorg / communiceren met de omgeving, en handvaten over hoe kind te ondersteunen), maar het dealen met deze uitdaging zit hier wel ook in verwerkt (respectievelijk: de emotiekaart, en handvaten over hoe zelf te dealen). Daarom Concept B en C wel positief, maar minder goed dan Concept A.

Requirement 5: The intervention (eventually) manages parental stress.

Concept A: Ja, maar wel heel afhankelijk van de kaartjes hoeveel diepgang je krijgt. Valkuil is het happiness gehalte. Concept B: Ja, maar het helpt vooral achteraf. Dus niet met de spanning vóór een afspraak. Concept C: Ja, vooral omdat het ook een oplossing biedt.

Does the concept hinder other involved parties?

Requirement 6: The intervention is integrated in or used complementary to the existing Hospital Hero app.

Geen van de concepten werkt de Hospital Hero app tegen of zit deze in de weg, daarom allemaal niet negatief gerankt. Het is duidelijk geworden dat de ervaring die je voor ouders wilt creëren verschilt van de ervaring die kinderen nodig hebben (en krijgen met de HH-app). Integreer van de concepten in de huidige app lijkt daarom ongewenst. Concept C sluit verder het beste aan bij de huidige app; het gaat beiden om voorbereiding op wat er in het ziekenhuis gaat gebeuren.

Requirement 7: The intervention keeps the workload of healthcare professionals the same as it is now.

De zorgmedewerkers hoeven niks te doen (behalve mogelijk bekendmaken van het bestaan van het concept) als het gaat om Concept B en C. Daarom maximale score. Concept A wordt uitgedeeld door zorgmedewerkers, dus dit zou wel een extra taak en verantwoordelijkheid zijn, die als extra werklust wordt ervaren. Daarom negatief.

Requirement 8: The intervention preserves the sense of control for pediatric patients created by the Hospital Hero app.

Concept B en C zijn aparte apps/websites voor de ouder waar het kind niks mee te maken heeft, daarom maximale score. Concept A wordt aan de keukentafel gebruikt. Het kan zijn dat het kind hierbij is en er ook iets mee wilt doen, maar dat dat dan niet mag van de ouder omdat het voor de ouder bedoeld is. Dit zou het gevoel van controle bij het kind wel wat naar beneden kunnen halen. Maar dit hoeft niet het geval te zijn, vandaar geen negatieve score voor Concept A.

Does the concept align with the company's goals?

Requirement 9: The intervention can relatively easily be scaled up to be implemented in other hospital's / used by parents regardless of which (children's) hospital in the Netherlands they're visiting.

Concept A en Concept B zijn geenszins specifiek per ziekenhuis, dus kunnen zonder moeite worden verspreid naar verschillende ziekenhuizen. Vandaag maximale score. De basis van Concept C bestaat ook uit algemene handvaten, maar dit zou kunnen worden aangevuld met handvaten voor specifieke situaties in een bepaald ziekenhuis. Het is dan nog steeds mogelijk om verschillende ziekenhuisroutes toe te voegen, maar dit kost iets meer moeite. Vandaar wel positief, maar niet maximaal.

Requirement 10: The parent can use the intervention at no cost.

Concept A: Ja, want wordt aan ze gegeven. Concept B en C: Opzich een website, en polarsteps is ook gratis, maar hoe? Net als de huidige app? Maar ziekenhuizen betalen misschien niet als het te generiek is, niet gelinkt aan hun specifieke ziekenhuis. Ik had hier ooit een idee voor, maar kan het nu niet bedenken...

Wishes

How useful is the concept (reach & impact)?

Wish 1: The intervention is useful to parents (as) early in the hospital trajectory (as possible).

Concept A: Een eerste ziekenhuisbezoek kan al spanning geven, daarom positief, maar het is nog geen lange zelfverwaarlozing, daarom niet maximaal. Concept B: Bij een eerste ziekenhuisbezoek moet je ook al delen met de omgeving wat er is gebeurd, maar voelt dit nog niet als een enorme last en is het misschien juist wel fijn om dit met iemand te bespreken. Daarom negatief. Concept C: Juist bij het eerste ziekenhuisbezoek is het handig als ouders al handvaten te hebben, daarom maximaal positief.

Wish 2: Besides the "main challenge" the intervention also provides a solution for one or more of these challenges: "engaging with their social environment", "supporting their child", "gaining information", "seeing their child in pain" and "working together with healthcare professionals".

Concept A: Negatief. → Geen. Concept B: Nét positief. → Contact met omgeving (delen van gebeurtenissen en wensen met de omgeving). Concept C: Maximaal positief. → Contact met omgeving (ervaringen van andere ouders, minder eenzaamheid) & Informatievoorziening naar ouders toe (tips over waar info te vinden of recht om ernaar te vragen) & Kind in pijn zien (met betere ondersteunen, kind minder in distress) & Ondersteuning van het kind (concrete handvaten over hoe kind te ondersteunen) & Samenwerken met zorgverleners (door zelfde manieren te hebben/taal te spreken).

