This exhibit of art and technology uses multidisciplinary concepts to create the visualization of health data. It is hoped this new technology will be used to influence patient-physician interaction and behavior change. Virgil Wong, a New York City-based artist and cognition technology researcher at Columbia University, creates digital portraits of people with chronic diseases. Using a mobile app developed by Wong, designer Katie McCurdy, and their company Medical Avatar LLC, patients create personalized avatars and timelines to more effectively communicate complex medical histories to their doctors. Virgil Wong utilized the data from these studies to create 9 “Symptom Data Portraits,” included in the exhibition. What the patient feels in his or her body is now made visible for others to see. The often subtle, recurring, and distinctive nature of pain is captured in a manner that help clinicians be both analytical as well as compassionate in administering care.

Participants: Robin Scully Boucher (VT Student Centers and Activities Art Programs Director); David Trinkle, M.D.(VT Carilion School of Medicine Creativity and Healing Program); Virgil Wong (CEO Medical Avatar, LLC); Virginia Tech Faculty, Staff, Students; Regional High School Students; Community Members

Type: Art, Health, Visualization

Date: August 2014- March 2015