



Department of Veterans Affairs and the Disaster Emergency Medical Personnel System (DEMPS) Program: Virtual World Training System

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Topics



- Background
- Performance Requirements
- Training Gaps
- Roadmap
- Status
- Road Ahead

Background



- DEMPS Program
 - Provides VA volunteers to render healthcare and assistance in a disaster
- DEMPS Volunteers
 - +8,600 volunteers
 - Various occupations: physicians, food service, nursing.....
 - Drawn from throughout US, Puerto Rico, Guam, and Philippines



Performance Requirements



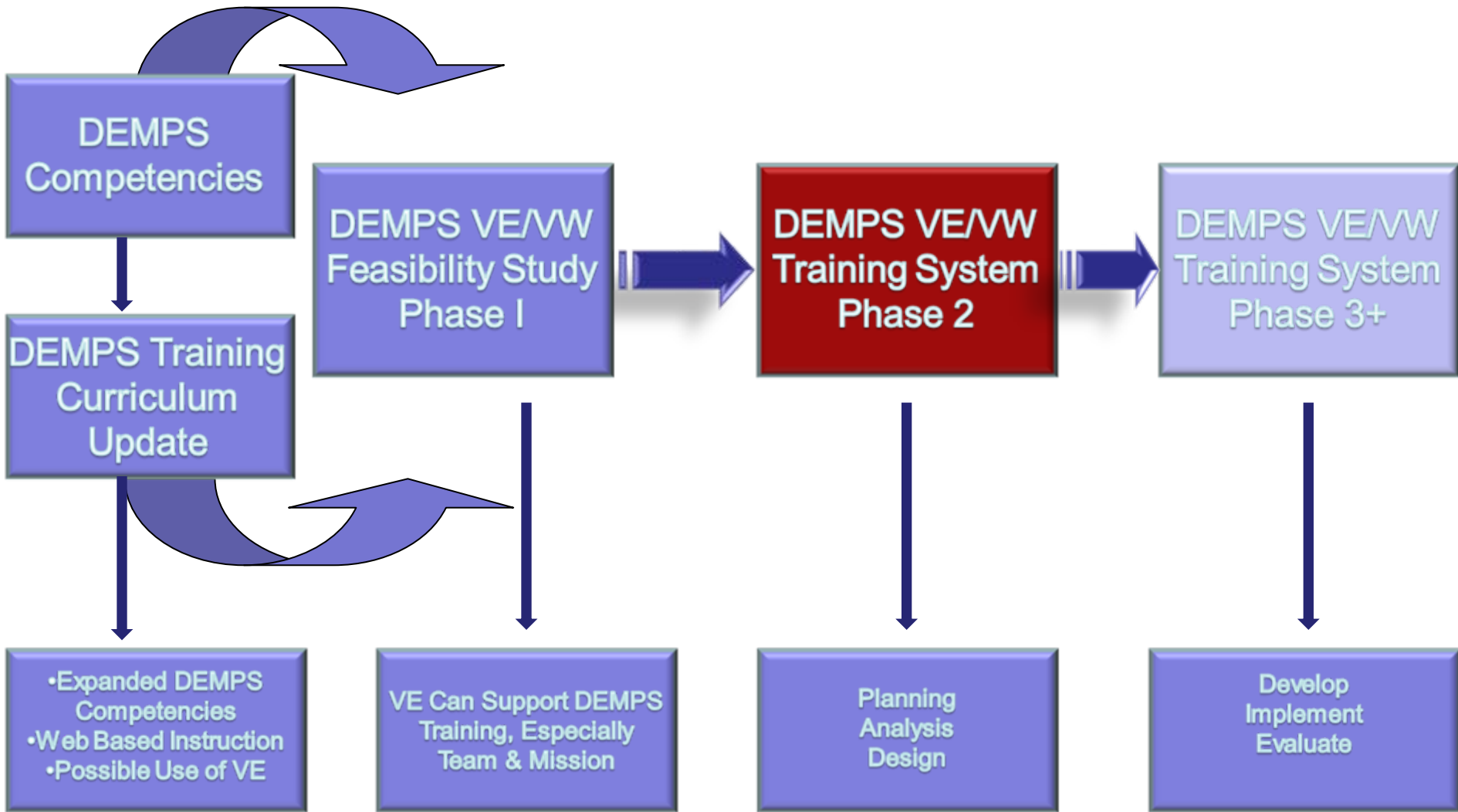
Pre-Deployment	Deployment	Post Deployment
<p>Readiness:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Personal• Family• Professional	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Respond• Mobilize• Transit• Check-in• Operations• Safety, Security & Health	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Demobilize• Recovery

Training Gaps



- Limited participation in Field Exercise due to cost, personnel availability
- No ability to practice mission roles other than field exercise, individually and as a team member

DEMPS VE/VW Training System Roadmap



Vision



Integrated Learning

Connect skills & knowledge from multiple sources & experiences including e-learning. Levels of engagement based on KSAs.