What are the effects of the concept on other parties involved?

Wish 3: The intervention supports the goal of Hospital Hero to decrease fear and anxiety in pediatric patients (aged 4-10 years old) during, before and after their outpatient visits.

Alle concepten zorgen voor minder spanning bij de ouder, die deze spanning dus minder uitstraalt op het kind, waardoor het kind minder angst en stress ervaart. Daarom allemaal positief. Concept C maximaal positief, omdat die ook nog handvaten geeft in hoe angst en stress te verminderen als ouder bij het kind.

Wish 4: The intervention decreases the workload of healthcare professionals.

Concept A en B zijn licht positief. Dit omdat, wanneer de ouder zelf meer ontspannen is, de zorgmedewerker een taak minder heeft aan de ouder ondersteunen en kalmeren, en zich volledig kan focussen op het kind. Concept C zorgt ervoor dat ouders al weten hoe hun kind te ondersteunen. Hierdoor hoeven zorgmedewerkers dit niet meer te doen én niet meer uit te leggen. Én niet meer de ouders te kalmeren, hopelijk. Daarom maximaal positief.

What are the feasibility and future outlook of the concept?

Wish 5: The provider of the intervention does not collect and store personal data.

Concept A slaat wel persoonlijke verhalen op, maar enkel in het bereik van de ouder. Concept C heeft niks met persoonsgegevens te maken. Beiden daarom maximaal positief. Concept B echter slaat heel veel persoonlijke verhalen en informatie over de zorg online op. Daarom maximaal negatief.

Wish 6: The intervention fits well within the mission of the Hospital Hero Foundation to use safety, trust and fun to empower the user.

Concept A is een erg leuk en schattig concept, worden mensen blij van. Het zet ouders in hun kracht door te valideren dat ze het zwaar mogen hebben. Concept B is een vrij serieus en saai idee, maar geeft een soort van nog wel vertrouwen als mensen in je omgeving je begrijpen. Concept C empowered echt, is nog niet echt fun.

Wish 7: The intervention is scalable and offers the opportunity for further development, either within the intervention (e.g. possibilities for additional supporting modules) and/or within the market (e.g. possibilities to expand towards support in different aspects of the hospital visit).

Concept A biedt niet een hoop flexibiliteit, behalve het toevoegen van koffiecups en het veranderen van de content van de stickers. Maar het doel blijft een moment voor zelfreflectie creëren. Daarom maximaal negatief. Concept B biedt ook niet een hoop flexibiliteit, maar zou mogelijk wel deel kunnen zijn van een groter geheel. Daarom net negatief. Concept C biedt wel mogelijkheden om nog meer ondersteunende modules voor ouders toe te voegen, daarom net positief.

Wish 8: The intervention does not have a major negative environmental impact.

Concept A is fysiek, dus kost materialen om te maken. Daarom net negatief. Concept B en C zijn digitaal, dus kosten geen materialen om te maken, maar ze voegen ook niet iets toe. Daarom net positief.

MoSCoW-canvas

Prioriteiten stellen tijdens de ontwikkeling van het aanbod

Bedrijf:

Datum:

Must.

Must-have is niet onderhandelbaar.

Deze items moeten in het eindresultaat terugkomen, onder deze items is het product niet bruikbaar.

Gebruik moet (op het juiste moment) nuttig worden gemaakt

Inhoud van tips (combi advies expert+ verhaal ouder)

Fases in de gebruikstijdlijn (vóór en ná eerste bezoek)

Should.

Should-have is belangrijke features.

Deze items zijn zeer gewenst, maar zonder is het aanbod wel bruikbaar.

Gebruik zou gewenst moeten zijn en gestimuleerd moeten worden

Mogelijkheid om tips op te slaan (en later te bekijken)

Meldingen om appgebruik te stimuleren

Introductie om appgebruik uit te leggen

Niet overprikkelende layout

Could.

Could-have is optionele features.

Deze items kunnen later aan bod komen als er tijd genoeg is.

Gebruik kan makkelijker en aantrekkelijker worden gemaakt

Visuele weergave van tips (op het homescherm, & in opslaan overzicht)

Mogelijkheid om tips te delen buiten de app

Affirmaties in het laadscherm van de app

Won't.

Won't-have is features die niet aan bod komen in dit project.

Features die in de toekomst bij een vervolgonject interessant kunnen zijn.































Dingen om in de toekomst aan te pakken

Mascotte van Hospital Hero, maar dan volwassen























Layout (een aanbod) vanuit ziekenhuis of Hospital Hero?

