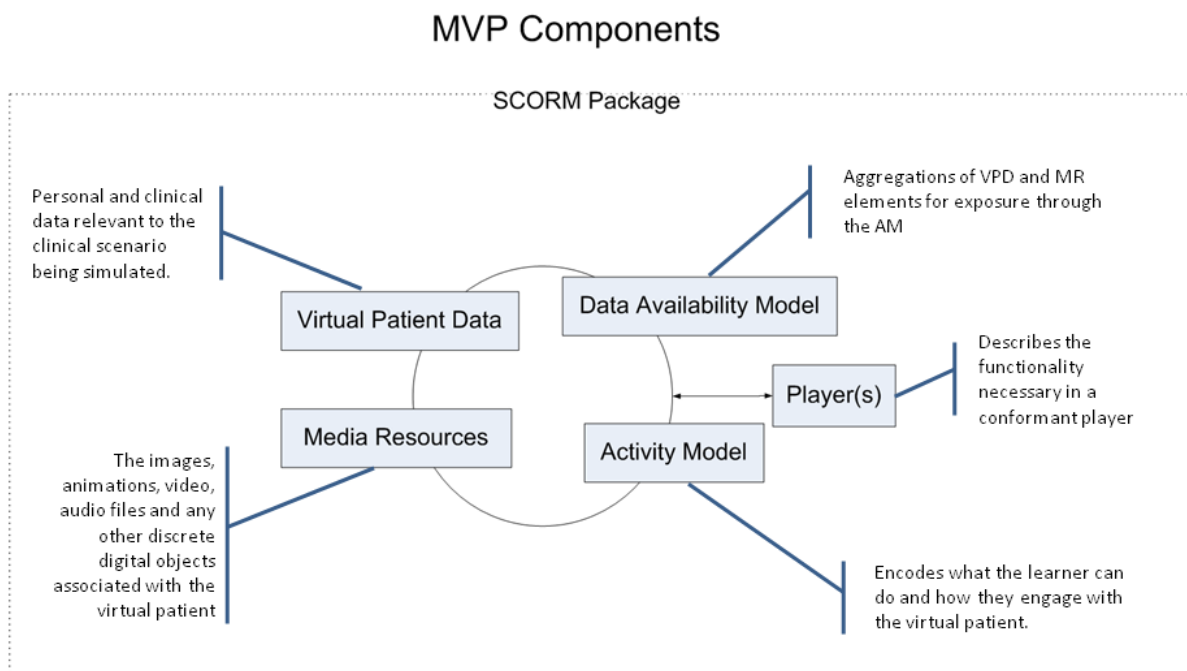


## MedBiquitous Virtual Patient Summary

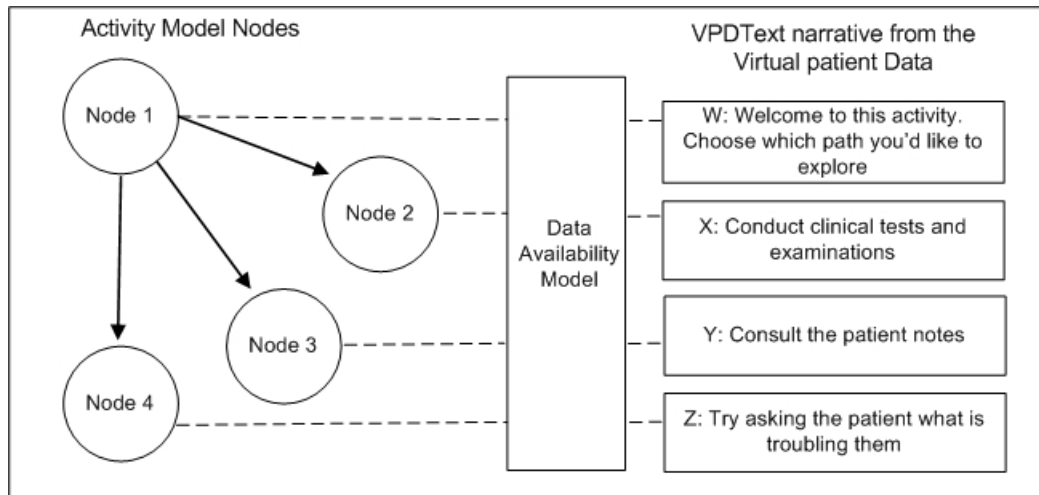
Virtual patients are notoriously difficult and costly to author, adapt and exchange. Historically this has limited their uptake and utility, despite their being able to provide high quality learning opportunities. A standard to enable their exchange across systems has the potential to scale their development and implementation across health professions education, including resource limited settings.

There are many different ways that virtual patients can be created and employed. The MedBiquitous Virtual Patient standard (MVP) has been designed to be sufficiently abstract and adaptable so that it can accommodate a number of forms and uses.

The MVP architecture consists of five components. A functional player specification that describes core functionality is part of the MVP architecture. Conformant MVP packages may contain a player that conforms to the player specification to enable widespread use of virtual patients. Systems importing virtual patients may ignore the player if they have virtual patient player capabilities. The five components are shown in figure 1.



The Activity Model accesses the Data Availability Model, which references data points within Virtual Patient Data. The result is a path through the content with interactions designed for the learner. The figure that follows illustrates one example.



In addition to passively displaying data elements there are some situations in which data elements need to be triggered to display related elements. For instance, in the case of ordering tests, only those tests that have been requested should be shown to the user.

Some of the general functions included in the Activity Model are:

- Structuring a path through the activity
- Learner interactions with content and data
- User interface controls, including content and activity sequencing based on learner actions or role
- Scoring criteria (both for assessment and content/activity sequencing purposes)
- Timer capabilities
- Learner redirection based on nodes visited and VPD data triggered

MedBiquitous Virtual Patient is an American National Standard. For more information, visit:

[http://www.medbiq.org/std\\_specs/standards/](http://www.medbiq.org/std_specs/standards/)