

Optimized Drug Distribution for Pharmacies of the National Order of Pharmacists in DR Congo using a Multi-Agent Engineering Approach

Blaise Fyama M.¹ and Ruphin Nyami²

¹ Université Protestante de Lubumbashi UPL

Received: 14 June 2021 Accepted: 4 July 2021 Published: 15 July 2021

Abstract

This paper focuses on a Multi-Agent Oriented Engineering for the problem of registration of pharmacists in the National Order of Pharmacists (NOP) and the regulation of the sale of pharmaceutical products in a distributed environment. The behavior of a pharmacist in the practice of pharmacy is characterized by interactions with the Provincial Council of the Order of Pharmacists (PCOP) of his jurisdiction, where he obtains an authorization to practice pharmacy. This authorization is accompanied by the ethical rules to be observed in order to expose medicines on the market. The activities of each pharmacist are continuously subject to quality control and pharmaceutical vigilance to protect the health of the population. In this paper, we focus on the design of a Multi-Agent System (MAS) in order to help the PCOP to control the pharmaceutical activity on the one hand, and the pharmacists to sell their drugs safely on the other hand.

Index terms— JADE, multi-agent systems, agent modeling, O-MaSE, pharmacist

1 Optimized Drug Distribution for Pharmacies of the National Order of Pharmacists in DR Congo using a Multi-Agent Engineering Approach

2 Strictly as per the compliance and regulations of:

Type: Double Blind Peer Reviewed International Research Journal Publisher: Global Journals Online ISSN: 0975-4172 & Print ISSN: 0975-4350 Introduction nowadays, the field of Distributed Artificial Intelligence provides Software Agents with cognitive capabilities comparable to those of human beings (reasoning, thinking, learning, and deciding). The conquest of the power of this science and the evolution of technology is forcing the standalone or pre-programmed software development process to emancipate itself from the silo for distributed systems where each application is endowed with the ability to learn and use the distributed intelligence across the network. Each software agent distributed in the network is specialized in a given domain and interacts with other agents to solve complex problems in an environment. The DRC's pharmacy domain is no exception as the skills of each pharmacist must be put together to produce knowledge bases. This field is experiencing a proliferation of pharmaceutical dispensaries commonly called "death boxes", coupled with the increase in the counterfeiting of pharmaceutical products which endangers the health of the populations. The consumer of Congolese pharmaceutical products is faced with a total opacity to distinguish a licensed pharmacy from a "death box", notwithstanding the rules enacted by the PCOP. Our study wants to bring an answer to this problem by developing a Multi-Agent System made up of intelligent agents able to identify each pharmacist, his pharmaceutical activities in order to make it public to consumers. Each pharmacist registered with the PCOP will obtain exclusive authorization to practice pharmacy, which will undoubtedly limit the proliferation of unlicensed pharmacies. The consumer can now search for a drug in the MAS and the intelligent agent will contact qualified

3 RELATED WORKS

42 vendors (pharmacists) to obtain the drug safely. The pharmacy domain being complex in its broad spectrum, the
43 agents, their interactions and sociability are also complex as confirmed by the theory of AMAS (Adaptive Multi-
44 agent Systems) which proposes to solve complex problems by self-organization for which no algorithmic solution
45 is known [1], [2]. Moreover, the autonomous agents of our MAS will be subject to ethical rules and pharmacists'
46 deontology to make decisions which are perceived as locks, or design problems according to an agent-centered
47 perspective. This implies the use of formal rules to collective ethical issues in multi-agent systems proposed in
48 [3], [4], for the achievement of the primary goal of protecting the health of the population. Several methodologies,
49 allowing the development of this kind of system have been proposed. Our choice is oriented towards the O-MaSE
50 approach to develop our MAS. This methodology is selected for its conceptual richness and simplicity.

51 Our study is structured around the following three points excluding the introduction: ? The related works:
52 this part will allow us to present the related works; ? The design of the MAS for the adherence and regulation
53 of the sale of pharmaceutical procedures in the market; ? ADM implementation and simulation. We implement
54 under the JADE platform (Java Agent Development Framework) a sales negotiation capability between intelligent
55 agents.

56 II.

3 Related Works

58 Membership of the national order of pharmacists and pharmaceutical vigilance have been the subject of previous
59 studies. The result produced in [5] proves that the period of hospitalization or discharge of the patient, constitutes
60 a critical stage for the drug risk and the notion of drug quality must be a priority because only a limited number
61 of patients know how to access the accredited pharmacies. This result confirms that access to medications
62 requires an intelligent system to guide the acquisition of medications. In addition, the current technological
63 evolution pushes the profession of pharmacy mutation including all professionals and pharmacy students who
64 must grasp the advances [6]. The research conducted by Benhajji [7] have led to a satisfactory result of using
65 a patientcentered and agent-based approach that minimizes waiting times, length of stay, and therefore costs of
66 care, while ensuring quality care for all patients. With regard to drug safety and the proliferation of unlicensed
67 pharmacies, research has been carried out to dissuade offenders B. Allenet and his team [8], [9]. According to
68 G. Rousset [10], the distribution of medicines online has indirect and negative consequences for patients and
69 public health and generates major risks related to the difficulty for pharmacists to fulfil their obligations and
70 ethics. Other studies deal with the management of patients in hospitals. This is notably the case of the work
71 of Chuan-Jun and his teammate [11] and others in 2018 [12]. Other studies have focused their research on
72 the ethical and deontological compliance of agents with respect to a domain [3], [4]. The problem with all the
73 works is that the emphasis has been on reminding the agents of the rules established at the domain level even if
74 this is not enforced. The literature review previously cited shows the interest given to pharmaceutical activities
75 whose consequences are incalculable in human health. On the other hand, we did not find any papers that
76 addressed the issue of pharmacists' membership, pharmaceutical vigilance and the practice of pharmacy using
77 the Multi-Agent approach. Multiagent systems (MAS) require interactions between agents [13], [14], [15]. These
78 interactions drive learning to achieve the common goal [16]. Scott and Wooldridge have used agent-oriented
79 methodologies such as MaSE [17] ASEME [12] and other appropriate modeling techniques. It has been found
80 that some projects use multi-agent systems to develop their approach in the field of such as industry, tourism,
81 decentralized control policies, decision making and coordination. The methodology "MaSE" is a seven-step
82 process in two phases [18]. In the analysis phase, the identification of goals, the application of use cases through
83 sequence diagrams and the definition of roles with their required competencies. As for the design phase, it defines
84 the agent diagram, the protocol diagram (sequences) or conversation diagram between classes and deployment
85 diagram [18], [19]. In 2012, M. Fethi with his research team [20] applied the "O-MaSE" (Organization based
86 Multi-agents System Engineering) methodology to solve the vehicle touring problem. O-MaSE is an extension
87 to the MaSE methodology and completes it with the organization dimension. It considers a multi-agent system
88 as a social organization. Each agent is a member of this organization and plays a specific role according to its
89 capacity. In 2019, Hanane E. Adil Haddi and H. Allali [13] used the "MaSE" methodology to design a system
90 to support metacognitive skills to learners. Other research works have focused on the MaSE methodology as in
91 [21], [12]. This literature on MaSE methodology is matched with three main families that exist when designing
92 MAS [20]: functional, object and agent. The functional approach is generally applied to the domain of enterprise
93 information systems by treating both the data and processing point of view and the aspects going from design to
94 implementation. In the object approach, modeling a system consists of breaking it down into independent units,
95 each unit having its own characteristics (attributes) and operations that it can perform (methods). Unlike an
96 agent, an object only reacts to a method call and all the situations it will face must be taken into account by the
97 designer [22]. Moreover, objects cannot have goals nor seek satisfaction and the mechanism of sending messages
98 is summarized in a simple call of the methods of the class. There is no communication language as such between
99 the objects in an application. The interaction mechanisms are the responsibility of the programmer. In turn,
100 the agents have goals that give them autonomy of decision with respect to the messages received. In [23], it is
101 clearly stated that the MAS reorganizes itself continuously according to different scales thanks to the movements
102 in the life cycle of the agents. The global behavior of the MAS depends on the links between its different agents.
103 The behavior will sometimes be regular, sometimes chaotic, in all cases non-linear. The behavioral model must

104 therefore take into account the possibility of non-regularity of the system. This distinguishes the agent-based
105 approach from those used with functional and object models. In conclusion, the functional and object models
106 are not sufficient to design the systems of membership to the National Order of Pharmacists and the regulation
107 of the sale of medicines. Because they do not take into account the characteristics of autonomy, learning and
108 sociability of each component of this system as well as their characteristics of complexity and evolution. To
109 design our ADM, in the following section 3 we will use the O-MaSE methodology [24], [23].

110 4 III.

111 5 Design of Our MAS

112 The process of joining the national order of pharmacists and the process of selling pharmaceutical products
113 discussed in this article is very similar to the technology of distributed intelligent agents, whose centrifugal points
114 are as follows The Provincial Council of the Order of Pharmacists is the only body empowered to assign a unique
115 national order number to a pharmacist to practice pharmacy. Once registered, a pharmacist can manufacture
116 molecules and submit them to the Congolese Control Office (O.C.C). for quality control and conformity. Once
117 certified, the molecule is exposed on the market to sellers for consumption. Sometimes some drugs are recalled
118 for ineffectiveness or for complications that they cause in patients. It is up to the competent authority to decide
119 on the withdrawal of these. Whenever a buyer wants to purchase any pharmaceutical product, he/she is usually
120 faced with a plethora of sellers offering the same product at different prices and with different characteristics.
121 Since this system is made up of several actors at different levels of responsibility, we reaffirm that it fits well
122 with the distributed paradigm. In the following we will model the process of procurement, quality control and
123 compliance, and the sale of pharmaceutical products, in this case drugs, in a distributed environment. The
124 methodologies for modeling computer systems can be classified into three main families: functional, object and
125 agent [20]. The functional approach is generally applied to the field of enterprise information systems by treating
126 both the data and processing point of view and the aspects ranging from design to implementation [20] [25]. In
127 the object approach, modeling a system consists in decomposing it into independent units, each unit having its
128 own characteristics (attributes) and operations that it can perform (methods). Unlike an agent, an object only
129 reacts to a method call and all the situations it will face must be taken into account by the designer. Moreover,
130 objects cannot have goals nor seek satisfaction and the mechanism of sending messages is summarized in a
131 simple call of the methods of the class. There is no communication language as such between the objects in an
132 application. The interaction mechanisms are the responsibility of the programmer. In turn, the agents have goals
133 that give them autonomy of decision with respect to the messages received [21]. In [20], it is clearly stated that
134 the MAS reorganizes itself continuously according to different scales thanks to the movements in the life cycle
135 of the agents. The overall behavior of the MAS depends on the links between its different agents. The behavior
136 will sometimes be regular, sometimes chaotic, in all cases non-linear. The behavioral model must therefore take
137 into account the possibility of non-regularity of the system. This distinguishes the agent-based approach from
138 those used with functional and object models. In conclusion, the functional and object models are not sufficient
139 to model the systems of membership to the National Order of Pharmacists and the regulation of the sale of
140 medicines. This is because they do not take into account the autonomy, learning and sociability characteristics
141 of each component of this system as well as their complexity and evolution characteristics. To model our ADM,
142 we used the O-MaSE methodology [24], [23]. O-MaSE (Organization based Multi-agents System Engineering) is
143 an extension to the MASE methodology that completes it by the organization dimension. O-MaSE considers a
144 multi-agent system as a social organization. Our methodology has thus pursued the following approach: each
145 agent is a member of this organization and plays a specific role according to its capacity. It is mainly composed
146 of models (Goal, Organization, Roles, Ontology, Agent, Protocol and Agent State). In the following paragraphs
147 we present the main diagrams, namely the goal diagram, the role diagram, the agent diagram, the plan diagrams
148 and the protocol diagrams.