Notities / Flags / Mappen voor het opslaan van de tips

Appendix N | Collection of Affirmations

 <p>Ik heb de moed om mensen mee te nemen in mijn belevenissen ~</p> 	 <p>Ik weet dat ik niet alleen ben ~</p> 	 <p>Ik ben dankbaar voor de lieve mensen om mij heen ~</p> 	 <p>Ik heb de kracht om te delen waar ik mee worstel ~</p> 	 <p>Ik ben niet de enige die hier doorheen gaat ~</p> 
 <p>Ik ontvang begrip en steun van de mensen om mij heen ~</p> 	 <p>Ik focus op het hier en nu, en maak mij geen zorgen over de toekomst ~</p> 	 <p>Ik weet wat ik nodig heb en durf hierom te vragen ~</p> 	 <p>Ik heb aandacht voor mijn eigen gevoel ~</p> 	 <p>Ik zorg goed voor mijzelf, want ik ben belangrijk ~</p> 
 <p>Ik sta mezelf toe om de ruimte en tijd te nemen die ik nodig heb ~</p> 	 <p>Ik geef mijzelf de tijd die nodig is om tot rust te komen ~</p> 	 <p>Ik ben geduldig met mijzelf ~</p> 	 <p>Ik weet dat het normaal is om mij te voelen zoals ik mij nu voel ~</p> 	 <p>Ik laat los waar ik geen controle over heb ~</p> 

Appendix N | Collection of Affirmations

 <p>Ik heb vertrouwen dat het beter zal gaan, ook al weet ik niet hoe of wanneer ~</p> 	 <p>Ik durf om hulp te vragen als ik het even niet meer weet ~</p> 	 <p>Ik doe mijn best en dat is goed genoeg ~</p> 	 <p>Ik durf open en eerlijk te zijn ~</p> 	 <p>Ik sta open voor de hulp die mij wordt aangeboden ~</p> 
 <p>Ik voel mij sterk genoeg om hier doorheen te komen ~</p> 	 <p>Ik kies er bewust voor om mijn aandacht op positieve dingen te richten ~</p> 	 <p>Ik ben sterker dan ik denk ~</p> 	 <p>Ik ben in staat om dit stap voor stap te overwinnen ~</p> 	 <p>Ik ben dankbaar voor alles wat goed gaat ~</p> 
 <p>Ik ben goed genoeg ~</p> 				

Appendix O | Top List Interview: Evaluation (Expert)

TOPIC LIST SEMI-STRUCTURED INTERVIEW

INTRODUCTION

Dankjewel, tijd om mij te helpen

Introductie

Pauline Eshuis. Afstudeerstudente **TU Delft**. **Rol van ouders** vóór en tijdens het polikliniekbezoek van hun kind. Uit onderzoek kwam: ouders kunnen **stress ervaren**. Daarom heb ik **een app ontworpen** die ouders handvaten biedt.

Straks **benieuwd naar jouw ervaringen**, maar: Belangrijk om **initiële reactie** te vangen. Daarom **eerst ontwerp laten zien**.

ICF

- **Opname** wordt verwijderd
- **Contactgegevens** niet bewaard na afloop project
- **Vrijwillig**, je mag op elk moment stoppen

Toestemming?

CONCEPT

VIDEO LATEN ZIEN

Wat is jouw **eerste reactie** op deze app?

We hebben gezien dat je tips en ervaringen kan **swipen**.

Wat vind je van dit idee? Waarom? Probes: leuk/stom, nuttig/nutteloos

Denk jij dat ouders **behoefte** hebben aan **het lezen van tips en ervaringen**? Waarom wel/niet?

Denk jij dat het **nuttig** zou zijn voor ouders om **tips en ervaringen te lezen**? Waarom wel/niet?

We hebben gezien dat je tips en ervaringen kan **opslaan en** later kan **bekijken**.

Wat vind je van deze functie? Waarom? Probes: leuk/stom, nuttig/nutteloos

We hebben gezien dat je tips en ervaringen kan **delen met anderen**.

Wat vind je van deze functie? Waarom? Probes: leuk/stom, nuttig/nutteloos

We hebben gezien dat het laadscherm een **bemoedigende tekst** laat zien.

Wat vind je van dit idee? Waarom? Probes: leuk/stom, nuttig/nutteloos

Denk jij dat ouders deze app zouden **willen gebruiken/downloaden**?

Waarom wel/niet? Probes: leuk/stom, nuttig/nutteloos

We hebben gezien dat er eigenlijk **2 soorten gebruik** zijn: het links en rechts swipen van tips en ervaringen, en het bekijken van opgeslagen tips en ervaringen.

Zouden ouders swipen? Waarom wel/niet? **In welke situatie** (wie, wat, waar, wanneer) zouden ouders swipen?

Zouden ouders bekijken? Waarom wel/niet? **In welke situatie** (wie, wat, waar, wanneer) zouden ouders bekijken?

