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## The Potential of a Store and Forward Tele-Behavioral Platform for Effective Treatment and Research of Autism

R. Oberleitner<sup>1</sup>, S. Laxminarayan<sup>2</sup>, J. Suri<sup>3</sup>, J. Harrington<sup>4</sup>  
<sup>1</sup>e-Merge Medical Technologies, Princeton, NJ, U  
<sup>2</sup>Institute of Rural Health, Idaho State University, Pocatello, ID, U  
<sup>3</sup>Fischer Imaging, Research, Development and Applied Sciences, San Diego, CA, U  
<sup>4</sup>Department of Pediatrics, New York Medical College, Valhalla, NY, U  
<sup>5</sup>International Child Development Resource Center, Melbourne, FL, U

**Abstract:** This paper describes the justification and the design principles of a behavioral medicine store & forward telemedicine platform to facilitate the capturing and communication of spontaneous patient behaviors for the improved evaluation, diagnosis and ongoing treatment of people with autism. This Tele-Behavioral Health platform will allow families and other caregivers to readily capture spontaneous patient behaviors for subsequent evaluation by appropriate medical specialists. A unique feature of the system is its capability to archive and index the data for access as well as

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disability.<sup>2</sup> Determination of an early intervention regimen is similarly important in children with narrow early developmental

*Autism's Increasing Prevalence*  
The large literature base is growing rapidly. An increase in diagnosed cases has made autism now the third most common mental retardation and developmental disability. Congress reports that the prevalence of autism has grown from 1 in 10,000 in 1999. In a 2000 paper, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention reported that the prevalence of autism spectrum disorders had increased to 1 in 150 children according to AMA N



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