PORTABLE PROGRAMMABLE MEDICATION REMINDER

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To my beloved father, mother and siblings.

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ABSTRACT

Portable Programmable Medication Reminder is a device that can remind user to take the medicine on the time on sequence and correct amount of dosage. Nowadays, some kinds of disease which require more than one type of medicine intake in order to cure the disease or to prevent it from getting worse. This will be troublesome especially for elder people where their memory become weak and sometime will forget to take medicine on the time and confuse take which medicine. Besides that, the worker will also forget to take medicine as schedule due to busy on works. The purpose of this project is to design and develop a low cost device that can remind the user to take correct medicine on time as scheduled. A program will be write for microcontroller that included real time system and input for user to enter the time for medicine intake. When it reach the time for medicine intake, a buzzer will sound, a LCD will display a statement to alert user and a LED indicator will light up on which medicine should take in the box. Furthermore, a notification will be send to smartphone via internet where it is used for nearest person to monitor the user if they take their medicine on time. Therefore, with this device the user will not forget take their medication on time with the right medicine. The medication reminder apps can be used to monitor the medication intake activities of the user.

ABSTRAK

Peringatan ubat mudah alih yang boleh diprogramkan adalah alat yang boleh mengingatkan pengguna untuk mengambil ubat pada masa yang ditetapkan dan pengambilan dos yang betul. Pada masa kini, terdapat beberapa jenis penyakit yang memerlukan lebih daripada satu jenis ubat untuk menyembuhkan penyakit atau mengelakkan penyakit tersebut menjadi lebih teruk. Ini akan menyusahkan terutamanya bagi golongan warga tua di mana ingatan mereka menjadi lemah dan kadang-kadang akan lupa untuk mengambil ubat pada tepat masa dan keliru untuk mengambil ubat yang mana satu. Selain itu, pekerja juga akan lupa untuk mengambil ubat mengikut jadual kerana sibuk dengan kerja-kerja mereka. Tujuan projek ini adalah untuk mereka bentuk dan membangunkan peranti kos rendah yang boleh mengingatkan pengguna untuk mengambil ubat yang betul pada masa yang ditetapkan. Satu program akan direka untuk mikropengawal yang termasuk dengan sistem masa sebenar dan input untuk pengguna memasuki masa pengambilan ubat yang dijadualkan. Apabila ia mencapai masa untuk pengambilan ubat, buzzer akan berbunyi, LCD akan memaparkan ayat untuk memberi amaran kepada pengguna dan penunjuk LED akan menyala di mana perubatan yang perlu diambil dalam kotak. Tambahan pula, pemberitahuan akan dihantar ke telefon pintar melalui internet di mana ia adalah diguna oleh orang terdekat untuk memantau pengguna jika mereka mengambil ubat pada masa yang ditetapkan. Oleh itu, dengan peranti ini pengguna tidak akan lupa mengambil ubat-ubatan mereka pada waktu yang ditetapkan dengan ubat yang betul. Aplikasi peringatan ubat boleh digunakan untuk memantau aktiviti pengambilan ubat oleh pengguna.

CONTENTS

CHAPTER	TITI	LE	PAGE
	PROJECT TITLE		
	REP	ORT STATUS VERIFICATION FORM	ii
	DEC	CLARATION	iii
	SUP	ERVISOR DECLARATION	iv
	DED	DICATION	v
	ACK	KNOWLEDGEMENT	vi
	ABS	TRACT	vii
	ABS	TRAK	viii
	CON	NTENTS	ix
	LIST	Γ OF TABLES	xiii
	LIST OF FIGURES		
	ABB	REVIATIONS	xvi
	LIST	Γ OF APPENDICES	xviii
1	INTRODUCTION		
	1.1	Project Background	1
	1.2	Problem Statement	1
	1.3	Objectives	2
	1.4	Scope	2
2	LIT	ERATURE REVIEW	3
	2.1	Introduction	3
	2.2	Automatic Pill Dispenser	3
	2.3	Weekly Electronic Pills Dispenser with Circular	
		Containers	4
	2.4	Type of Medicine Pill Box	5
		2.4.1 Pillmate Day Out	5