Probes: alleen/met partner/met kind/met vriendinnen. Thuis/onderweg/werk/in bed/op de bank/met een kop thee. Ontbijt/koffiepauze/wanneer het uitkomt/vlak voor afspraak's avonds

CONTENT

PROTOTYPE LATEN ZIEN

Bij de eerste keer openen van de app, zal de app de vraag stellen of jij **geen, een beetje, of veel ervaring** hebt op de **polikliniek** en de tips die je te zien krijgt hierop aanpassen. Ik wil graag **van elke categorie 2 voorbeelden** laten zien.

Dan zal ik nu mijn scherm en daarmee het **prototype delen**.

Let op: Het is een prototype, geen echte app. Het **swipen** gaat dus nog **niet op een mooie manier**.

Wat vind je van **het voorblad**? Zou je hem opslaan of wegsipen? Wat vind je van **de tip**?

Nu je iets **meer** hebt gezien **van de inhoud** van de tips, heb ik **nog een paar vragen** voor je.

Wat is jouw **eerste reactie** op de tips die je hebt gezien?

Wat vind je van **de combinatie** van een tip gebaseerd op advies van experts en een verhaal gebaseerd op de ervaringen van een ouder?

Voegt de tip van de expert **iets toe**? Waarom wel/niet?

Voegt het verhaal van de ouder **iets toe**? Waarom wel/niet?

Wat vind je van de **inhoud** van de tips? Probes: nuttig/nutteloos, helpend

Wat vind je van de **formulering** van de tips? Probes: duidelijk/vriendelijk/moeilijk te begrijpen/te bazig

Zijn er dingen die je graag terug zou zien in deze app?

Zijn er dingen die je mist in deze app?

PARTICIPANT INFO

Dan wil ik nu graag meer over jou en jouw ervaringen met ouders in de polikliniek weten.

Introductie

Huidige **functie**?

Hoe lang al?

Wat heb je **hiervoor** gedaan?

Probes: Functie? Ziekenhuis? Ervaring met kinderen?

Hoe voelen ouders zich, naar jouw ervaring, over het polikliniekbezoek van uw kind?

Hoe zouden ouders zich, naar jouw ervaring, **willen voelen**?

Denk je dat **deze app** daarbij zou **helpen**? Hoe? Waarom?

Naar jouw ervaring, **ervaren ouder stress**, in de context van het polikliniekbezoek van jouw kind?

Denk jij dat **deze app** ouders zou **helpen** bij het **omgaan met deze stress**?

Waarom wel/niet? Wanneer wel/niet? Probes: Vóór eerste zkh-bezoek/Alleen in langer traject

Vanuit wie zou jij denken dat deze app **aangeboden** zou worden? Waarom?

Probes: Ziekenhuis/Onafhankelijk/Ouderorganisatie/Hospital Hero

Zou jij de app zelf **aanbevelen** aan ouders? Waarom wel/niet?

Hoe zou jij de app gebruiken in jouw werk?

FINISHING UP

Dan zijn we bijna aangekomen bij het **einde** van dit interview.

Zijn er nog dingen die we **niet hebben behandeld** die **wel belangrijk zijn** om te benoemen?

Dankuwel voor het beantwoorden van mijn vragen!

Appendix P | Top List Interview: Evaluation (Parent)

TOPIC LIST SEMI-STRUCTURED INTERVIEW

INTRODUCTION

Dankjewel, tijd om mij te helpen

Introductie

Pauline Eshuis. Afstudeerstudente **TU Delft**. **Rol van ouders** vóór en tijdens het polikliniekbezoek van hun kind. Uit onderzoek kwam: ouders kunnen **stress ervaren**. Daarom heb ik **een app ontworpen** die ouders handvaten biedt

Straks **benieuwd naar jouw ervaringen**, maar: Belangrijk om **initiële reactie** te vangen. Daarom **eerst ontwerp laten zien**.

ICF, belangrijk

- **Opname** wordt verwijderd
- **Contactgegevens** niet bewaard na afloop project
- **Vrijwillig**, je mag op elk moment stoppen

Toestemming?

CONCEPT

VIDEO LATEN ZIEN

Wat is jouw **eerste reactie** op deze app?

We hebben gezien dat je tips en ervaringen kan **swipen**.

Wat vind je van dit idee? Waarom? Probes: leuk/stom, nuttig/nutteloos

Zou jij **behoefte** hebben aan **het lezen van tips en ervaringen**? Waarom wel/niet?

We hebben gezien dat je tips en ervaringen kan **opslaan en** later kan **bekijken**.

Wat vind je van deze functie? Waarom? Probes: leuk/stom, nuttig/nutteloos

Wanneer/Waarom zou jij een tip **naar rechts swipen** om hem op te slaan?

