

[0273] It should be noted that in at least one embodiment, the information stored in the BIP is stored on the device. The information may also, however, be stored on a flash card.

VI. Industrial Applicability

[0274] Although the present invention has been described as being utilized in a military environment, the present invention can also be utilized in a civilian environment. The technical and clinical innovations in the development, training and support of deployed telemedicine operations greatly enhances the level of command, control, situational awareness, and overall health care delivery provided by the U.S. Army Medical Command, for example, during contingency type operations. The invention is capable of being an enabler of first-responder medical combat casualty care and terrorist incident casualty care.

[0275] The invention provides both civilian and military commanders with real time access to the readiness status of their troops and provides support for medical command and control, telemedicine and medical informatics applications across the continuum of the entire spectrum of military and civilian medical operations and especially for the first responder and far forward medical facilities. The invention also may be implemented to include complete support for sick call algorithms based on the first responders' MOS or skill/service level. At the start of the mobile computing device, the available options may be preset to correspond to the user's MOS or skill/service level. Another exemplary embodiment provides for tracking medical supplies as they are used in treating patients. This type of information can then be used to formulate a treatment plan, because the system includes sufficient intelligence to know what supplies the medic has at the time of the encounter.

[0276] Those skilled in the art will appreciate that various adaptations and modifications of the above-described embodiments can be configured without departing from the scope and spirit of the present invention. Therefore, it is to be understood that, within the scope of the appended claims, the invention may be practiced and constructed other than as specifically described herein.

I claim:

1. A mobile computing device for communicating with a computer network, comprising:

- at least one user interface, said at least one user interface including
 - means for allowing a user to select an injury,
 - means for allowing a user to locate said injury on a body diagram,
 - means for creating a report, and
 - means for proposing a treatment plan;
- means for transmitting information to the computer network;
- means for receiving information from the computer network;
- an information carrier slot;
- a medical device interface; and
- a memory.

2. The mobile computing device of claim 1, wherein said user interface includes means for selecting a patient, means for adding a patient, means for editing a patient, means for presenting patient readiness, means for creating a new field card, means for creating an encounter, means for conducting an examination, and means for removing patients.

3. The mobile computing device of claim 1, wherein said at least one user interface includes means for adjusting provider settings and system settings.

4. The mobile computing device of claim 1, wherein said means for transmitting exports data.

5. The mobile computing device of claim 1, wherein said means for receiving imports data to be transferred from the computer network to the mobile computing device.

6. The mobile computing device of claim 1, further comprising means for formatting a new information carrier.

7. The mobile computing device of claim 1, further comprising means for conducting at least one food safety investigation to allow documentation of sanitary conditions of a food supplier site.

8. The mobile computing device of claim 7, wherein said means for conducting displays an inspection user interface.

9. The mobile computing device of claim 8, wherein said means for conducting further includes an auditing means for analyzing an environment of the food supplier.

10. The mobile computing device of claim 8, wherein said means for conducting further includes a findings means for receiving information relating to the results of said at least one food safety investigation pertaining to the food supplier.

11. The mobile computing device of claim 8, wherein said means for conducting further includes a methodology means for receiving a particular type of method for conducting the food safety investigation.

12. The mobile computing device of claim 8, wherein said means for conducting further includes a sanitation rating means for rating conditions of the food supplier site.

13. The mobile computing device of claim 7, wherein said means for conducting generates a report for conveying information relating to the at least one food safety investigation.

14. The mobile computing device of claim 1, further comprising means for determining a mental condition of an individual.

15. The mobile computing device of claim 1, further comprising means for locating a medical facility equipped to address a particular health issue.

16. The mobile computing device of claim 15, wherein said means for locating provides database information relating to medical specialists and geographical directions to said medical facility.

17. A method of initializing an information carrier to be used on the mobile computing device of claim 1, comprising:

- formatting the information carrier to accept information;
- configuring patient information;
- downloading the patient information onto the information carrier; and
- providing the information carrier to an individual for use.

18. A method for handling medical information from a point of initial treatment through treatment at a medical facility, using the mobile computing device of claim 1, comprising: