Harbinger Systems

Question and Answers

Q: Are there any app store review guidelines from Apple for applications using HealthKit?

Following are some guidelines one should refer to for developing an app using HealthKit:

- Apps using the HealthKit framework must comply with applicable law for each territory in which the app is made available
- They should not write false or inaccurate data
- Apps should not store users' health information in iCloud
- Data gathered from the HealthKit should not be used for other than improving health, medical, and fitness management, or medical research
- Health data should be shared with user consent
- Applications must indicate use of Health app in marketing text and must identify HealthKit functionality in the app's user interface
- Applications must provide a privacy policy
- Apps that provide diagnoses or treatment should provide written regulatory approval

These are the major guidelines Apple app store has provided.

Q: Could you elaborate more on Bluetooth GATT specification?

Generic Attribute Profile (GATT) , is a specification supported by Apple, for accessories, that will communicate with the health application in order to send the data gathered. Apple has also provided an external accessory framework, with this allows to develop the 3rd party accessories.

GATT specification has some predefined profiles and services, for example there is a profile for health thermometer- which senses the thermometer reading. Apple has provided built in support with these specifications and hence encourages the accessory developers to follow the same in order to make it easy to communicate between the devices.

Few predefined services include:
- Alert Notification Service
- Health Thermometer Service
- Heart Rate Service
- Immediate Alert Service

Q: I have an idea to develop an application using HealthKit, what are the key factors to consider?

Factors to consider can vary according to the unique and diverse requirements of the app. Let us see some general factos which can be applicable to majority of the scenarios:

- If there is any communication between the accessories, it should follow Gatt and wifi standard to communicate
- Diagnosis or treatment solutions should have expert guidance and a written consult from the doctor
- Always store data in encrypted format
- Divide the idea into multiple applications to gather different health attributes

Consider a case where you have a master application for getting health information and giving you diagnosis and what sympytomes the app is sensing. So the accessories that such an app would require would be varied. For the app to function, few accessories would be must required and few wouold be good to have. So the user can decide based upon his needs, like if he wants to track cardio and heart related activites, he would go with the accesroies for cardio and his profile will be generated accordingly.

Q. Can I define new health attribute such as Platelet count?

Apple has defined most of the metrices. One can customize them by changing units but one cannot add or create new health attribute.

Q. Will you post the recording or presentation slides of this webinar?

Yes, you can view the recording and presentation slides of the webinar by visiting this link:
http://www.harbinger-systems.com/insights/webinar/iOS8-HealthKit-Driving-Smart-Health-Solutions

If you have any further questions or would like more details about the webinar and our services or would like to get notified about our next webinar, please let us know at:
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