We hebben gezien dat je tips en ervaringen kan **delen met anderen**.

Wat vind je van deze functie? Waarom? Probes: leuk/stom, nuttig/nutteloos

Wat/Met wie zou jij tips en ervaringen **delen**? Waarom? Probes: partner, familie, vrienden, docenten van kind

We hebben gezien dat het laadscherm een **bemoedigende tekst** laat zien.

Wat vind je van dit idee? Waarom? Probes: leuk/stom, nuttig/nutteloos

Zou jij deze app **willen gebruiken/downloaden**? Waarom wel/niet? Probes: leuk/stom, nuttig/nutteloos

We hebben gezien dat er eigenlijk **2 soorten gebruik** zijn: het links en rechts swipen van tips en ervaringen, en het bekijken van opgeslagen tips en ervaringen.

Zou jij swipen? Waarom wel/niet? **In welke situatie** (wie, wat, waar, wanneer) zie jij jezelf swipen?

Zou jij bekijken? Waarom wel/niet? **In welke situatie** (wie, wat, waar, wanneer) zie jij jezelf bekijken?

Probes: alleen/met partner/met kind/met vriendinnen. Thuis/onderweg/werk/in bed/op de bank/met een kop thee. Ontbijt/koffiepauze/wanneer het uitkomt/vlak voor afspraak's avonds

CONTENT

PROTOTYPE LATEN ZIEN

Bij de eerste keer openen van de app, zal de app de vraag stellen of jij **geen, een beetje, of veel ervaring** hebt op de **polikliniek** en de tips die je te zien krijgt hierop aanpassen.

Hoe zou jij deze vraag beantwoorden? Probes: geen/een beetje/veel

Dan zal ik nu mijn scherm en daarmee het **prototype delen**.

Let op: Het is een prototype, geen echte app. Het **swipen** gaat dus nog **niet op een mooie manier**.

Wat vind je van **het voorblad**? Zou je hem opslaan of wegsnipen?

Wat vind je van **de tip**?

Nu je iets **meer** hebt gezien **van de inhoud** van de tips, heb ik **nog een paar vragen** voor je.

Wat is jouw **eerste reactie** op de tips die je hebt gezien?

Wat vind je van **de combinatie** van een tip gebaseerd op advies van experts en een verhaal gebaseerd op de ervaringen van een ouder?

Voegt de tip van de expert **iets toe**? Waarom wel/niet?

Voegt het verhaal van de ouder **iets toe**? Waarom wel/niet?

Wat vind je van de **inhoud** van de tips? Probes: nuttig/nutteloos, helpend

Wat vind je van de **formulering** van de tips? Probes: duidelijk/vriendelijk/moeilijk te begrijpen/te bazig

Trekt **het voorblad** op de juiste manier de **aandacht**?

Hoe zou dit **anders** moeten?

Zijn er dingen die je graag terug zou zien in deze app?

Zijn er dingen die je mist in deze app?

Vanuit wie zou jij deze app **aangeboden** willen krijgen? Waarom?

Probes: Huisarts/Afspraakbrief/Ziekenhuispersoneel

Wie zou jij verwachten dat **betrokken is bij het maken** van de inhoud van deze app? Waarom?

Probes: Ziekenhuis/Onafhankelijk/Ouderorganisatie/Hospital Hero

PARTICIPANT INFO

Dan wil ik nu graag meer over jou, jouw kind, en jullie ervaringen met de polikliniek weten.

Kind Hoe **oud** is jouw kind?

Polibezoek Naar **welk ziekenhuis** gaan jullie dan meestal?

En **hoe vaak** gaan jullie ongeveer?

Als jullie naar het ziekenhuis gaan

Wie mee? **Wie** gaan er mee?

Regelmaat **Hoe lang en hoe vaak** gaat jouw kind naar het ziekenhuis?

En **wanneer was de laatste keer** dat jouw kind naar het ziekenhuis moest?

En naast [eerder genoemde personen].

Thuisituatie Wie **wonen** er bij jou **thuis**? Probes: Broertjes/Zusjes/Huisdieren

Moeten zij, of jijzelf, ook wel eens naar de dokter?

Hoe voel/voelde jij je bij het laatste polikliniekbezoek van uw kind? Hoe had jij je **willen voelen**?

Denk je dat **deze app** daarbij zou **helpen**? Hoe? Waarom?

Zou je deze app gebruikt hebben? Waarom wel/niet?

Heb jij zelf **stress ervaren**, in de context van het polikliniekbezoek van jouw kind?

Ervaar jij **nog steeds** stress?

Denk jij dat **deze app** jou zou **helpen**/hebben geholpen bij het omgaan met stress, in de context van het polikliniekbezoek van jouw kind?

Waarom wel/niet? Wanneer wel/niet? Probes: Vóór eerste zkh-bezoek/Alleen in langer traject

Zijn er dingen die je **zelf actief doet**/deed die het gebruik van **deze app overbodig** maken?