	2.4.2	Pillmate Large / Day	6
	2.4.3	Pillmate Twice A Day	6
	2.4.4	Pillmate Multi Dose	7
	2.4.5	Tabtime Wallet	8
	2.4.6	Keep Able Wallet	9
	2.4.7	RNIB Darrow Medi Tray	9
	2.4.8	Le Mem-X	10
	2.4.9	Vibralite 8	10
	2.4.10	Cadex	11
	2.4.11	Tabtime 5	12
	2.4.12	Tabtime 4	13
	2.4.13	PivoTell MiniTell	13
	2.4.14	Tabtime Snap-on	14
	2.4.15	Tabtime Medminder	15
	2.4.16	PivoTell Automatic Pill Dispenser	15
	2.4.17	Medready	16
2.5	Studyi	ng from Arduino Mega 2560 Microcontroller	17
	2.5.1	Description	17
	2.5.2	Power	18
	2.5.3	Input and Output	18
	2.5.4	Programming	19
2.6	Studyi	ng from ESP8266 Serial Esp-01 WIFI	
	Modul	e	19
	2.6.1	Description	19
	2.6.2	Features	20
	2.6.3	Radio Frequency Specifications	21
	2.6.4	General Purpose IO	21
2.7	Studyi	ng from the DS1307 Real Time Clock Chip	
	Modul	e	22
	2.7.1	Description	22
	2.7.2	Features	23
	2.7.3	Clock and Calendar Operation in DS1307	24
2.8	Softwa	are Development	25
	2.8.1	Arduino Software IDE	25

	5.1	Introd	luction	50
5	CON	ICLUSI	ON AND RECOMMENDATION	50
	4.6	Cost	comparison	48
	4.5		cation reminder apps monitoring system	46
			Demonstration of the prototype	43
			Description of the prototype	42
		4.4.1	Final prototype	41
	4.4	Hardy	vare structure of the project	41
		ESP8	266 through internet	40
	4.3	Test c	connection to Blynk Apps using	
	4.2	Real t	ime clock system using DS1307 module	39
	4.1	Introd	luction	39
4	RES	ULT AN	ND DISCUSSION	39
		3.6.3	Developing an apps using Blynk Apps	37
			Arduino Mega 2560	36
		3.6.2	Communication between ESP8266 and	
			DS1307	34
		3.6.1	Simulation of real time clock circuit using	
	3.6	Devel	opment of Software	34
	3.5	Projec	et Structure Design	32
	3.4		Diagram of hardware	31
	3.3		et Sequences	31
	3.2	Flow	Chart of Project	29
	3.1	Introd	luction	29
3	МЕТ	THODO	LOGY	29
			2.8.3.1 Features of Blynk	28
		2.8.3	Blynk	27
		2.8.2	Proteus Software	26

5.2	Conclusion	50
5.3	Recommendation	51
REFE	RENCES	52
APPE	NDIX A	55
APPE	NDIX B	60
APPE	NDIX C	63

LIST OF TABLES

TABLE	TITLE	PAGE
2.1	Technical Specification of Arduino Mega 2560 board	18
2.2	Radio frequency specification	22
2.3	Timekeeper register for DS1307	26
4.1	Budget that used for the project	50

LIST OF FIGURES

FIGURE	TITLE	PAGE
2.1	Programmable medication dispenser block diagram	4
2.2	Pillmate Day Out	5
2.3	Pillmate Large 7 Day	6
2.4	Pillmate Twice A Day	7
2.5	Pillmate Multi Dose	7
2.6	Tabtime Wallet	8
2.7	Keep Able Wallet	9
2.8	RNIB Darrow Medi Tray	9
2.9	Le Mem-X	10
2.10	Vibralite 8	11
2.11	Cadex	11
2.12	Tabtime 5	12
2.13	Tabtime 5	13
2.14	PivoTell MiniTell	14
2.15	Tabtime Snap-on	14
2.16	Tabtime Medminder	15
2.17	PivoTell Automatic Pill Dispenser	16
2.18	Medready	16
2.19	Arduino Mega 2560 board	17
2.20	ESP8266 WIFI module	20
2.21	ESP8266 WIFI module schematic diagram	22
2.22	DS1307 RTC module	23
2.23	Arduino software IDE	26
2.24	Arduino software IDE workspace	26
2.25	Proteus software	27
2.26	Blynk App	28
3.1	Overall flow chart to complete the project	30

3.2	Process sequences of project	31
3.3	Block diagram of hardware part	32
3.4	Overall structure design of the project	32
3.5	Front view for structure design of the project	33
3.6	Side view for structure design of the project	33
3.7	Top view for structure design for the project	34
3.8	Schematic diagram of real time clock system using	
	DS1307	34
3.9	Coding to display 12-hour format time	35
3.10	Coding to display AM/PM	35
3.11	Coding to define characters of each days	35
3.12	Coding to display the day	36
3.13	Connection diagram between Arduino Mega 2560 and	
	ESP8266	36
3.14	Coding to test communication between Arduino	
	Mega 2560 and ESP8266	36
3.15	Create a new account	37
3.16	Widget box	38
3.17	Example of description and coding to use the widget	38
4.1	Time and date display on LCD screen	39
4.2	Time and date are displayed on Serial monitor	40
4.3	Connection to Blynk Apps using wireless communication	
	through internet	41
4.4	Top view of the prototype	41
4.5	Final prototype of the project	42
4.6	Standby mode of the prototype	43
4.7	Medicine time setting	44
4.8	Intake per day setting	44
4.9	Next intake time setting	45
4.10	LCD and LED in alert condition	45
4.11	Opening the cover of compartment	46
4.12	Medicine time setting	47
4.13	Medication reminder apps	47
4.14	Medication reminder apps with LED indicator turn on	48



