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Washington University in St. Louis

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Clinical Rounds and the iPad: Library and Librarian at the Point of Care



Objectives

> Understand the benefits, barriers and issues of a medical librarian participating in clinical rounds in an affiliated teaching hospital

Examine the usefulness of having an iPad available to find literature relevant to questions at the point of care

Feedback

"It's really an amazing resource to have you (and your iPad) at our meetings. Given how busy the floors are, it's great having you there pulling up research for us." Pediatrics Resident

"An Ipad would be a great way to demonstrate to the residents and medical students how to do a good literature search right at the bedside. Being able to do the search as soon as the question comes up on rounds makes the search more exciting and allows us to make better clinical decisions." Pediatrics Hospitalist and Faculty



Challenges

► Juggling

 iPad, information cards, pen and paper (yes, sometimes it's easier and faster to put ink to paper) while standing in the hall going from room to room

≻Apps

 don't always delve deeply enough to answer obscure clinical questions

➢Time

 to jot down the basic query then on to another patient/topic

► Listening while looking

- clinical language is different and in a crowd (8-12), around one speaker, often hard to hear
- listening can take 100% concentration

Morning Report/Rounds



Benefits

- ▶ Puts the library at the point of care
- Large screen allows information searching on compatible websites when apps are not available
- Fill information gaps, provide articles mentioned in the teaching process
- Raise awareness among clinicians of librarian skills and services
- ➤Increased demand for librarian services

Conclusions

- ➤ iPad enhances librarian presence on rounds
- Curiosity about the iPad gets care team's attention
- ➤ Being part of the team will give you a new understanding of your environment
- Requests for service increase as you and your skills become known
- There is ALWAYS going to be more you can do and each opportunity opens another
- ▶It's ok to not know everything
- ➤ Grab an iPad, get out of the library and go to your users