Wat deed u dan? Wat maakt dat dit de app overbodig maakt?

FINISHING UP

Ik doe mijn afstudeerproject in samenwerking met **Stichting Hospital Hero**.

Kent u de **Hospital Hero app** al?

Ja Wat voor **invloed** heeft de Hospital Hero app op **uw ervaring**?

Nee Met de Hospital Hero app kan je je **thuis al voorbereiden** op jouw ziekenhuisbezoek.

Zo kan je bijvoorbeeld **Even Spielen** in de behandelkamer zodat je alvast weet wat je daar allemaal tegen kan komen. Daarnaast kan je **in het ziekenhuis** allemaal **dieren zoeken**.

Dan zijn we bijna aangekomen bij het **einde** van dit interview.

Zijn er nog dingen die we **niet hebben behandeld** die **wel belangrijk zijn** om te benoemen?

Dankuwel voor het beantwoorden van mijn vragen!

Appendix Q | Evaluation Results: Feedback on Tips

From Evaluation Interviews

General

Formulering

P40: Na vragen: Dat is netjes.

P41: Na vragen: Die vind ik opzich wel goed.

P42: Na vragen: Ja, eh, prima, niet echt iets bijzonders aan gezien.

P44: *Probeer zo veel mogelijk "ouders" te vermijden, want niet elk kind heeft een ouder. & Vaak ipv altijd, het is nooit altijd.*

Inhoud

P39: Tekst is heel sturend. & Kijk als dit is namens het verhaal van, dan kan je veel zeggen. Maar is dit de tip, dan is het nogal stellig. Terwijl het verhaal, die is super mooi, maar dan is het heel persoonlijk gemaakt. Daar kan je het ook niet mee oneens zijn, dat is voor deze mevrouw gewoon zo.

No Experience



Tip 1

P39: Cover: Zou ik niet swipen. Inhoud: Zo'n tip is handig, dat is een soort boodschappenlijstje: maak anders zo'n app aan.

P41: Ik vind de tekst van de expert bij tip 1 een beetje directief/sturend. Het hoeft niet altijd zo te zijn dat je veel informatie krijgt en een hoop mensen op de hoogte moet stellen. Ik zou misschien meer met woorden als 'mogelijk' en 'kan zijn' werken. De tip van de ouder vind ik goed. & Tip past hier, kan ook naar 'een beetje ervaring'. & Ik vind de foto met de lachende persoon bij tip 1 misschien niet helemaal passen bij de inhoud.

Tip 2

P39: Cover: Daar zit een antwoord in de vraag in, die is belerend. Ik denk wel dat veel mensen dat doen.

P41: Tip 2 vind ik goed, al zou ik het andersom formuleren; ziekenhuisafspraken kun je nl. vaak niet plannen, die worden voor je gepland aan de hand van wat uitkomt bij de arts. Dus de titel zou ik aanpassen naar: "Ik probeer afspraken zoveel mogelijk aansluitend aan het polikliniekbezoek te plannen" oid. Hierbij zou ik ook zeker toevoegen dat nagenoeg in alle ziekenhuizen er vaak (veel) uitloop is. Dus dat ze hier op voorbaat rekening bij houden. En ook met de tijd om van de parkeerplaats op de afdeling te komen. & Tip past hier.

P44: *Mooi hoor. Je geeft ook meteen aan wat je tijdens het wachten zou kunnen doen. Ja, mooi. Ja ik denk zeker dat het nuttig is. Ja, ik denk dat het helemaal perfect is, want dit is echt zo. Ik denk dat het ook prima past in deze categorie.*

Tip 3

P39: Cover: Ja herkenbaar, maar dat doe je altijd al, dus ik ben bang dat ik daar een zeurderig verhaal krijg. Inhoud: Niet alleen voor jouw kind maar ook voor jou is het vervelend om naar het ziekenhuis te gaan. Ja, is dat zo? Pas op met je woorden.

P41: Tip 3: in de zin "In het ziekenhuis (...) van het kind" zou ik 'het' vervangen door 'jouw' kind. Verder vind ik deze tip niet echt een tip, want er staat "belangrijk om stil te staan bij jouw eigen gevoelens", maar niet hoe. Hier zou wel meer toegevoegd kunnen worden, denk bijv. aan "Mogelijk vind je het fijn om over jouw ervaringen te kunnen schrijven in een dagboek of werkt het voor jou om je gevoelens te bespreken met anderen". & Tip past hier, kan ook naar 'een beetje ervaring'.

P42: Uit zichzelf: Ik las ergens dat het vervelend is om naar het ziekenhuis te gaan. Is dat inderdaad zo, voor iedereen? Ik weet niet of iedereen zich daar in kan herkennen.