149 6 a) Development of the Congolese Pharmaceutical Universe 150 Goal Map

151 The goal diagram of the MaSE methodology is an acyclic directed graph where the nodes represent the goals and
152 the arcs define a sub-goal relationship [26]. Following the problematic of the present article exposed previously,
153 the main goal is to protect the health of the population by regulating the registration to the PCOP for each
154 candidate wishing to practice pharmacy, the quality control of medicines intended for sale. This primary objective
155 constitutes the overall goal, noted Goal 0. Goal 0 is dependent on the achievement of four sub-goals which are:

156 -Managing the enrollment of new pharmacy graduates in PCOP (Goal 1), -Management of the supply of
157 medicines in stock (Goal2), -Consumption of drug products (Goal3), -And the application of pharmaceutical
158 vigilance to decide whether or not to use the drug (Goal 4).

159 Goal1 is dependent on meeting the objectives of several sub goals. Indeed, to enroll a new graduate in PCOP,
160 one must first adjudicate the application to examine whether the conditions for membership are met (Goal1.1).
161 Then, the applicant is identified for enrollment in the PCOP (Goal1.2). Goal1.1 depends on the achievement of
162 two sub goals, the first of which is to select the application for enrollment noted (Goal1.1.1).

163 And the second goal is the automatic rejection of the application by the PCOP noted (Goal1.1.2). Goal 1.2,
 164 which concerns «identification of a new pharmacist», is dependent on the child goal (Goal 1.2.1) of "accessing
 165 professional data", the academic curriculum. Goal 1.1.1 is only achieved if all the elements of the file are accepted,
 166 i.e. verified, validated by the PCOP noted (Goal 1.1.1.1) and also if the notification of the interested party of his
 167 national order number has taken place noted (Goal 1.1.1.2). In addition, Goal 2, "To make medicines available on
 168 the market», depends on several sub goals. In general, the marketing of a drug requires prior authorization from
 169 the health authorities noted (Goal 2.1). This is followed by the distribution of medicines through pharmacies
 170 (Goal 2.2) and the submission of a complete file to the PCOP to obtain a license to practice pharmacy (Goal
 171 2.3). The (Goal2.1) which consists in "authorizing the marketing of a drug" entails de facto quality controls of
 172 this drug noted (Goal2.1.1). And also to consult the conformity information on the noted drugs (Goal 2.1.2).
 173 Goal 2.1.1 related to "Quality control of medicines" is only achieved when the compliance of health specificities
 174 is proven noted (Goal2.1.1.2) and also when the analysis result "prepare notice" has been published, noted
 175 (Goal2.1.1.1). Goal 2.1.2 "to consult data on medicinal products" depends on two sub goals: To consult data
 176 (technical details) on the medicinal product, this entails the extraction of data noted (Goal2.1.2.1) as well as the
 177 prior identification of the medicinal product concerned before it is placed on the market (Goal2.1.2.2). Goal 2.2
 178 on "Distribution of medicinal products" is achieved if its several sub goals are met. The marketing of a batch
 179 of medicines requires the dissemination of information (publish package leaflets and labels) about the medicine
 180 noted (Goal2.2.1). Then apply the sales policy noted (Goal2.2.2). Goal 2.2.2 "Process medicine sales" is achieved
 181 if quotations have been issued to applicants, noted (Goal2.2.2.1) and then if issuing the invoice to conclude a sale
 182 has taken place, scored (Bu2.2.2.2). The Goal3 representing "Consumption of medicines" is decomposed into two
 183 sub-goals. Indeed, the purchase of a drug requires the consultation of the list of pharmacists (sellers) available at
 184 the PCOP, noted (Goal3.1). Then one must be able to carry out the drug purchase operation, noted (Goal3.2).
 185 Goal3.2 "buy product" depends in turn on two child goals. Indeed, the purchase of a drug requires the choice
 186 of a better offer among many others, noted (Goal3.2.1) and, the request for quotation from the sellers affiliated
 187 to the PCOP noted (Goal3.2.2). The goal4 related to "pharmaceutical vigilance" depends on several sub-goals.
 188 Specifically, it starts with the patient experiencing adverse events (complications) related to medication and
 189 reporting the information to the health care professional for appropriate action, noted (Goal4.1). Next comes the
 190 recording of information to decide whether the is harmful or not (Goal4.2). Goal 4.2 is achieved if the decision
 191 to withdraw or not to withdraw the problem drug from the market is issued, noted (Goal 4.2.1). And also if
 192 recommendations have been issued to pharmacists, decision makers, consumers, noted (Goal4.2.2). To illustrate
 193 this textual description, the goal diagram thus constructed is presented in Fig. 1.

194 7 b) Application of the use cases of our SMA

195 The use case application step of the MaSE methodology is crucial to translate the goals (objectives) into associated
 196 roles and tasks [18], [12].

197 To build the use cases of our MAS, we will refer to the requirements described above. The use cases are full of
 198 exchanges that will become the communication elements of our MAS; they must then be converted into sequence
 199 diagrams to describe sequences of events between roles and to define the communications between the agents
 200 that will play these roles (Fig. ??). The roles thus identified in this step form the initial set of roles used to
 201 completely define the system roles in the next step [18]. In this sequence diagram the boxes at the top of the
 202 diagram represent the system roles and the arrows between the lines represent the events that occur between the
 203 roles. Time is assumed to flow from the top of the diagram to the bottom.

204 8 Fig. 2: Pharmacist Enrollment Process Sequence Diagram

205 9 Role diagram

206 The transformation of goals into roles generally follows a sequential logic. However, there are situations where
 207 it is useful to have one role to be responsible for several goals. For each goal/sub-goal identified earlier, we will
 208 have to create a role to realize it. A role can in this case achieve two goals at the same time. In order to achieve
 209 a goal, a role must have at its disposal one (or more) "Capabilities". To identify the roles of our AMASDM, we
 210 based ourselves on the application of use cases and diagrams of the previous section (3.2). Thus eleven roles have
 211 been identified with goal mapping as follows: Health Reporter completes goal4. 2). We have mapped goals to
 212 individual roles with two exceptions. Goals, 1, 2, 3 and 4 were not mapped to roles because they were partitioned.
 213 The role diagram is given in Fig. ??.

214 10 d) Role capacity

215 In the following Table ??, the objective is to specify the knowledge and skills "Capabilities" or "competencies"
 216 required for each role. A capability or skill is a know-how, a mastery of business rules that an agent must have
 217 before playing a given role; generally this "know-how" is translated into execution plans that will be translated
 218 into (state-transition) diagrams (section 3.5) describing the way an agent must behave. The following Table ??
 219 describes each role and its capabilities required to achieve the goals assigned to it: Table ??: Role Table

220 11 Goals

221 Roles Capabilities

222 12 Process health information Health reporter

223 He/she must be able to "communicate cases": identify medications, enter health reports, and transmit
224 complicated cases to the decision maker.

225 13 Reporting adverse events Consumer of medicines

226 The consumer must be able to "report adverse events": enter the adverse events, enter the medication taken, the
227 date, the time taken, the source of the medication.

228 14 Notify reasoned decision Order Number Notifier

229 He is responsible for "informing the decision of file processing" more precisely: enter the answer (negative or
230 positive), enter the date, place, and motivation of the decision taken by the PCOP. Reject Registration request

231 15 Identify pharmacist PCOP Registration Validator

232 He must be able to "update the membership roster": enter administrative, academic, Galen's oath, type of
233 pharmacy to practice. In this diagram (Fig. ??) we want to model classes of agents capable of possessing all the
234 necessary capabilities to play each role. Each class represents a model for a type of agent that can be instantiated
235 several times according to the needs of the system. Indeed, these agent classes describe the global organization
236 of the MAS composed of agent classes and the conversations between them. An agent class is a model for a type
237 of agent in the system and is defined in terms of the roles they will play and the conversations in which they can
238 participate. If roles are the basis of MAS design, agent classes are the building blocks used to implement this
239 MAS [4].

240 16 Ruling on application

241 For the functioning of our system, we have retained seven classes of agents that work simultaneously: a first agent
242 named "PCOP" having the capacities and know-how to play the roles: Validator of registration request, Notifier
243 of answers and national order numbers of pharmacists and the role of Locator of pharmacists. The second class
244 of agent selected is the "OCC" agent, having as roles: quality control of pharmaceutical products. This agent
245 must have all the necessary capabilities to play these roles. The third agent used is the "Pharmacist", whose
246 role is to file with the PCOP and to dispense drugs. He/she must have the necessary skills to play these roles.
247 The fourth agent needed is the "Salesperson" whose roles are: Sales Management. The sales agent must have
248 all the required capabilities to perform these roles. The fifth agent used is the "Buyer" agent having the roles:
249 Buying Negotiator. He must also have the necessary capabilities to perform this role. The sixth agent used is
250 the "Patient" agent whose only role is to report fake drugs. Finally, the "Health Professional" agent whose role
251 is to decide on the withdrawal of medication and to process health alerts. This agent must have the capabilities
252 to perform this role. Agent classes are similar to object-oriented class diagrams with two main differences. First,
253 agent classes are defined by the roles they play, not by attributes and methods. Second, all relationships between
254 agents classes are captured as conversations. The agent class diagram of our ADM is also shown in Fig. ?. The
255 rectangles of indicate the agent classes and contain the class name and the set of roles that each agent plays.
256 The lines with arrows identify the conversations and point from the conversation initiator to the responder.

