

Virtual



Real

Figure 1 – A real interpersonal interaction (right) and an equivalent virtual interpersonal interaction (left). In the real interaction, a medical student interviews a real standardized patient. In the virtual interaction, the medical student interviews a virtual patient. How is experiencing an interpersonal scenario with a virtual character similar to – and different from – experiencing one with a real person?

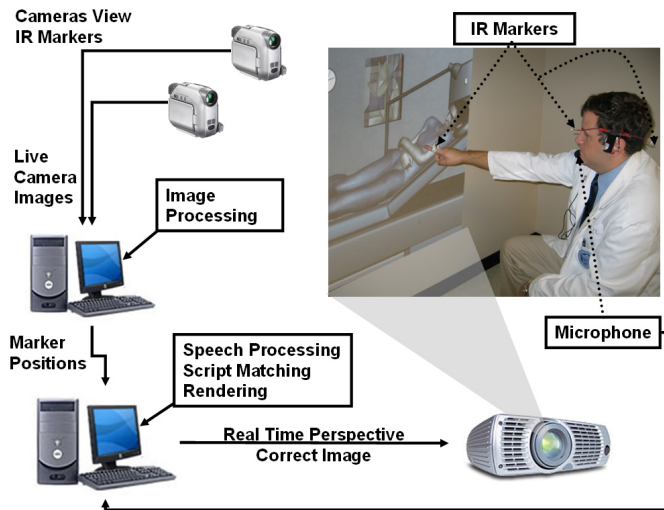


Figure 2 – Virtual Patient System Overview



Figure 4 – VIC, the virtual instructor (left), and DIANA, the virtual patient (right), in the virtual exam room