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## Technology in Nursing PDAs in NURSING SCHOOLS

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## Technology in Nursing PDAs in NURSING SCHOOLS

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### Welcome!

**Please Note:**

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PDAs in NURSING SCHOOLS

### Session Objectives

- Understand basics of PDA technology
- Learn what types of tools can be used by nursing students in the clinical learning setting
- Answer questions about introducing PDA technology into your teaching curriculum




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## Technology in Nursing PDAs in NURSING SCHOOLS

Thursday, June 7, 2007

**Moderator:**  
**Diane Muench, RN, BSN, OCN, MBA**  
Diane has over 20 years of experience as a registered nurse specializing in technology integration and oncology nursing. She began her clinical career at the University of Illinois Hospital, as a staff nurse and nurse educator in the critical care/ER division. Diane helped develop a unique oncology disease management model while serving as Vice President of Clinical Operations for a website developed for oncology patients and health care professionals. Currently, Ms. Muench is Vice President of Editorial at PEPID where she has overall editorial responsibilities for all medical, nursing, and EMS product lines.

**Panelists:**  
Catherine Dvorak, Marketing Director, PEPID  
Rachel Kraft, Regional Sales Director, PEPID  
Dennis Carson, Vice President of Sales and Marketing, PEPID




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## PDAs in NURSING SCHOOLS

*learning to use technology while  
learning nursing*




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PDAs in NURSING SCHOOLS

**PDAs are known by many names . . .**

- Personal Digital Assistant
- Handheld
- Brand names
  - Pocket PC
  - Palm
- Smartphone




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## Personal Digital Assistants Hand-Held Devices

Today come in two primary styles . . .



PDA only



Smartphone

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## Device Manufacturers and Brands




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## Hardware considerations . . .

- Handhelds vs. Smartphones
- Wireless access vs. Native (content installed on the device or memory card)
  - Coverage and availability
  - Permitted in hospital or clinic
- Costs

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## PDA Operating Systems . . .



- Palm OS
- Windows OS
- BlackBerry OS




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## Clinical Nursing uses today . . .

- Point of care decision tools
- Drug references (most common)
- Pathophysiology references
- Clinical diagnostic tools
- Calculators






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## Clinical Nursing uses today . . .

- Anatomy and physiology references
- Patient advocacy and education tools
- Web research (smartphone)
- Personal and work schedule management






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### Why Add PDA Technology to Curriculum?

- Easy to carry, portable reference and education resource
- More current than the print equivalent
- Clinical decision making support:
  - Check Drug dosages and interactions
  - Calculators to assist and support the clinical experience
  - Learn or refresh anatomy and physiology knowledge
  - Provides theory and background for diseases and concepts
  - Medical "dictionary"




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### Why Add PDA Technology to Curriculum?

- Builds confidence in value of information the student can provide their patient
- Increases patient care safety by adding an immediate "on-hand" reference resource
- Teaches integrating knowledge into practice
- Wide variety of software available
- Easy to implement and integrate into labs & lectures




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### When and Where to Teach PDA Use . . .

- Incoming students
  - Fundamentals of Nursing courses
- Prior to the clinical experience
  - Lab sessions
- Clinical rotations
  - Point of care




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## SOFTWARE and CONTENT




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### Textbooks on PDA

- Topics and tools are not integrated
- Difficult to find information fast
- Editions of standard textbooks and pocket manuals
- Repurposed for PDA Screens
- Loss of graphics and formatting
- Editions usually not updated
- Priced individually, usually not as a package
- Dated




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### PDA Decision-support programs

- Easy to navigate – can find information fast
- Interactive databases designed for handhelds, not books on PDA
- Content formatted to reflect clinical decision making process
- Information is constantly updated
- More information on current diagnosis and therapy
- Programs are customized for the healthcare professional (nursing-focused vs. physician-focused)
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## Drug Databases

- Sponsored by pharmaceutical industry – “package insert”?
- Nursing considerations, indications, procedures, interactions generator?
- Toxicology database?
- Integrated into disease/condition content?
- Information on interactions?
  - Drug to drug (prescription & OTC)
  - Drug to herbal
  - Drug to food

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## PEPID RN Student

RN student  
 Performance  
 Confidence Core Knowledge  
 Leadership Nursing Implications  
 Nursing Procedures  
 Organization

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