257 17 Fig. 3: Role diagram

258 To consolidate the textual description in Table ??, the diagram in the following Fig. ?? illustrates the roles
259 and capabilities of our MAS. The creation of roles followed by the identification of tasks previously performed
260 requires us to specify the behavior of the role by defining the algorithmic details of the individual tasks. A
261 role can be composed of several tasks that, taken together, define the required behavior of that role. Each task
262 runs in its own control thread, but can communicate with each other. Concurrent tasks are defined in the plan
263 diagrams in the following paragraphs and are specified as finite state automata, which consist of states and
264 transitions. The states encompass the processing that takes place internally to the agent while the transitions
265 allow communication between agents or between tasks. In this section, we detail the capability plan diagrams
266 identified earlier, including: PCOP application validation, pharmacist location plan, sales management, drug
267 control and certification plan, drug purchase negotiation plan finally the drug withdrawal plan on the market.

268 18 i. Application Validation» flowchart

269 Following the reception of a PCOP membership application containing elements to be validated one by one
270 of the type `receive(validate(elts, condit))` where `elts` represents the elements of the file each of which describes
271 the identity of the applicant (candidate) and other administrative information, `condit` designates the conditions
272 required for the validation of the application the PCOP agent must verify the presence of each element, verify

273 the conditions required to satisfy this application among other things (nationality, Galien's certificate of oath
274 dating back to two months, diplomas,) in order to register the pharmacist in the membership table by assigning
275 him a number. Upon satisfaction of the request, a report from the PCOP is sent to the CNOP (Fig. 6) Following
276 the reception of a "receive (select Pharmacist())" message requesting the selection of the pharmacist, the agent
277 sets itself to the initialization state, then retrieves the input search parameter by executing the relevant thread.
278 At the end of the execution, the agent sends the list of results found according to the criterion, otherwise a
279 null result will be sent to indicate the absence of the pharmacist. To consolidate this description we give below
280 the corresponding plan diagram (Fig. 7) When a receive(CFP, AID) message is received, where CFP represents
281 the call for proposal of the drugs, AID represents the identifier of the buying agent in order to facilitate the
282 communication between the two agents. The agent goes to the state "In this report, the agent goes to "Wait"
283 for the approval or not of the quote by the requester and checks the buyer's answer which can be a refusal
284 "REFUSE" or an approval "CONFIRM". In the case of acceptance, the agent sends the invoice back to the buyer
285 for payment. The following diagram (Fig. 8) illustrates the sales management plan. The compliance and quality
286 control process starts when the agent receives a receive (analyze (medi, AID)) message where medi represents the
287 drug sample data to be analyzed and AID represents the requesting agent who can be a pharmacist who submits
288 a molecule to the control or a seller who wants to expose on the market the medicines ordered outside the country.
289 Everything starts with the analysis of the quality of the drug if it requires all the qualities, it passes to the state
290 of verification of compliance, if it is also compliant, the drug is added to the list already on the market otherwise
291 the product is quarantined for destruction. This algorithm will run as long as there are drugs or molecules to be
292 controlled (Fig. 9). When the Buyer agent container is launched, it passes through the initialization state where
293 it communicates certain technical parameters such as the type of service sought, the name of the service, the
294 ontology of the service sought and listens to events. When it receives a message containing the drug services, it
295 switches to the "create call for proposal" state while looking for the list of potential sellers of these drugs to submit
296 the request. The agent switches to the "waiting" state until it receives a sales proposal that will be submitted for
297 selection before confirming the purchase (Fig. 10). At the launch of the Health Professional agent container, this
298 service starts to contact the Patient agents to get feedback on the drugs administered to him, a series of questions
299 is sent to the existing or created patient agents. Upon receipt of a response and after the selection of the patient
300 agents involved, the Health Professional agent decides whether to withdraw a given drug from the market and
301 creates recommendations to be made public. The objective is to identify ineffective drugs or drugs that create
302 adverse effects on the health of the population (Fig. 11). In this section the objective is to define the details
303 of conversations according to the internal details of concurrent tasks. A conversation defines a coordination
304 protocol between two agents and is documented using two communication sequence diagrams where we find the
305 initiator and the responder [27]. Cooperation is necessary when an agent cannot achieve its goals without the
306 help of other agents. This situation is common even in primitive species. The goals requiring cooperation can
307 be coordination, negotiation, communication between agents. These conversations are defined according to rules
308 called "cooperation protocols" or "Conversation protocols", which indicate the allowed sequences of messages. A
309 wide variety of protocols exist. Examples are the "Contract Net Protocol" for bidding and the generic protocols
310 proposed by FIPA [28], such as "Dutch auction protocol" and "Iterated Contract Net Protocol". In our approach
311 we use the "Contract Net Protocol" for interagent negotiation [28] with the FIPA 2002 extension consisting
312 of successive rounds of proposal confirmations and refusals [27]. The "Contract Net Protocol" is a negotiation
313 mechanism between two types of agents: contractor and manager. It allows a manager, after some exchanges
314 with a group of agents, to retain the services of an agent called contractor for the execution of a contract task.
315 This protocol is qualified as a "mutual selection" type since to sign a contract, the chosen agent must commit
316 to the manager for the execution of the task and the manager selects only the agent having provided the most
317 advantageous proposal. The original version of the protocol has three main steps: the call for bids, the submission
318 of proposals and the award of the contract. A protocol linking two agents is described by a sequence diagram
319 that represents the different interactions between the entities by indicating the order of messages exchanged. In
320 our case, we have five types of communication between the different agents. The first concerns the processing
321 of a new PCOP registration request. The second deals with the identification of pharmacists, the third deals
322 with the control of drugs, the fourth deals with the negotiation of purchases and finally the fifth deals with
323 pharmacovigilance.Global

324 19 i. "PCOP Application Processing" Protocol Diagram

325 After receiving a new application for registration D, CG, ID, AID, where D represents the university degrees
326 obtained, CG means the certificate of Galen, ID means the identity document of the applicant and AID represents
327 the unique identifier of the agent and its location, the PCOP agent sends a response to the applicant which can
328 be a refusal in case the conditions are not met otherwise an acceptance of the application for registration. At
329 the same time, a report is sent to the CNOP for a possible attribution of a national order number in case of
330 an acceptance, otherwise a simple information report of the rejection. Acceptance of the application results in
331 the assignment of a national order number to the pharmacist: transmit national number (NN), the PCOP agent
332 notifies the pharmacist concerned of his registration with the national order of pharmacists confirm registration
333 (NN) (Figure 12). After the PCOP agent approves the requests, the PCOP agent updates the table of skills,
334 services, and locations of each registered pharmacist's pharmacy (Fig. 13). The request for publication of

335 services promotes their services (S, AID) where S designates the services offered (drugs) by this pharmacist and
336 AID indicates the location, address of the requesting agent. Following the reception of an alert of a medical
337 prescription (M, Q) where M indicates the drugs to be bought and Q, the prescribed quantity of a Consumer
338 agent who informs the Buyer agent by this prescription. The Buyer agent has to look for a potential pharmacist
339 (seller) to buy these drugs safely. Upon this, the Buyer agent issues a query to the PCOP to find sellers who have
340 these drugs (S, AID) where S denotes the type of service that will be used as a pharmacist selection criterion and
341 AID denotes the location and ID of the Buyer agent. The PCOP agent provides the latter with a list of potential
342 sellers found. The Buyer Agent now issues a call for proposal (request for quote) to the sellers received for a
343 possible proposal or refusal. In case of a proposal, the buyer must choose one of the best offers (accept proposal)
344 or reject the proposal (Fig. 15) Fig. 15: "Drug purchase negotiation" protocol diagram v. Pharmaceutical
345 vigilance management" protocol diagram Following the receipt of an alert or complication due to the use of a
346 drug or ineffectiveness or adverse reactions from a patient agent, the health professional agent must inform the
347 agents: Vendor, Pharmacist and Consumer of the withdrawal of a problem drug from circulation (Fig. 16).

348 **20 Fig. 16: Pharmaceutical vigilance Management protocol** 349 **diagram h) Agent architecture of our MAS**

350 Starting from the agent class diagram described above, we will present the agent architecture of our SMA. It is
351 worth recalling that our ADM allows us to identify the pharmacist before practicing his profession, to control
352 his products to ensure that they comply with the standards, to negotiate the sale between the buyer and the
353 seller. This results in a permanent "pharmaceutical vigilance" control of the effects of drugs on the market.
354 The proposed solution also makes it possible to manage unforeseen events that may occur, such as the arrival
355 of a new pharmacy graduate or the appearance of a complication due to the use of a drug. The architecture
356 defined (Fig. 17 This paragraph defines the deployment of our ADM before its implementation because agents
357 usually need information on the deployment diagram, such as a host name or an address, for communications that
358 usually incur a cost in the network. Fig. 18 shows a deployment diagram for the National Order of Pharmacists
359 membership and drug sales system. The cube nodes represent the agents while the connection lines represent the
360 actual conversations between agents. Agents are identified by their class name in the form name-instance: class.
361 The dotted boxes define the processing platforms. To reduce the communication load, we preferred to deploy
362 the Buyer agents as well as the consumer on the same machine and the Seller, Pharmacist agents on the same
363 machine. The rest of the agents are each deployed in a machine connected to the network in order to guarantee
364 the advantages of the distribution obtained by using the multi-agent paradigm. We can see the message leaving
365 from the consumer to the buyer, from the buyer agent to DF and vice versa. Note also that a click on the link
366 of a message gives the details on the content of the message.

367 **21 Conclusion**

368 This paper aimed at designing a Multi-Agent System for the regulation of drug sales in order to secure the
369 health of the population. Indeed, the designed MAS allows the registration of pharmacists in the Provincial
370 Council of Pharmacists, the control of the quality and conformity of drugs before their exposure on the market,
371 the negotiation of sales between agents and the follow-up of pharmaceutical vigilance. Our MAS is composed
372 of seven classes of agents: Pharmacist, Vendor, Buyer, OCC, PCOP, Healthcare Professional and Patient who
373 communicate with each other using the "Contract Net Protocol" with the FIPA 2002 extension. The modeling
374 of the system was done according to the O-MaSe methodology. The implementation of the agents as well as the
375 interactions between them were carried out under the JADE platform. In the near future, it would be imperative
376 to address issues of quality control and drug design, certification of pharmacy degrees to ensure the health of the
377 population.

