CareMate: Personalized Healthcare Companion

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Agile SCRUM is a dynamic framework designed to foster collaboration and iterative software development (Pressman & Maxim, 2020). However, no project is immune to obstacles. Addressing issues early and adapting quickly is critical to maintaining project momentum. This paper examines common roadblocks in Agile projects and outlines practical solutions aligned with SCRUM methodologies.

The VP of Marketing has reported that users are dissatisfied with delivered features, and new requests are emerging. Agile thrives on adaptability, so the Product Owner (PO) must strengthen communication with stakeholders through frequent backlog refinement (Pressman & Maxim, 2020). To rebuild trust, the development team should hold regular user feedback sessions and incorporate new requirements into upcoming sprints in a structured manner, ensuring changes align with project goals.

Budget concerns raised by the CFO require a focused approach to prioritization. A cost-benefit analysis should guide decision-making, ensuring that critical features are developed first (Pressman & Maxim, 2020). Implementing a Minimum Viable Product (MVP) strategy allows for incremental feature releases while staying within financial constraints (Sommerville, 2020). Demonstrating progress through burndown charts and earned value tracking can help justify continued investment.

The resignation of the senior developer has created a knowledge gap and internal competition among team members. To address this, a mentorship program should be implemented to ensure knowledge transfer before the developer's departure. Encouraging collaboration and merit-based leadership selection will prevent unhealthy rivalries

(Pressman & Maxim, 2020). Fostering a supportive work environment will also help maintain team morale and productivity.

The newly appointed Manager of Application Development suggests accelerating the timeline by adding six interns and replacing daily stand-ups with infrequently long meetings. However, Brooks' Law states that adding manpower to a late project often delays it further (Brooks, 1995). Training interns would require additional resources, potentially slowing progress. Instead, optimizing workload distribution among existing team members is a more viable approach.

Daily stand-ups are crucial for maintaining alignment and addressing issues promptly (Sommerville, 2020). Reducing their frequency contradicts Agile principles, which emphasize continuous communication. Instead, maintaining daily stand-ups while allowing additional time for technical discussions when needed would ensure project coherence without unnecessary disruption.

By proactively addressing these challenges using Agile methodologies, the project can stay on track while upholding SCRUM principles. Strengthening stakeholder engagement, prioritizing essential features, managing personnel transitions effectively, and maintaining Agile communication practices will enhance project resilience and increase the likelihood of successful delivery.

References

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