

Glen House: Fulfilling career dreams.

Major accidents have a way of delaying, or even ending lifetime ambitions. When Dr. Glen House broke his neck and injured his spinal cord while skiing one fateful day back in 1990, however, he didn't let the accident prevent him from fulfilling his dream of a medical career. Rendered a C7 quadriplegic by his injuries, he overcame his disabilities to become the first wheelchair-bound student to graduate from the University of Washington's School of Medicine.

Dr. House chose to focus his medical career on spinal cord injuries and eventually established his own practice. He later assumed the Medical Director of Rehabilitation role at Colorado Springs' Penrose Hospital, and during the summer of 2006, founded a pair of companies: C3 Medical, which develops disposable urological products; and Disaboom, a social networking website which provides resources to the disabled community and their family members, friends, caregivers, and employers.

All of that work requires a lot of writing, and MacSpeech Dictate Medical (now Dragon Dictate Medical for Mac) stood ready to lend a pair of helping hands. "Typing is completely out for me, except with one or two thumbs," Dr. House explains. He adds he was astounded the first time he tried MacSpeech Dictate Medical: "I tested it out with 'dysdiadochokinesis,' and it was unbelievable that it recognized that word," he says. In fact, MacSpeech Dictate Medical understands all of the words Dr. House encounters on a daily basis, thanks to its recognition of thousands upon thousands of words and terms from more than 54 medical and dental specialties.

Personal transcriptionist

While conducting his rounds at Penrose Hospital, Dr. House carries with him a MacBook running MacSpeech Dictate Medical. "I use it at the hospital to dictate clinical notes", he explains. "It keeps costs down because I don't need a medical transcriptionist, which is 10-12 cents a line and really adds up fast: I easily dictate 10-12 pages of notes a day, at a minimum, and it can be as much as 50 pages a day sometimes."

He adds: "I can use templates for my notes, or go back to a previous note and change certain things. Those tricks and the transcriptionist cost savings free up the staff for other tasks."

Double duty

As if all of this weren't enough, MacSpeech Dictate Medical does double duty for Dr. House as he takes classes for an MBA at the University of Colorado at Boulder's Leeds School of Business, where he expects to receive his degree in 2010. The MBA program offers rigors of its own, with 25-30 hours a week of writing, he estimates.

Not only does MacSpeech Dictate Medical save him from the laborious process of two-thumb typing, but it comes in handy in other ways, too: "We were reviewing videos in class, and we had to summarize them. I simply watched them and spoke into MacSpeech Dictate to create my notes. I only had to watch each video once, while other students kept having to re-watch them to create their summaries."

An all-purpose assistant

Whether he's at the hospital, in class, serving as Chairman of the Board of Disaboom, or tending to his President and CEO duties at C3 Medical, Dr. House says he uses MacSpeech Dictate Medical throughout the day. "Any time I need to type more than a paragraph, I use it", he says.

Dr. House switched to Mac OS X in 2006 because he had to create some videos and was attracted to the Mac's ease-of-use in that area. While his MacBook serves him well while on the go, he relies on an iMac at home. Other software he uses daily includes Microsoft Word and Excel and Apple's Mail, Pages, Numbers, and Safari, all of which work with MacSpeech Dictate Medical.

"MacSpeech Dictate is so much more efficient for everything, whether it's clinical notes, MBA papers, or emails," Dr. House says. "It's incredibly accurate, and I only needed five minutes to train it before I was ready to go. My daughter is even using it to write a mystery novel."

IMPORTANT NOTICE:

This success story provides an overview of the user's experience with MacSpeech Dictate Medical. As a result of the acquisition of MacSpeech, Inc. by Nuance Communications, Inc. in 2010, MacSpeech Dictate Medical is now a part of the Dragon family of speech recognition products from Nuance.

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About Nuance Communications, Inc.

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