378 **22 () C** 379 Year 2021 ^{1 2}

¹© 2021 Global Journals

²() C © 2021 Global Journals Year 2021

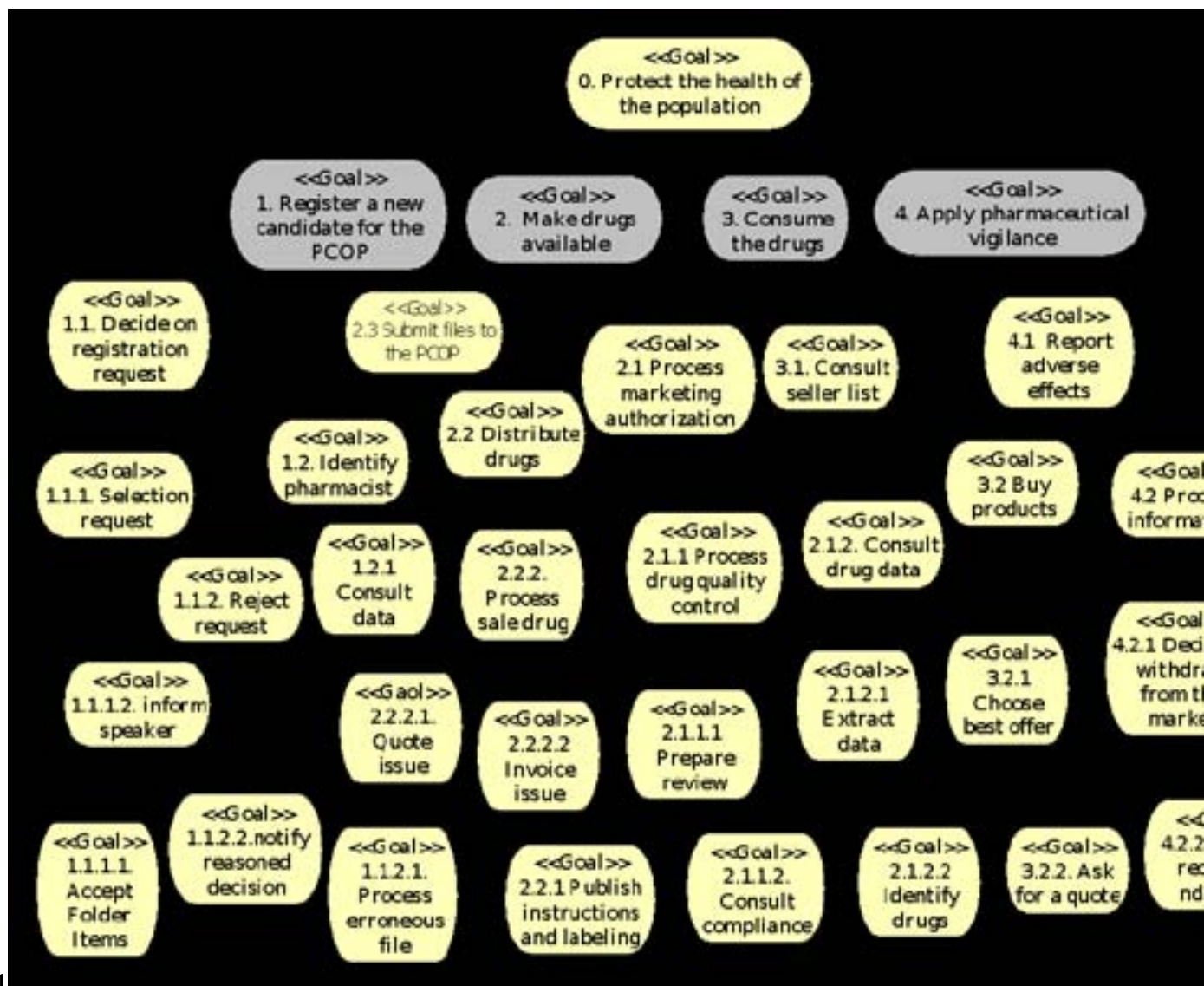


Figure 1: Fig. 1 :

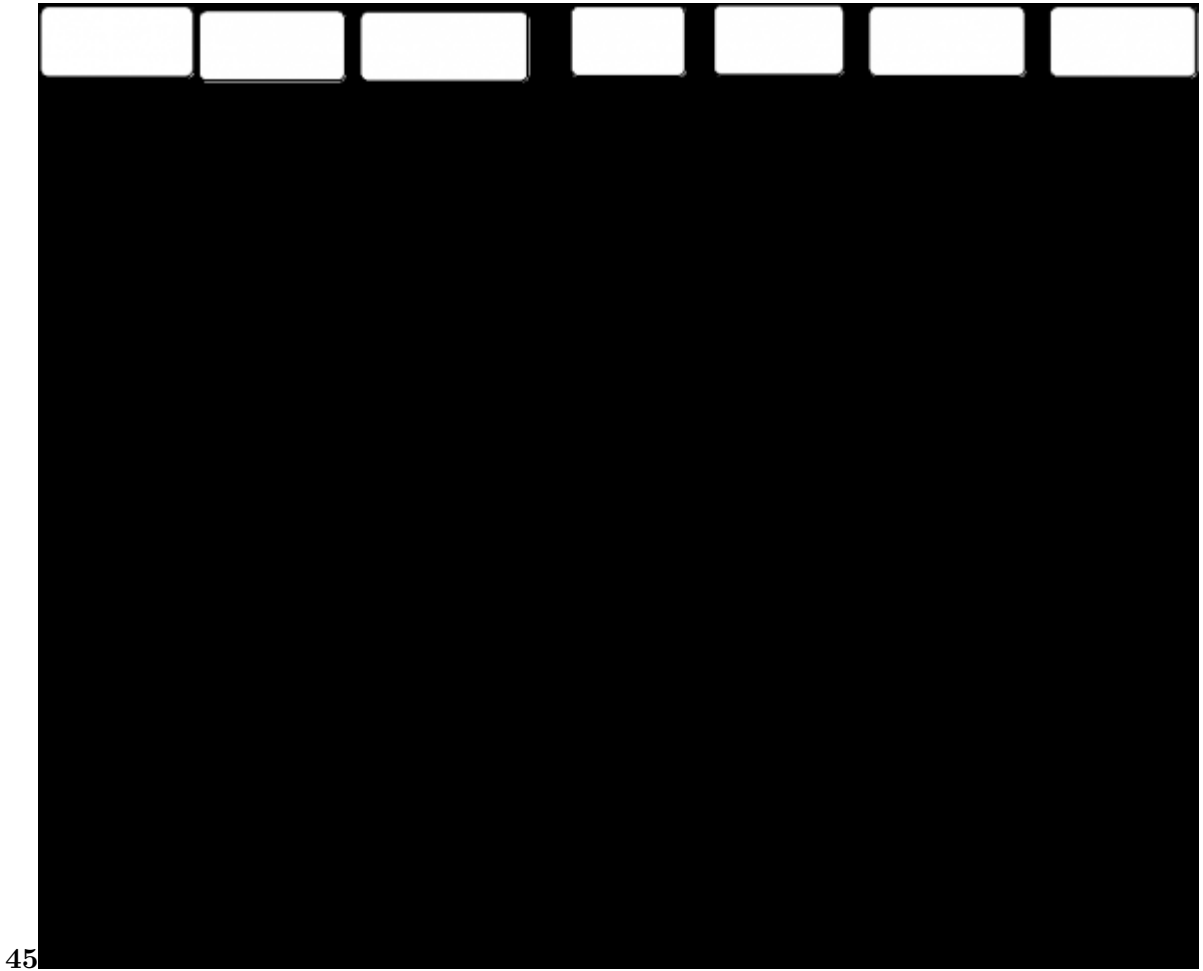


Figure 2: Fig. 4 :Fig. 5 :

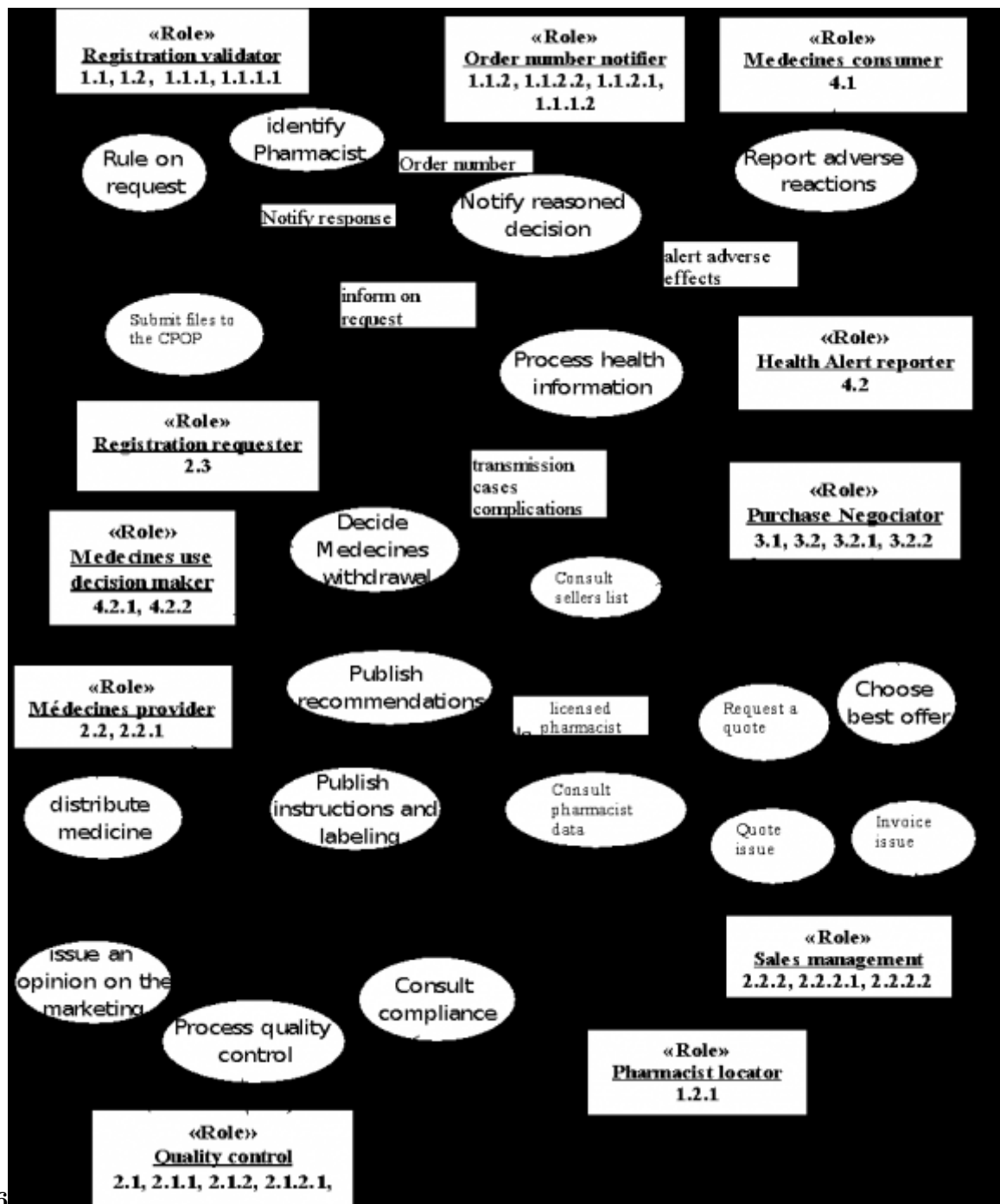


Figure 3: Fig. 6 :

