**Project Proposal: Development of a Decision Support Solution for Patients**

**1. Project Title:**

Development of a Prototype Decision Support Solution for Patients with a Focus on Drug Information Retrieval

**2. Project Overview:**

This project aims to design and develop a prototype decision support solution for patients, with a particular emphasis on individuals with chronic conditions. The solution will provide users with accurate, accessible, and concise information on medications, reducing information overload for those without experience in medicine. By allowing individuals to search for specific drugs, the tool will generate a comprehensive briefing that can include key information such as:

* Drug name
* Purpose of the medication
* Active effect and expected benefits
* Active ingredient
* Side effects
* Potential drug interactions
* Dosage and administration guidelines (if applicable)
* Contraindications and warnings

The solution will serve as a decision aid for patients, empowering them with essential knowledge to make informed decisions about their treatments. The system will start with a curated set of drugs and expand over time to include a broader range of medications.

**3. Objectives:**

* Develop a prototype capable of generating accurate, user-friendly drug briefings.
* Identify key data sources and relevant information for the drug database, including live data feeds or repository creation.
* Test the prototype on a limited but representative set of drugs to ensure its effectiveness and accuracy.
* Provide patients with an intuitive interface for querying drug-related information, improving their understanding of prescribed medications.
* Plan for scaling the prototype to accommodate more drugs and additional features, such as condition-specific advice or alerts for critical drug interactions.

**4. Scope:**

* **Phase 1**:
  + Develop the core data stream that enables searching for a drug and retrieving relevant information.
  + Focus on a curated list of common drugs, particularly those used to treat chronic conditions.
  + Ensure accuracy by cross-referencing existing validated sources such as FDA databases, WHO lists, and pharmaceutical references.
* **Phase 2**:
  + Extend the database to cover a broader set of drugs.
  + Integrate potential live data sources, enabling real-time information updates on drug recalls, new side effects, or interaction warnings.
  + Explore options for a long-term data repository to ensure scalability and data accuracy.

**5. Deliverables:**

* **Prototype Version 1**: A functional prototype able to retrieve drug information for a select number of drugs, demonstrating the tool’s capabilities.
* **Data Source Mapping**: Identification and integration of key data sources, both static and live, to feed the decision support tool.
* **Usability Testing**: Initial testing of the prototype with a user group, potentially involving patients with chronic conditions, to evaluate effectiveness, accuracy, and user experience.
* **Expansion Plan**: A documented plan outlining how the prototype can be scaled to cover a broader drug range and additional features over time.

**6. Conclusion:**

This project aims to empower patients, particularly those managing chronic conditions, by providing them with easy access to comprehensive and reliable drug information. The development of a functional prototype will demonstrate the feasibility and impact of such a tool, setting the stage for further development and eventual large-scale deployment.