ABBREVIATIONS

LCD - Liquid Crystal Display

LED - Light-emitting Diode

ICSP - In-Circuit Serial Programming

PWM - Pulse Width Modulation

USB - Universal Serial Bus

AC - Alternating Current

DC - Direct Current

UART - Universal Asynchronous Receiver/Transmitter

I/O - Input/Output

SRAM - Static Random-access Memory

EEPROM - Electrically Erasable Programmable Read-only Memory

FTDI - Future Technology Devices International

GND - Ground

TTL - Transistor-transistor Logic

SPI - Serial Peripheral Interface

MISO - Master In Slave Out

MOSI - Master Out Slave In

SCK - Serial Clock

SS - Slave Select

SDA - Serial Data input/output

SCL - Serial Clock input

TWI - Two Wire Interface

SDIO - Secure Digital Input Output

AHB - Advanced High-performance Bus

GPIO - General Purpose Input/Output

PCB - Printed Circuit Board

VoIP - Voice over Internet Protocol

DDR - Double Data Rate

LVDS - Low-voltage Differential Signaling



Peer-to-Peer P2P AP Access Point

Transmission Control Protocol/Internet Protocol TCP/IP

TR Transmit-receive

LNA Low-noise Amplifier **PLL** Phase-locked Loop

STBC Space-time Block Code

MIMO Multiple-input and Multiple-output

MPDU Media access control protocol data unit

Media access control service data unit **MSDU**

CPU Central Processing Unit

SI Serial Interface

I2C **Inter-Integrated Circuit** BCD Binary-coded Decimal

CMOS Complementary metal-oxide-semiconductor

RTC Real Time Clock

LIST OF APPENDICES

NO	TITLE	PAGE
A	DS1307 64 x 8, Serial, I ² C Real-Time Clock	55
В	COMPLEMENTARY SILICON POWER DARLINGTON	
	TRANSISTORS	60
C	Arduino Mega 2560	63

CHAPTER 1

INTRODUCTION

1.1 Project Background

Portable Programmable Medication Reminder is a device that can remind user to take the correct medication on the time as scheduled. Portable Programmable Medication Reminder is a project that consists of hardware and software. This project is using Arduino Mega which is a microcontroller board based on the ATmega1280 to control overall operation. The LCD display is used to display time and menu items. When the time reaches for medication intake, the buzzer will alert the user and LED indicator will indicate which medication box should selected by the user. The project has WIFI feature which can send notification to a smartphone that registered when the medication is taken by the user. This is very useful that can be monitored by the nearest person of the user.

1.2 Problem Statement

Nowadays a lot of diseases required intake many different kinds of medicine in order to prevent it getting worse. Some people with poor memory or busy with their works will face this difficulty to take right medication in the right time. They may face with over taking their medicine as they forget if they already consumed the medicine or may also not taking their medicine purposely because they not sure if they have already taken the medicine.

The project is focused on helping elder people where most have poor remembering ability and workers who busy with their works. Sometimes people around also not realize that these people need their help to make sure they can continue doing their daily activities. This project will take care these kinds of people to take correct medication on time.

Therefore, I proposed this project called 'Portable Programmable Medication Reminder'. It is able to store medicines and reminds the user to take medicine on time with right medicine. Hence, with this project, people who have remembering problem especially elder people can take medicine on time without worries.

1.3 Objectives

The objectives of this project are as the following:

- a. To design structure of medication storages that contains security function which can be controlled by microcontroller.
- b. To develop a program with real time clock system that can alert user to take medication on time through outputs response.
- c. To develop a program that can receives and transmits data between microcontroller and smartphone via wireless communication.
- d. To design low cost medication reminder.

1.4 Scope

The scope of this project includes:

- a. Construct three medicine storages with solenoid lock to secure medication.
- b. A program that reminds the user about the time for medication intake is limited to be schedule for one week repeatedly.
- c. Use existed software from internet resources to help in developing the program for this project.
- d. Android smartphone application will be used to transmit and receive information to and from the microcontroller through WIFI.

CHAPTER 2

LITERATURE REVIEW

2.1 Introduction

In Chapter 2, the related background of the project will be discussed. The discussion includes the past researches that had same idea and the features of the project. The literature review about similar previous inventions is made in order to make sure this project comes out with a better invention. The features also will be covered on the hardware and software that will be used in this project. Based on the research that had been done previously, this project will be focused more on people that have poor remembering ability especially elder people on their medication intake time that can lead to worst health condition. That is why this project will introduce a portable medicine box complete with an alerting system and can be monitoring the medication intake condition by using smartphone. This idea then leads to a project named as Portable Programmable Medication Reminder.