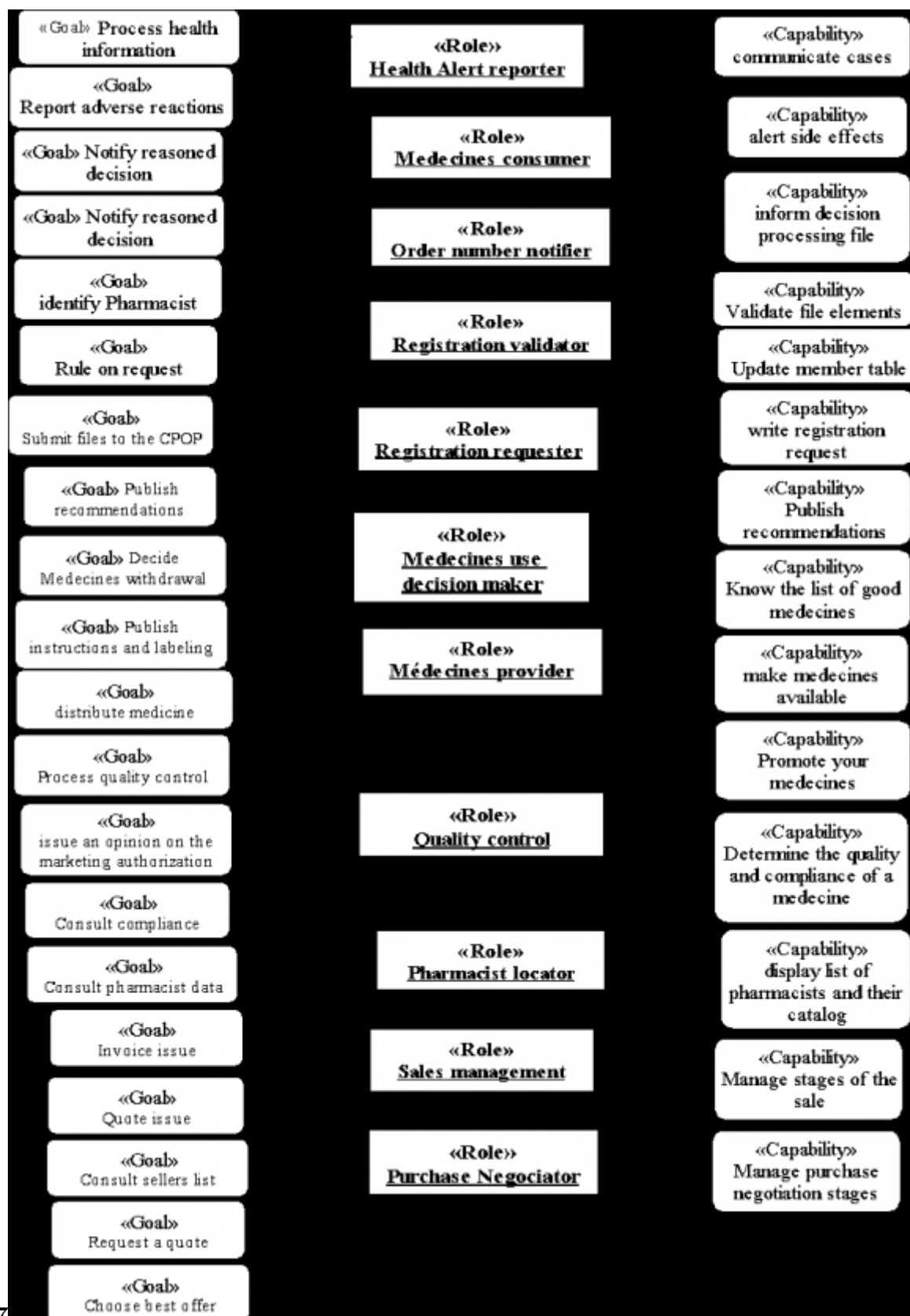


Figure 4: Fig. 7 :

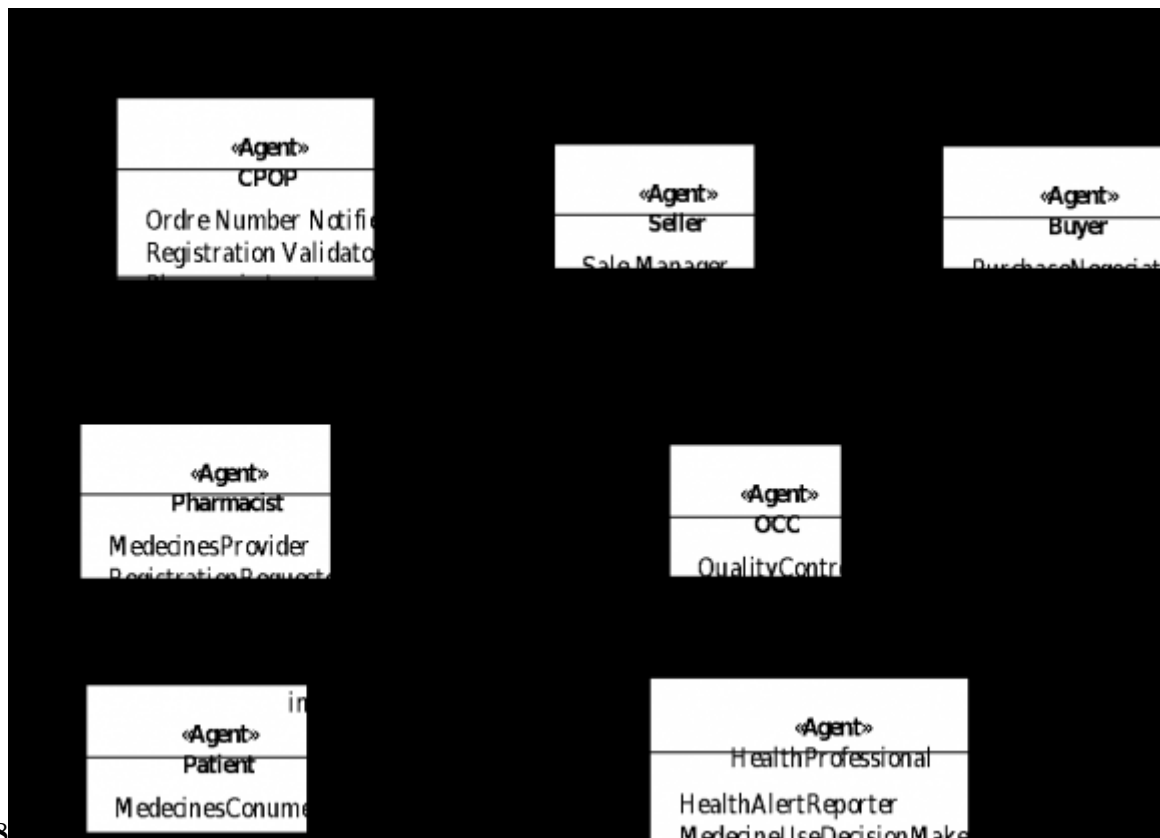


Figure 5: Fig. 8 :

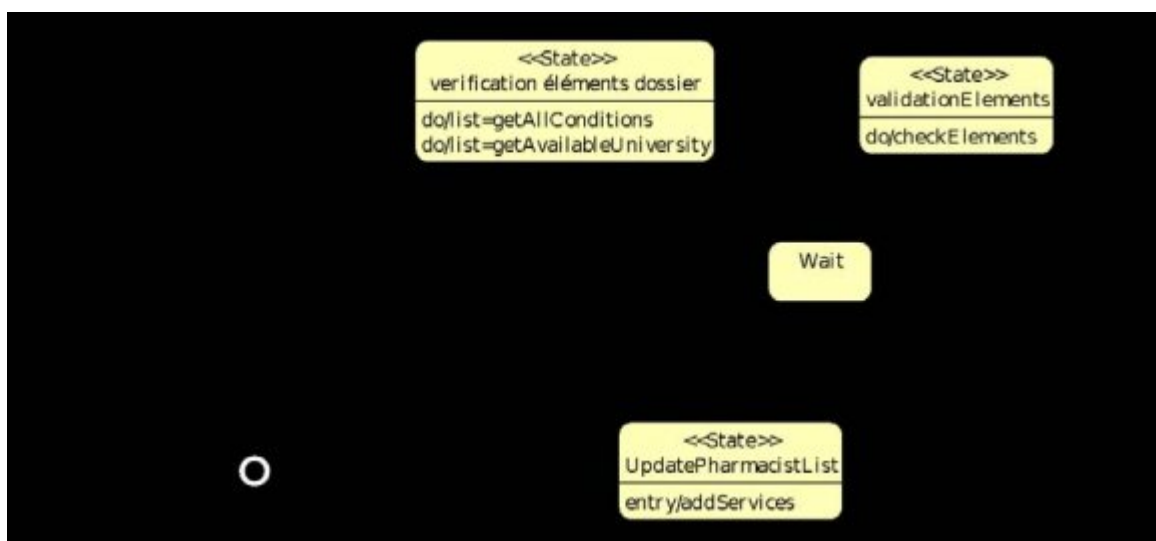


Figure 6:

