Feasibility Study

The requirements for the Designer Drugs Database App before this feasibility study was PHP, JavaScript, C#, Css, Html, SQL, Ios, and Objective-c . The purpose of this project is to do an application that is usable in Ios devices such as Ipad, and Iphone.

To create an ipad, iphone(Ios app) I need,

* An apple computer.
* An ipad and/or iphone to test the application created.
* To study as I go either objective c or swift( Apple’s newest programming language to create apps.)
* Study carefully apple’s app store guidelines. This is because even after an app is created apple can deny your application if it doesn’t match their guidelines criteria.
* Apple $99 developer’s license.

Since I currently do not have available an apple computer and there are licenses involved then I had to explore other options to fulfill the clients need.

The current options are platform independent framework, hybrid apps crators, and responsive web design application. For platform independent framework there are several different frameworks that can be used. Some of these are:

**Sencha Touch 2**

**Knowledge required:** HTML, CSS, JavaScript, general web development

**Platform support:** iOS, Android, Blackberry

**Cost:** Free [under commercial and open source licenses](http://www.sencha.com/products/touch/license/) (paid OEM license available)

**Documentation:** [Examples, screencasts, and tutorials](http://docs.sencha.com/touch/2-0/#!/guide/getting_started)

**jQuery Mobile Summary**

**Knowledge required:** HTML, CSS, jQuery

**Platform support:** Most mobile browsers

**Cost:** Free (license: [MIT and GPL](http://jquery.org/license/))

**Documentation:** There are [many demos on the site](http://jquerymobile.com/demos/1.1.0/) and [books on jQuery Mobile](http://www.amazon.com/s/ref=nb_sb_noss?url=search-alias%3Daps&field-keywords=jquery+mobile)

The other option is hybrid app creators (HTML/JAVASCRIPT AND HTML/RUBY BASED). The best choices based on support for hybrids are:

[**Appcelerator**](http://www.appcelerator.com/):  This is a solution that allows you to develop native apps with HTML/Javascript (run through a UIWebView on iPhone) . (Free)

[**Phonegap**](http://phonegap.com/): Similar to Appcelerator, I mentioned these two as they seem to have the most vibrant communities, and most extensive support. (Free)

[**Rhomobile**](http://rhomobile.com/) : This is a solution that uses Ruby, especially loved by Ruby on Rails developers. (Free only for noncommercial applications, prices vary)

The last option to create an app like this is to use a responsive web design. Some responsive web design frameworks are:

**Bootstrap:** Sleek, intuitive, and powerful front-end framework for faster and easier web development.   
**Webpage**: getboostrap.com

**Foundation 3:** An advanced responsive front-end framework. Foundation 3 is built with Sass, a powerful CSS preprocessor, which allows us to much more quickly develop Foundation itself — and gives you new tools to quickly customize and build on top of Foundation.  
**WebPage**: foundation.zurb.com

All this choices have pros and cons but every choice that is not platform dependent and uses the web as their main platform has more less the same vision and goal. However, between them the responsive web design is the more appealing choice given it responsiveness, where a web app will look good in any device and adjust to the resolution. Looking deeper, if we look at the other applications and framework that integrate with the listed responsive web design frameworks, it is important to say that bootstrap integrates very well with another framework call angularjs, which is developed and maintained by google. Thus it is my recommendation to implement the system using the bootstrap responsive web design framework.

Sources:

<http://www.vizteams.com/blog/android-ios-top-solutions-for-creating-cross-platform-mobile-apps/#.VM7lbEfF-X0>

<http://www.awwwards.com/what-are-frameworks-22-best-responsive-css-frameworks-for-web-design.html>