2.2 Automatic Pill Dispenser

This report is about designing and building an automatic pill dispenser. The product consists of a circular base with 22 fan-like blades that rotate about the central axis. The pills can manually put at the compartments which form by the blades for dispensing at predetermined time. A microprocessor that interfaces with LED display is used to control the dispenser and an alphanumeric keypad that will be used as a source for inputting of data and selecting from pre-programmed menu items. The user can insert the time(s) of day that pills will be dispensed. The patient must follow any warnings and/or precautions when takes his or her pills. Lastly, the dispenser will audibly and visually notify the patient took his or her medications. The dispenser

will automatically adjust the time of the next medication dispersal if necessary, to avoid amount of medication being taken too closely together. This project is realized with the development of a pill-dispensing unit and a microprocessor unit that will control whole system.[1]

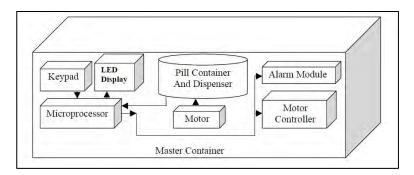


Figure 2.1: Programmable medication dispenser block diagram.[1]

2.3 Weekly Electronic Pills Dispenser with Circular Containers

This report is about design and implementation of an automatic weekly pill dispenser. This device can release the medication at certain time intervals according to the doctor's prescription. When the medication has to be taken, the device will automatically activates the dose of drugs into a small compartment which can be easily open, hearing a beep which indicates the fact that the medication has to be administrated. This device offers an easily used service which reminds through an easy and efficient time when the medication has to be administrated. At a simple pressing of a button, the desired medication is obtained at the prescribed hours or prescribed time intervals.[2]

Particular characteristics of weekly electronics pills dispenser with circular containers includes: the compartments for the medication which will be distributed at regular time intervals and audible warning. The electronics pills dispenser is controlled by a microcontroller which has an interface with the user, realized with an LCD and a keypad, which is going to be used as a source for introducing data and selecting elements from a pre-programmed menu. The user is able to introduce the hours when the pills will be released. The dispenser will generate a visual and audio alarm when the pills are distributed and will save the moments from the day when the patient takes the medication.[2]

2.4 Type of Medicine Pill Box

Medicine Pillbox will be dividing to another type, function and size. At the western country, the similar invention with this project has a variety in shape, size and also their function. But, the design majorly is not user friendly as the alerting system is simple and does not have monitoring system about medication intake. This feature cannot guarantee the elder will take their medicine on time. Besides that, some of the medicine pill box may be too large to be carried along together. Furthermore, some of the cost required for the invention is quite high. With this project, the three problems that occur may be fixed as this project will consists efficient alerting and monitoring system, provide low cost design and also easy to carry along everywhere and anywhere.

2.4.1 Pillmate Day Out

Pillmate Day Out is a simple and cheap with four compartments pill box which can be used to organize pills for only a day medication time. This pill box is good for users who know what pills have to take at specified time. Without having an alerting system, it will be disadvantage to the users who has difficulty in understanding to take the right pills on time.[3]

Pill Box Rating:

Easy to use: High

Easy to understand how it works: Low

Easy to fill: Medium

Secure (if dropped): High

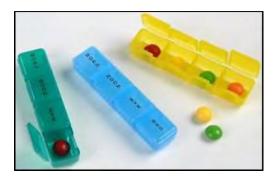


Figure 2.2: Pillmate Day Out [3]

2.4.2 Pillmate Large 7 Day

Pillmate Large 7 Day is also a simple and cheap with seven compartments pill box. It can organize the pills for a week where it is only taken once a day. This type of pill box is suitable for daily supplements consumes and perhaps brings on holiday. However, this pill box does not has alerting system to alert users to take medication on time and not suitable for users have weak hand.[3]

Pill Box Rating:

Easy to use: Medium

Easy to understand how it works: High

Easy to fill: High

Secure (if dropped): Low



Figure 2.3: Pillmate Large 7 Day [3]

2.4.3 Pillmate Twice A Day

Pillmate Twice A Day is also a simple and cheap with 7x2 compartments pill box. It can organize the pills for a week where the pills taken twice a day. This type of pill box is suitable for users to be carried along when at outside. Though this pill box does not has alerting system, not suitable for users have weak hand and visual impairment.[3]

Pill Box Rating:

Easy to use: High

Easy to understand how it works: Low

Easy to fill: Medium

Secure (if dropped): High