Project Summary

Medaware

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About Us

The team behind *Medaware* is a diverse group of engineers and designers, each contributing unique skills to the project. We strive to crete a seamless, user-friendly solution focused on improving the medical status quo and enhancing the exchange of information between healthcare professionals and the public. As a team, we collaborate exceptionally well. Everyone's opinions are valued, and we're always aligned, whether it's solving complex problems or brainstorming new ideas. Our strong support for each other makes collaboration feel natural and effortless.

Our Team consists of ...

Rasti, who's great at finding solutions and always a pleasure to work with;

Elias, who brings creativity and a sharp design sense to everything he does;

Clarissa keeps us all on track and makes sure nothing slips through the cracks;

Piotr, who handles the technical stuff and makes sure things [don't] make sense;

Arman & Atik, who joined the team after its inception, provided support in various areas.

The Challenge

The motivation behind the *Medaware* proejct was the less-than-optimal knowledge of basic medicine among the general public. We recognised that most people were unaware of the potential risks of numerous household items and chemicals, let alone the proper treatment and damage control measures in the case of inadvertent ingestion. Furthermore, we recognised the possible side-effects of various over-the-counter medicines that could lead to unexpected side-effects if used improperly; many are unaware of the serious, life-threatening consequences of combining *ethanol* and *acetaminophen*, for example.

Our Solution

In light of the current situation, we chose to develop an educational platform designed to make the public aware of said risks and dangers, whilst providing useful information regarding the treatment of accidentally ingesting, or otherwise causing a hazardous scenario. Recognising our inadequate medicial qualifications during development, we expanded the project past our initial scope, by creating a generic self-hosted solution which can be maintained by a public health entity or organisation and operated as a public medical "Knowledge Base".

Technical Difficulties

During the development of the *Medaware* Suite, we identified numerous technical challenges. Fortunately, due to our exceptional team, they were particularly easy to overcome. One such challenge was the lack of an easily-integrable *WYSIWYG* editor for the creation and maintenance of articles on our platform. We worked around this issue by developing a custom solution, *Tangential*, which is far more integrated into our system than what any premade package could ever allow. Another issue that ended up in the expansion of our technological stack was the issue of reliance on third-parties for image data; Our editor system, as well as the subsequent rendering pipeline, relies on external providers for fetching images for use in the articles on our platform. To avoid potential issues caused by possible down-time, we elected to cache said data in a *MinIO* instance, which runs on the same server as the *Catalyst* backend.