**Hospital Management Database**

Getting Started guide

By Nikolay Zahariev

1. **Program Overview:**

This program is used to create and maintain a database for the needs of an average hospital. It allows you to input, modify, search, and delete data on the patients present at the given hospital, the doctors who are employed there, and the different rooms a patient can stay. Despite not having a graphical user interface (instead using a console for input and output) this program is simple enough that almost anyone with at least a basic level of computer knowledge can use it effectively.

1. **The main menu:**

Every time you restart the program the first thing you will see is the main menu. It consists of seven options from which to choose. This choice is done by inputting the number of the option when prompted by the program, with the numberings going from one to eight. Here is the complete list of options you may choose from, while a little further bellow the guide will go into detail on what each option does and how it is used:

1. Create new doctor entry

2. Enter new rooms

3. Create new patient entry

4. Search for a specific entry by room number, doctor last name, or patient last name

5. Delete a patient entry

6. Show entire database

7. Exit program

1. **Menu Options:**

* The first option in the menu deals with creating a new entry into the database that will contain information on the doctors working at the hospital. When chosen, the program will ask how many doctors you wish to input into the system at one time. Once a number is chosen the program will begin to ask you to input different data pertaining to each doctor: first his first and last name, then his ID in the hospital, and finally his specialty.

After that information has been entered the program will display a message asking whether to return to the main menu or quit entirely. Here if you wish to exit then simply input the letter **E** and you will immediately exit the application. If, however, you wish to continue using the program then all you must do is enter any number, letter, or symbol different from **E**.

* The second option behaves much like the first. After selecting it you will be asked how many rooms for patients suffering from malaria are available at the hospital. After choosing a number you must then input the individual numbers of each room into the database. Following that the application will ask how many rooms are similarly available for bronchopneumonia patients. Here, if you wish it, you can enter the number 0 and completely skip either entering malaria or bronchopneumonia rooms into the program, or both kinds all together. At the end of inputting all the data, you will be asked again whether to return to the main menu or to exit the program. As in the above option and all subsequent ones the rule applies: **E** to exit, any other input to return to the menu.
* The third option of the main menu is used for inputting information on patients into the database. Ones chosen you will be asked how many such patients’ entries to make. After a number is chosen the program prompts you to enter the relevant information such as patient name, ID, age, and so on. Ones all information has been entered either return to the main menu or quit the program.
* The fourth option is used to search the entire database for the data on a specific doctor, patient, or room. You can enter the ID of either a doctor or patient to see information on the person, or enter a room number to see what this room is (i.e. a room for infectious and noninfectious patients) and who is currently using it.
* The fifth option allows you to delete a desired record for either patients or doctors. Ones chosen you will be prompted to enter the ID number of either a patient or doctor whose data to delete.
* The sixth option is very simple: ones chosen the entire database will be wiped. All the data WILL BE LOST, so it is advised to be careful when choosing this option. Ones the old database has been deleted a new empty database will be immediately created in its place and you can begin entering new data.
* The seventh option of the main menu displays the entire database the user has created thus far. You need do nothing more than choose this command from the menu. Ones chosen the program will display the database. Be warned that if the database is very big then you might have difficulty scrolling through the whole output to find something specific. The option to display the entire database is to be used only when you want to get a general feel for the entire database, NOT for searching for a specific record.
* The seventh and last option of the menu is very simple. Ones chosen you will simply exit the program. Do not be afraid of losing your inputted data as it is saved to a file automatically. We will discuss how to enter that file manually in the next paragraph. For now it is enough to know that even if you do not enter the program through this option in the menu (say if the power goes off) the progress you made will still be saved.

1. **Finding the text file that contains the database:**

Finding this file is extremely easy. Wherever you put your application (the executable file you use to start the program) just look for a text file named “Patient”. It is as simple as that. You can open the file and see the data you have entered so far or you can edit the data manual (though that is not advisable). Be warned that this is the place where the entire database is stored so DO NOT DELETE IT unless you specifically want to create a new database.