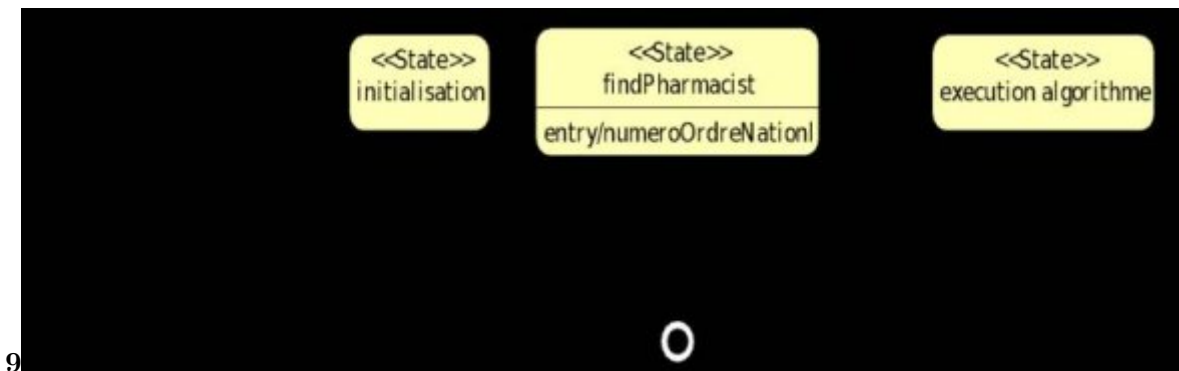


Figure 7: Fig. 9 :

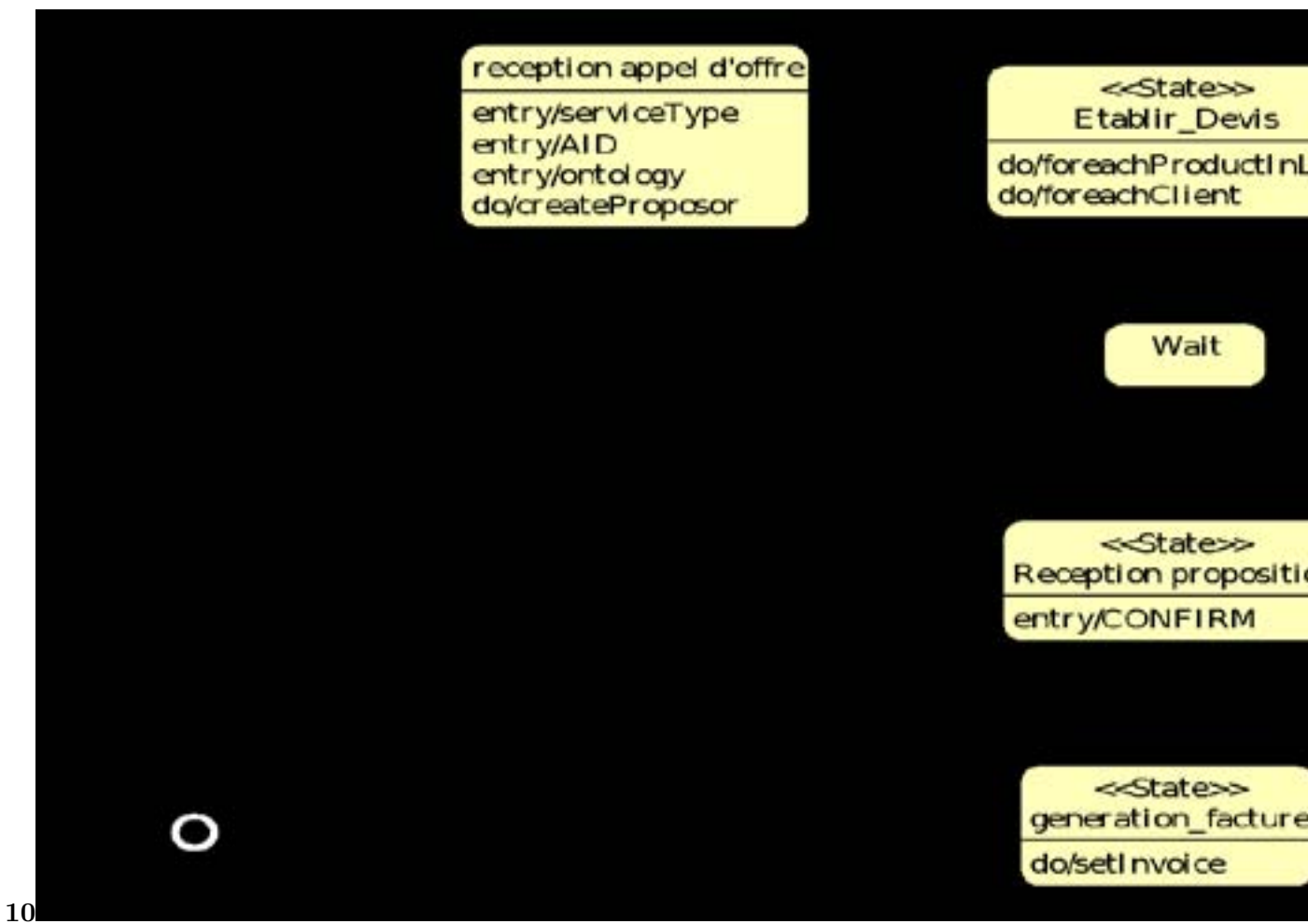
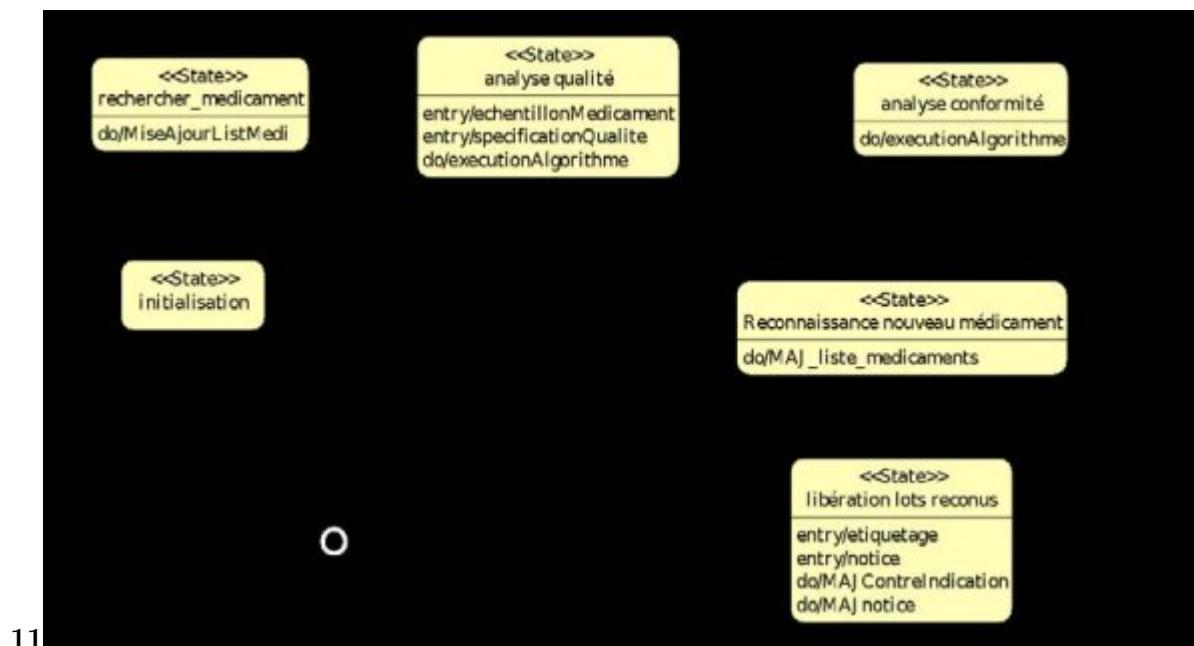
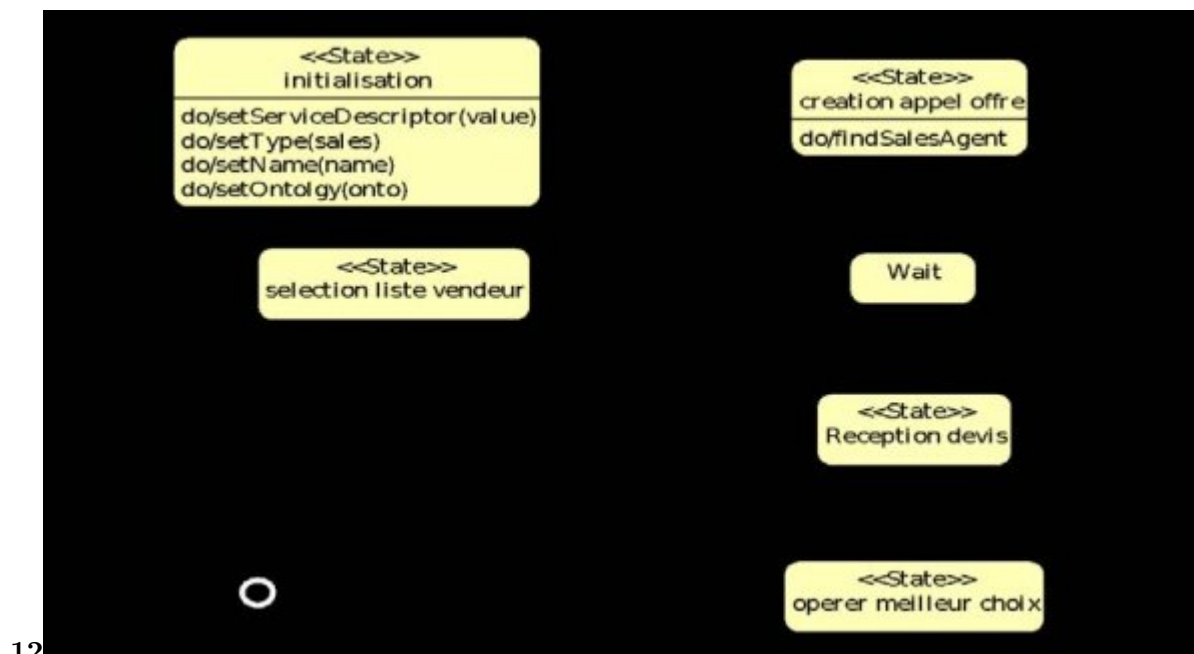


Figure 8: Fig. 10 :



11

Figure 9: Fig. 11 :



12

Figure 10: Fig. 12 :

