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GAMING HEADSETS USED TO REDUCE DEATHS DURING OPERATIONS Simulation technology proves an increase in operation accuracy

AwareTechnic has been developing new software that is compatible with Virtual Reality and Augmented Reality Headset's to simulate operation conditions to improve accuracy and efficiency during operations. These headsets are frequently used for gaming and have taken on a new role in the medical industry providing accurate simulations of serious operations and their first study has shown that surgeons who have used this technology have operated more efficiently which is often a deciding factor for life or death of a patient.

Located in Dublin, their software uses MRI (Magnetic Resonance Imaging) images to produce an accurate representation of the patient's body. Surgeons then proceed to simulate the events of the surgery using these gaming headset's as well as AwareTechnic's software to get a better understanding of the complexities of the issue as well as to simulate a trial run of the surgery. In AwareTechnic's first trial run in St. James' Hospital Dublin, surgeons were able to complete operations with the same degree of accuracy and precision while saving on average 10 minutes for every hour of the operation which is a 16% efficiency increase.

An interview with surgeon John Giles who has used this software during its trial run has said "I was amazed as to how accurate the simulation of the body was when I began the surgery, it completely removed having to refer to MRI images on a screen as I had fully seen it moments before." John went on to say, "Patients who we have not been able to conduct an MRI on prior to the surgery will not however be benefitted from this new technology, but I see this becoming less of an issue in years to come."

AwareTechnic have been developing and refining this software since commercially available Virtual Reality and Augmented Reality headset's hit the market in 2016. AwareTechnic's CEO and founder Caolan Barry stated "As this technology became commercially available and cheaper, I instantly recognised a gap in the market for simulations in the medical industry. I began developing for it on my own at home after work and when I fully recognised the potential, I quit my job and focused solely on AwareTechnic. MRI's produce lots of highly accurate images that were often just viewed on a 2-Dimensional screen or page. We're changing this." AwareTechnic will be conducting further trial runs in the industry to get as much feedback as they can for their software.

AwareTechnic are aiming to have this technology used in hospitals throughout Ireland by the end of 2019 and ultimately used around the globe. They are also focussing on adapting this software for education and training purposes.

If you'd like more information on this topic, or to schedule an interview with Caolan Barry, please call Peter Sink at 018227199 or e-mail Peter at peters@awaretechnic.com