P44: *Ik weet niet of het altijd vervelend is voor ouders om naar het ziekenhuis te gaan. Soms kan je wel juist blij zijn; heh ik heb eindelijk een consult kunnen plannen. Dus het hoeft niet altijd vervelend te zijn. Oke heel mooi, want dat zie je inderdaad vaak, dat ze zich erg druk kunnen maken en daardoor soms ook bot kunnen zijn. Maar geef je ze hier wel een tool? Als je dit hebt, wat doen we hier dan mee? Wat kan ik eraan doen? Ged dat je erbij stil staat, maar en nu? Bijvoorbeeld iets toevoegen dat je het bespreekbaar kan maken bij de arts.*

Tip 4

P39: Cover: Vind ik interessante. Ik wil mijn kind niet bang maken, daar zit ook al wel een flinke stempel in. Inhoud: Ik snap deze wel. Maar de moeilijkheid die daarbij komt, "alle voorbereiding helpt altijd positief". Het ene kind wel, het andere kind niet. Daarnaast; je kunt je kind niet altijd op elk detail voorbereiden, want weet je niet altijd alles van tevoren. Maar als ik dingen vertel die dat niet gebeuren, dan is er kortsluiting. Alle voorbereiding helpt altijd positief. Nou, niet altijd, let op met taal. Mijn haren gaan al overeind staan. Je bent veel te stellig, zoek het maar uit. Maar er zit wel iets in. Dus als je het iets toegankelijker maakt, voorbereiding helpt vaak positief, ja dan kan het beter.

P41: Tip 4: Mooi om hier al te beginnen over helpend taalgebruik. Voor kinderen is het nl. belangrijk om helpend taalgebruik te horen, niet alles hoeft letterlijk genoemd te worden. Denk bijv. aan het woord 'prik' of 'pijn'. & Tip past hier, kan ook naar 'een beetje ervaring'.

Tip 9

P39: Het lastige is met lotgenoten; je vestigt eerst al je hoop op het medische team en dat ze jouw kind beter kunnen maken. Als dat lukt, hoef je ook geen lotgenoten meer. Alleen als het niet zo goed lukt, heb je die behoefte.

P40: Cover, wat vind je: Dit raakt mij nu niet meer zo, maar in het begin zou ik hier heel veel aan hebben gehad. Toen voelde ik mij wel heel erg alleen. Inhoud, wat vind je: Prettig. Ik kan me wel indenken dat je dan wel echt het gevoel hebt van, he wij zijn niet alleen.

P41: Cover: Herkenbaar, ik zou hem opslaan. Inhoud: Ja, dit klinkt wel goed inderdaad.

P42: Cover: In die beginperiode, dat we nog heel erg zoekende waren, zou hij me wel aanspreken, zou ik hem wel gaan lezen. Inhoud: Ja mooi. Ja, hier kan ik alleen maar heel erg achter staan. Dit is waar ik ook tegenaan ben gelopen, wat ik mensen die zoekende zijn heel erg gun. Dus als deze app daarbij kan helpen, dat is geweldig.

Tip 10

P40: Cover, wat vind je: Ja, nee, jawel ik snap hem wel ja. Ik vind dit ook altijd spannend, ik snap het, wij hebben daar ook wel mee gezeten ja. Die herken ik wel. Inhoud, wat vind je: Dat snap ik ook. Wij hebben ook wel gemerkt dat, toen wij toevallig een keer langs een andere arts gingen, dat dat ook wel hielp hiervoor. Dit is denk ik wel nuttig.

P41: Cover: Nee, deze herken ik niet zo. Ik zou dat wel durven uitspreken.

P42: Cover: Ja, hier hebben we het net over gehad, ja heel herkenbaar. Inhoud: Ik herken me er heel erg in, maar die 'geef het vooral aan' vind ik moeilijk als tip. Ik had te maken met z'n autoritaire man... Ik zou hier dan, als ik terugkijk op mijn eigen traject, nog wel iets bij willen van een belangenvereniging die je daarbij kan helpen ofzo. Dat heeft mij wel steun gegeven, dat andere mensen tegen mij zeiden; nee joh, dit is niet oke, het klopt wat je zegt. Dit is wel echt een heel moeilijk punt, dus hier iets van een hulplijn zou fijn zijn.

Tip 11

P40: Cover, wat vind je: Twijfelachtige ja, ik snap dit wel. Inhoud, wat vind je: Mooi dat er ook een tip in wordt gegeven.

P41: Cover: Ja, deze vind ik wel herkenbaar. Inhoud: Ik vraag me af of dit voldoende is voor de ouders die veel ervaring hebben met pliknische bezoeken. Ik denk dat dit wel past bij ouders die minder ervaring hebben, maar voor ouders die veel ervaring hebben denk ik dat dit een open deur is. Dat ze zich er al wel van bewust zijn, alleen meer verdieping zoeken in de zi van hoe doe ik dat dan. Dus een meer concrete tip erbij.