1314

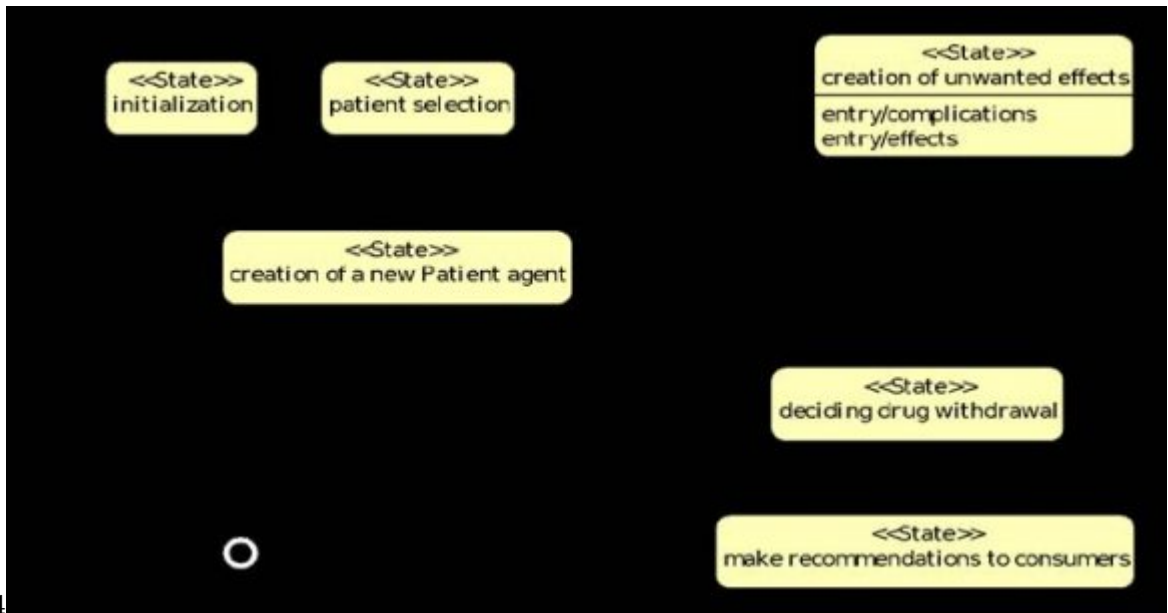


Figure 11: Fig. 13 :Fig. 14 :



Figure 12:

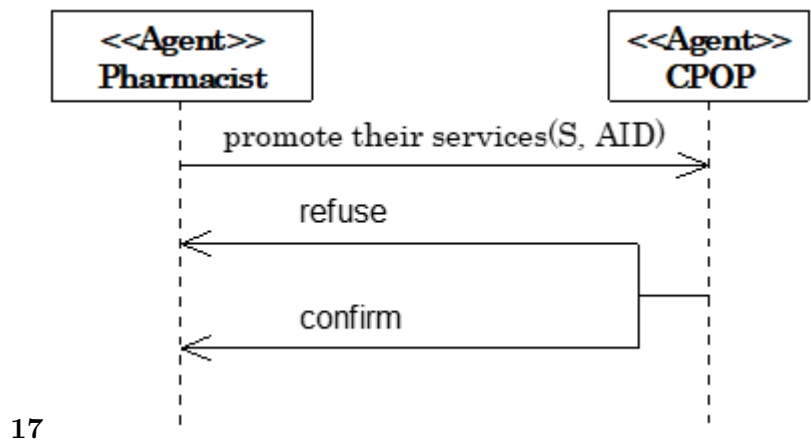


Figure 13: Fig. 17 :



Figure 14: Fig. 18 :Fig. 20 :

21

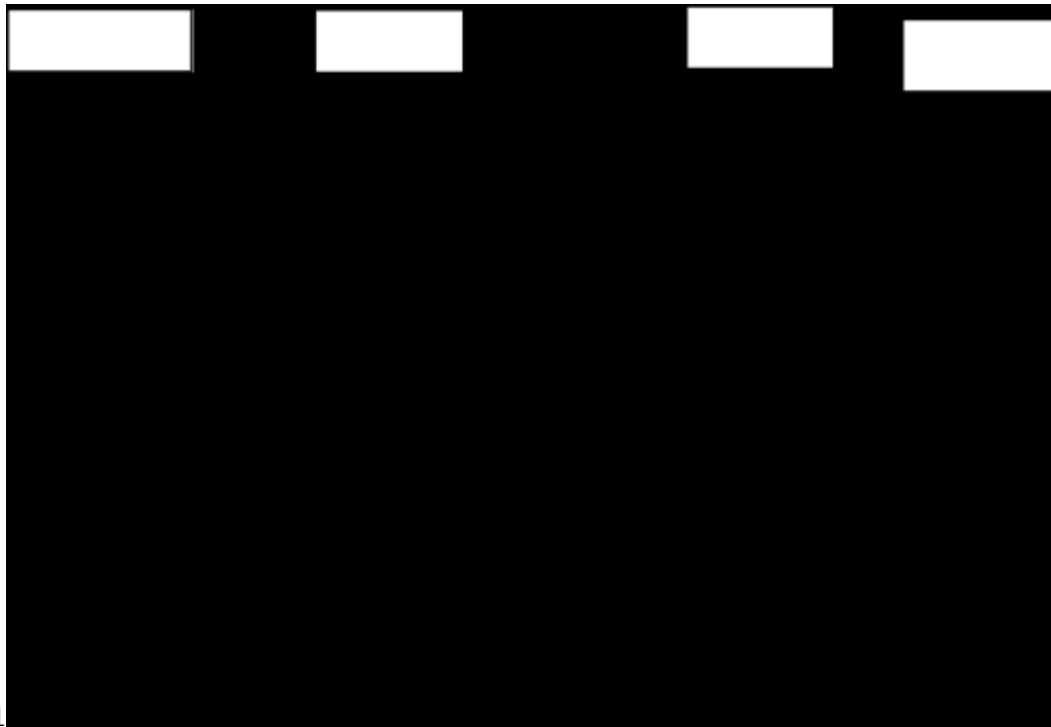


Figure 15: Fig. 21 :

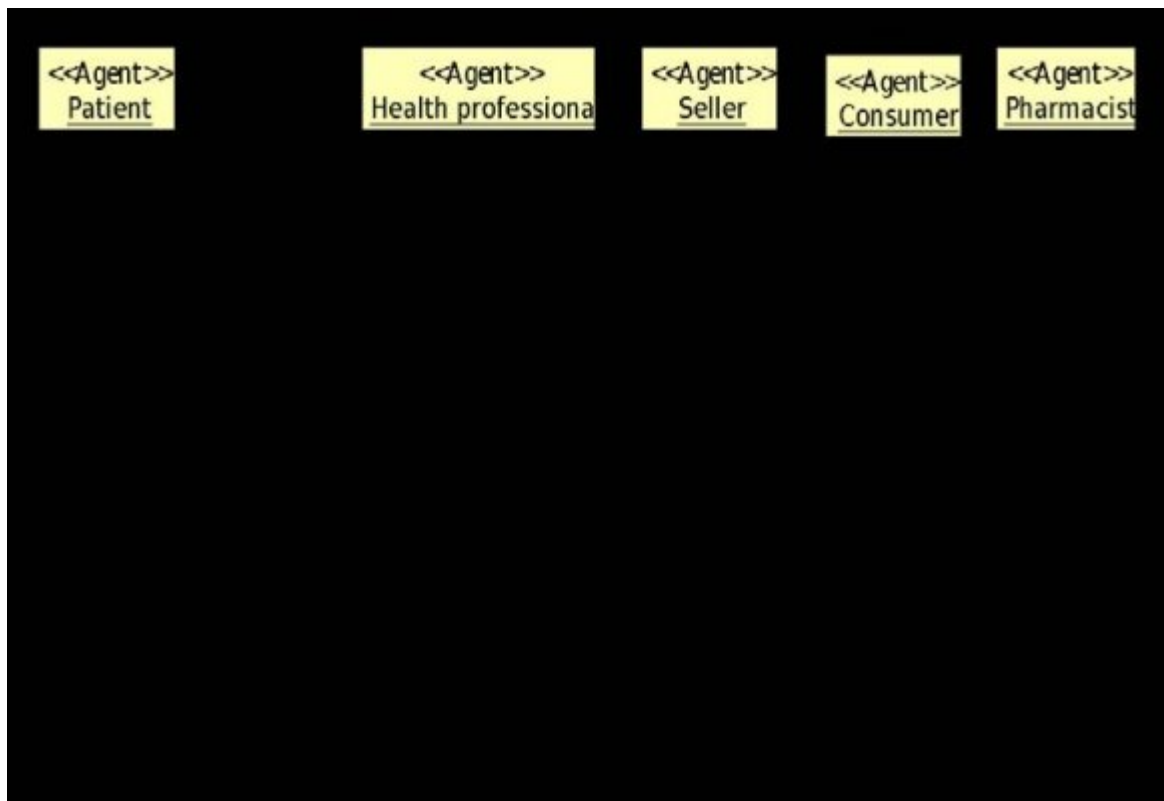


Figure 16:

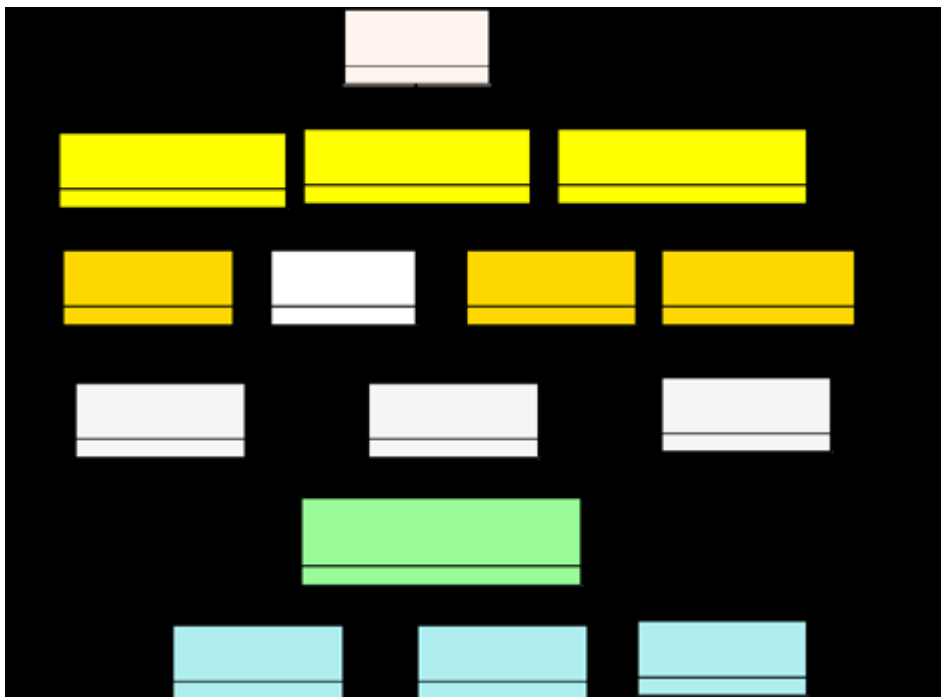


Figure 17:

IV. Implementation of the Proposed Solution under Jade

Given this multitude of multi-agent development tools, we chose the JADE Framework. JADE (Java Agent Development Framework) is a multi-agent platform developed in Java by CSELT (Gruppo Telecom Research Group, Italy) and which aims at facilitating the development of multi-agent applications in compliance with FIPA specifications [29], [27]. The JADE agent platform includes all mandatory components that control an ADM. These components are: the Agent Communication Channel (ACC) which provides the route for basic interactions between agents inside and outside the platform, the Agent Management System (AMS) which is the agent management system, and the Directory Facilitator (DF) which provides a yellow page service to the multi-agent platform. All communication between agents is performed by FIPA-ACL messages [27]. The agent platform can be distributed over several servers. A single Java application, and thus a single Java Virtual Machine (JVM), is executed on each server. Each JVM is an agent container that provides a complete environment for agent execution and allows multiple agents to run in parallel on the same server. The communication architecture provides flexible and efficient message passing. JADE creates and controls a queue of incoming messages for each agent. It should also be noted that each platform launched and all the agents that make it up are controlled by the RMA (Remote Management Agent). The choice of JADE is justified by the fact that the agents can communicate dynamically with each other, which is consistent with the multi-agent orthodoxy. For the sake of simplicity, we will limit ourselves in this paper to the implementation of the "Negotiation of the purchase of drugs" capability in our MAS. Fig. ??9: JADE platform software architecture [27] a) The "Negotiate Drug Purchases" Capacity Additional programming platforms were used JADE [11], NetBeans [30], a jade.jar API [31]. The purchase of drugs in our MAS involves interaction requires a negotiation capability between the buyer and sellers. The buying agent is placed in a different container than the seller or the consumer. Note that there can be as many agents on the same container depending on the needs. In the detailed protocol diagram (Figure ??0) where each agent is located in a single container with the possibility of migrating from one container to another without losing its capabilities. The main container "MainContainer" contains the main modules AMS and DF respectively the identifier of the agents and the facilitator in the search for services; we also find two containers: Container 0 which contains the first salesman (pharmacist1) and Container 1 for the second pharmacist. Containers 2 and 3 are reserved for the buyer and the seller respectively. Each selling agent publishes his services to the DF and listens for buyer events; the buying agent simply contacts the DF to find potential sellers for his needs.

[Omankwu Obinnaya et al.] 'A detailed approach to the analysis and design of multi agent system (mas) using multi agent system engineering (mase) methodology'. Chinecherem Omankwu Obinnaya , Chikezie Nwagu , Hycient Kenneth , Inyama . *International Journal of Computer Science and Information Security IJCSIS*. p. 2017.

[Liang and Kang ()] 'A novel task optimal allocation approach based on contract net protocol for agent-oriented uuv swarm system modeling'. Hongtao Liang , Fengju Kang . *Optik* 2016. 127 (8) p. .

[Belghache ()] *Analyse dynamique de grandes masses de données par Systèmes Multi-Agents Adaptatifs*, Elhadi Belghache . 2019. Université Toulouse III -Paul Sabatier (PhD Thesis)

[Netbeans] *Bienvenue à netbeans et www.net beans.org*, Netbeans .

[Maxime et al. ()] *Billot Romain, and El Faouzi Nour-Eddin. Apprentissage constructiviste à base de systems multiagents*, Guériaux Maxime , Armetta Frédéric , Hassas Salima . 2018. (Revue d'intel ligençe artificielle)

[Schmitt et al. (2017)] 'Communication multi-niveau pour des IoT-a. Interactions autour d'un mur d'écrans connectés'. Alexandre Schmitt , Florent Carlier , Valérie Renault , Pascal Leroux . *Rencontres des Jeunes Chercheurs en Intel ligençe Artificiel le*, (Caen, France) July 2017. (RJCIA 2017)

[Taghezout Noria ()] *Conception et Développement d'un Système Multi-Agents d'Aide à la Décision pour la gestion de production dynamique*, Taghezout Noria . 2012. Université Toulouse III -Paul Sabatier (PhD thesis)

[Viel et al. ()] 'Connectivité hydro-sédimentaire dans un petit bassin versant agricole du nord-ouest de la France: de l'expertise de terrain à la modélisation par Système Multi-Agent'. Vincent Viel , Robert Davidson Romain , Daniel Reulier , Delahaye . *Connectivité hydrosédimentaire*, 2017. p. .

[Elbasri and Haddi ()] 'Design of a multi-agent system using the "mase" method for learners' metacognitive help'. Hanane Elbasri , Hakim Allali Adil Haddi . *International Journal of Electrical and Computer Engineering (IJECE)* 2019.

[Houssam Eddine ()] *Developpement D'un Systeme Multi Agents Pour La Negocia-Tion Des Prix Approche Basee Sur Les Agents Mobiles*, Saci Houssam Eddine . 2017.

[Camus (2015)] *Environnement Multi-agent pour la Multi-modélisation et Simulation des Systèmes Complexes*, Benjamin Camus . November 2015. Université de Lorraine (PhD thesis)

[Mecibah and Mokhati ()] *Génération des diagrammes auml à partir de programme jade*, Zina Mecibah , Farid Mokhati . 2012. Université Oum El Bouaghi

[Jeanpierre et al. ()] 'Interface pharmacien ville-hôpital : analyse des forces et des faiblesses à partir de l'expérience dans une unité de chirurgie d'un hôpital non universitaire'. M Jeanpierre , L Diaz , T Berod . *Le Pharmacien Hospitalier et Clinicien* 2015. 50 (3) p. 322.

- 440 [Su and Wu ()] ‘Jade implemented mobile multi-agent based, distributed information platform for pervasive
441 health care monitoring’. Chuan-Jun Su , Chia-Ying Wu . *Applied Soft Computing* 2011. 11 (1) p. .
- 442 [Java agent development framework ()] *Java agent development framework*, 2020.
- 443 [Jamal et al. ()] ‘Joco 0.1: Conteneur d’application modulaire a base des agents bdi de la plateforme jadex
444 suivant la méthodologie o-mase’. Berrich Jamal , Bouchentouf Toumi , Benazzi Abdelhamid . *Journal of*
445 *Engineering Research and Application* 2013. 2016. 127 (8) p. . (Optik)
- 446 [Cointe (2017)] *Jugement éthique pour la décision et la coopération dans les systèmes multi-agents*, Nicolas Cointe
447 . December 2017. Université de Lyon (PhD thesis)
- 448 [Adenot ()] *Le pharmacien de 2019, un acteur social*, Élisabeth Adenot . 2020.
- 449 [Allenet et al. ()] ‘Le plan pharmaceutique personnalisé et le nouveau modèle de pharmacie clinique’. B Allenet
450 , D Cabelguenne , A Lepelletier , S Prot-Labarthe , C Mouchoux , R Colomb , P Bedouch , T Bé-Rod . *Le*
451 *Pharmacien Hospitalier et Clinicien* 2017. 52 (3) p. .
- 452 [Mguis et al. ()] ‘Modélisation d’un Système Multi-Agent pour la résolution d’un Problème de Tournées de
453 Véhicule dans une situation d’urgence’. Fethi Mguis , Kamel Zidi , Khaled Ghedira , Pierre Borne . *9th*
454 *International Conference on Modeling, Optimization & SIMulation*, page 7 pages, (Bordeaux, France) 2012.
- 455 [Rousset ()] ‘Numérique et inégalités territoriales de santé: la vente en ligne de médicaments, nouvel outil face à
456 une pénurie éventuelle de pharmacies ? Ethics’. G Rousset . *Medicine and Public Health* 2020. 15 p. 100594.
- 457 [Gandon and Dieng (2001)] ‘Ontologie pour un système multi-agents dédié à une mémoire d’entreprise’. Fabien
458 Gandon , Rose Dieng . *IC’2001, Ingénierie des Connaissances, plateforme AFIA*, (Grenoble, France) 2001.
459 June 2001.
- 460 [Esteoule ()] *Prévision de production de parcs éoliens par systèmes multi-agents auto-adaptatifs*, Tanguy Esteoule
461 . 2019. Université Toulouse III -Paul Sabatier (PhD thesis)
- 462 [Benhajji (2017)] *Système multi-agents de pilotage réactif des parcours patients au sein des systèmes hospitaliers.*
463 *Theses*, Noura Benhajji . November 2017. Université de Lorraine
- 464 [Abdelkader et al. ()] ‘Système Multi-Agents pour la modélisation du volume englobant solaire’. Ben Abdelkader
465 , Raboudi Saci Khaoula , Alia Belkaïd . *Connectivité hydrosédimentaire*, 2011.
- 466 [Cyril Fleurant Audrey Amiot Aziz Ballouche Pierre-Yves Communal Alain Jadas-Hécart Isabelle La Jeunesse1 David Landry1 T
467 *Un système multiagent pour la mo-délisation des écoulements de surface sur un petit bassin versant viticole*
468 *du Layon*, Cyril Fleurant Audrey Amiot Aziz Ballouche Pierre-Yves Communal Alain Jadas-Hécart Isabelle
469 La Jeunesse1 David Landry1 Théodore Razakamanana Mahefa, Mamy Rakotoarisoa1 (ed.) 2014. p. . (Revue
470 Internationale de Géomatique)
- 471 [Taki Eddine (2017)] *Une approche formelle le basée BRS pour la spécification et la vérification des architec-tures*
472 *des systèmes Multi-Agents*, Ahmed Taki Eddine , Dib . October 2017. Université constantine 2 (PhD thesis)
- 473 [Reem and Alok ()] ‘Using agent-based methodologies in healthcare information systems’. Abdalla Reem , Mishra
474 Alok . *Cybernetics and Information Technologies* 2018.
- 475 [Afia ()] ‘équipe systèmes multi-agents du liris’. Afia . *Laboratoire LIRIS* 2019. Université Lyon 1 (Technical
476 report)
- 477 [Nicolas et al. ()] *Éthique collective dans les systèmes multiagents. Revue d’intel ligence artificiel le*, Cointe
478 Nicolas , Bonnet Grégory , Boissier Olivier . 2017.
- 479 [Toumi et al. ()] ‘Étude des interventions pharmaceutiques à l’hôpital’. A Toumi , G Belhabib , O Gloulou , O
480 Khemili , H Bettayeb , N Chouchane . *Le Pharmacien Hospitalier et Clinicien* 2017. 52 (3) p. .