Learning Domains

Address the cognitive & affective domains

Higher Order Thinking

Understand, connect, categorize & manipulate the facts; Seek new solutions to new problems without worrying about mistakes. Devise new approaches

Team Skills

Develop & practice team skills including leadership, situational awareness, communication, situation monitoring, mutual support & feedback.

Seamless Transition

An opportunity to seamlessly enter the virtual environment to gain practice on the skills & abilities of a competency.

Vision



Multiple Perspectives

Provide opportunity to walk through each phase of a DEMPS deployment from different roles

Mission Rehearsal

Preview for specific deployments in the setting with team members & organizations involved.

Mission Exercises

Conduct a variety of mission exercises by specialty and entire cadre

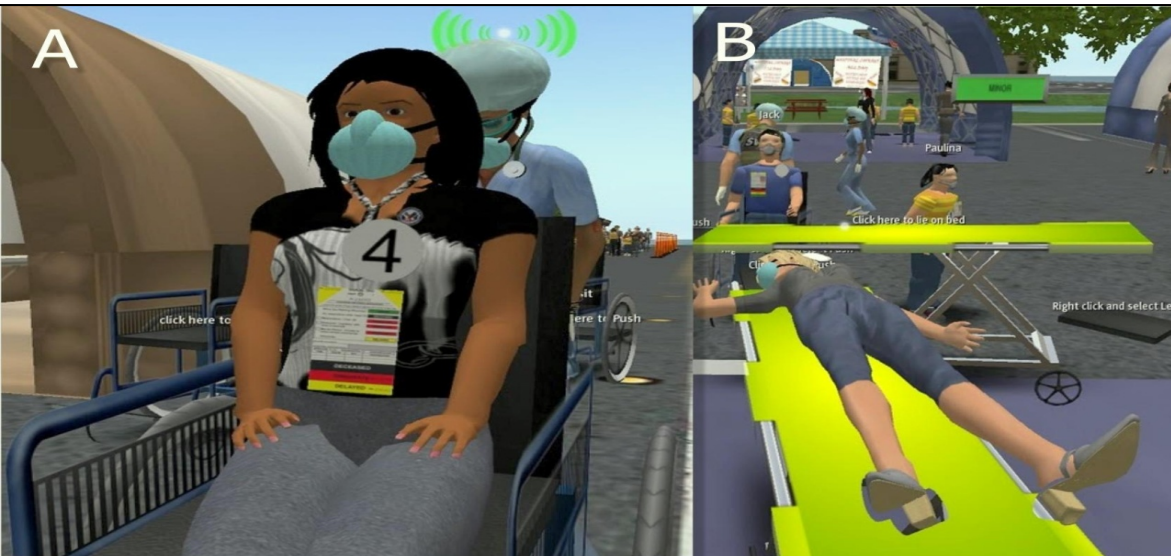
Lessons Learned

Allow learners to experience lessons learned and get guided tours

Assessment

Use a variety of assessment methods including knowledge checks with individualized remediation, self assessment against checklist, compare to a replay of an expert's action, and expert assessment of performance.

Veterans Administration Medical Center San Diego Pilot



- Acquire & practice individual and team skills
- Offer a realistic, interactive environment
- Instill learner confidence
- Invent new solutions
- Show the benefits of using VW for emergency training
- Capture lessons learned



VAMC San Diego

Lessons Learned



- ➕ Reinforce training delivered through a web 1.0
- ➕ Promotes team communication, decision making and planning
- ➕ VR allows virtual debriefing that can be replayed and reviewed easily
- ➕ Allows learners to learn about the diversity of strengths within a team
- Navigation concerns can interrupt the learning process
- ✓ Have a facilitator to help learners
- ✓ An observer to watch people who are stressed and not participating – whisper in their ear to get them moving
- ✓ An Obstacle course for orientation
- ✓ Team building exercise is a good ice breaker for students

Phase II Efforts



- Building a competency matrix—select those that will be practiced in virtual world
- Review of literature
- SME Workshop and Story collection
- Vgov Partnership

- Storyboarding
- Live exercise observation
- Prototype

Road Ahead: Phase III



- Develop
- Implement
- Evaluate