P42: Cover: Ja, dit is wel confronterend. Ik zou hem denk ik even weg doen, omdat ik denk; nou daar hoef ik nu even niet aan te denken.

Opslaan voor later, ohja dat was ook een optie. Inhoud: Wat het grappige is, toen ik hem net zo zag staan, voelde hij wel wat zwaar. Maar als ik dit lees, is het wat luchtiger. Dan kan het wel verlichting bieden. Je bent ook niet de enige.

Tip 12

P40: Cover, wat vind je: Ja, maar ik denk dan wel meteen, je weet nooit misschien hebben zij welk andere trucjes. Dat vind ik wel een, die. Ik snap hem aan de ene kant, aan de andere ... Ik heb daar geen ervaring mee. Inhoud, wat vind je: Nou, dat is duidelijk toch, wat zij zegt.

P41: Cover: Ja die zou ik wel opslaan, die is ook herkenbaar. Inhoud: Ik denk dat deze ook weer meer geschikt is voor ouders met iets minder ervaring. Opzich wel een goeie tip hoor. Voor mensen met veel ervaring zou bijvoorbeeld toegevoegd kunnen worden: in het WKZ in Utrecht hebben ze een app ontwikkeld waar je in kan vullen wat de voorkeuren van een kind zijn. Dat zou daarin een waardevolle toevoeging zijn denk ik.

P42: Cover: Ja daar ben ik het ook wel mee eens. Ik zou dan misschien niet zeggen op mijn kind, maar bij mijn kind. Inhoud: Ik denk dat veel zorgverleners, misschien onbewust, dan toch denken; ja wij weten echt wel hoe het hier gaat, dat hoef jij niet komen te vertellen, al die overbezorgde ouders. & Ik vind dit wel een mooi voorbeeld, want als je dit leest denk je 'oke, iemand doet dit ook, dan durf ik het misschien ook te doen'. & Uit zichzelf: Als hier nog iets bij staat dat zorgprofessionals "moeten" luisteren, dat hoort bij hun werk dat ze daarvoor open staan. Dat maakt het laagdrempeliger.

Suggestions for additional tips

P41, wat mis je: Misschien dat je ook nog wel iets zou kunnen toevoegen wat gericht is op een soort herkenning van trauma bij een kind. Dat is denk ik ook wel iets wat ik denk dat veel ouders zich zorgen over maken. Niet meteen over trauma spreken misschien, maar een beetje inventariserend: heb je het idee dat het een grote impact heeft op je kind, en hoe kan je daarmee omgaan. & Ik denk dat ook veel ouders het lastig vinden om hun rol te bepalen tijdens het poliklinisch bezoek. Dat zit hem dan in dat je eigenlijk vaak in een andere rol "gedwongen" wordt, al dan niet bewust. Dat je ook ongevraagd wordt ingezet als iemand die het kind in bedwang houdt, of helpt met een handeling. En dat is ook iets waar ouders in de zorgwereld tegenaan lopen, ook dat dit niet bespreekbaar wordt gemaakt vanuit het ziekenhuispersoneel. Dat zou misschien ook wel een tip kunnen zijn: Dat ze zich bewust zijn van dat dit gebeurt, en wat ze kunnen doen als ze zich in een rol gezet voelen waar ze zich niet prettig bij voelen.

P42, uit zichzelf: Hoe bereiden jullie je voor op zo'n bezoek? Omdat er soms best wel een disbalans kan zijn tussen je eigen vragen en zorgen, en die van je kind. Wat bijvoorbeeld kan helpen is niet recht tegenover je kind gaan zitten. Bijvoorbeeld in de auto, dan kijk je allebei naar buiten, dan is het makkelijker om een gesprek te voeren. Of hoe je tijdens een gesprek omgaat met als er totaal geen aandacht is voor jou als ouder, of juist andersom dat er alleen met jou wordt gepraat en niet met het kind. & Wat ik wel lastig vind als ouder, is het gesprek over je kind voeren met je kind erbij. Dat ik dan moet vertellen dat ik het niet meer trek en geen afspraken durf te plannen door haar, dat vind ik wel een beetje lastig. Daar zou je misschien wel nog tips van andere ouders voor kunnen maken.

P43, uit zichzelf: Dat iedereen een idee heeft van wat jouw kind kan hebben. Ik schrijf het vaak juist allemaal gewoon op en dan vraag ik het gewoon aan de kinderarts; mensen zeggen dit, kan dit het zijn. Maar op een gegeven moment snap ik wel dat je daar ook helemaal gek van wordt. & Je kan ook nog wel iets erin stoppen over de rest van je gezin. Het heeft ook effect op je relatie bijvoorbeeld.