NN/LM MCR’s: “Summer Vacation?”

Ask NN/LM MCR’s staff members how they spent the summer of 2015 and you won’t hear the typical answer about vacationing at the beach, up in the mountains, or in a foreign country. Instead you’ll hear, “I learned about NIH’s new biosketch,” or “I calculated what I would spend over the next 5 years,” or “I identified what was significant about future NN/LM MCR programs.” Your NN/LM MCR staff spent the summer writing the proposal for the next 5 year cooperative agreement.

Since the National Library of Medicine changed the funding mechanism from a contract to a cooperative agreement for 2016-2021, we were introduced to the forms and rules that researchers at your institutions or you use when applying for National Institutes of Health (NIH) funding. This was a new experience for us, and we have great sympathy and much admiration for all who have waded through the requirements and the many, many instructions for submitting a grant or cooperative agreement proposal.

Instructions, Instructions, and More Instructions

Have you taken a grant writing workshop? Then you learned that it is important to read and follow instructions precisely. With 50 pages of instructions specific to the NN/LM proposal and 256 additional pages of instructions for anyone applying for NIH funds, there were a lot of directions to carefully follow. Fortunately, the University of Utah supports grant writers with a consultant who has experience with the forms and instructions. She helped us avoid pitfalls we would have stumbled into without her guidance.

From May through July, we were consumed first by planning the next 5 years and then by describing it according to NLM and NIH instructions. What a sense of relief when the send button was finally pushed and the 800+ page proposal was on its way via the Internet to NIH!

Benefits of the Proposal Experience

It was stressful and a lot of work, but thinking back over the experience there were up sides. Here are some of the ways that the NN/LM MCR librarians benefited from this experience.

1. It gave us a better understanding of why researchers might be unavailable or, dismissive when
librarians are trying to schedule a meeting with them or involve them in a project. They could very well be working on a grant. Writing requires focus and distractions are easily dismissed when writing a proposal that determines continued employment or that enables addressing a challenge, such as improving access to health information. We sometimes got testy with each other as we were trying to get our thoughts organized and coherently expressed.

2. Each of us learned about and established relationships within the unique labyrinth of grant support at our institutions. Some grant offices were open to meeting with the coordinator to inform them up front of the support they would give. Others referred the coordinator to a web site and suggested email as questions arose. Some were willing to work with the coordinator as they went through each step. Others only wanted to review the finished product and then respond with changes they required. With time being crucial, you can imagine that grant offices play an important role in the extramural funding an institution receives. Researchers, just as the NN/LM MCR staff, must continue carrying out the essentials of their work even as they write their proposal. The support that is available from the research office can make a difference in the quality and success of the proposal.

3. Each of us had to write a biosketch for the proposal and this provided us with the opportunity to review and analyze what we had done over our career, no matter how long or short. We learned to use the features of My NCBI that stores publications that can easily be added to the biosketch. Writing the biosketch required answering, "What really are my strengths?" “What have I contributed to health information access or librarianship?”

You may want to voluntarily write your own biosketch. A form and sample is available at http://grants.nih.gov/grants/funding/424/SF424R-R_biosketchsample_VerC.docx. In your Personal Statement, describe what makes you “well-suited for your role” in your institution. What positions have you held on committees or teams within and external to your institution? What honors have been bestowed upon you? What are your contributions to librarianship or to the healthcare offered by your institution? The biosketch asks you to limit yourself to the five most significant contributions. It asks you to describe the background that frames the issue; the central finding(s); the influence of the finding(s) on the progress of librarianship or healthcare or the application of those finding(s) to health or technology; and your specific role in the described work. For each of these sections, you can list presentations, publications, posters, classes that are relevant. Once you’ve completed your biosketch, you will find you have valuable talking points about how you contribute to the profession and to your organization.

4. Another area of the proposal that was enlightening was the budget requirement and justification. We now understand the information that is required if a librarian is to be added to an NIH proposal. If you want to be included in a proposal, have a conversation with the principal investigator about the different sections (cores) where the librarian will be contributing. Have salary and benefit information available by hour and month for each year of the proposal for each section. If the grant will be paying for other librarian activities, those costs will also need to be estimated by section and year. Communicating with a principal investigator that you are aware of and can fulfill the budget requirements may make her or him more amenable to including a librarian in the proposal. In this way you show that you can carry your own weight in the proposal submission process.

5. Having gone through the cooperative agreement proposal experience all NN/LM MCR staff can now relate and talk to others at our institutions intelligibly about applying for NIH funding. It gives us an added common ground on which to build a relationship.

**Highlights of Our Proposal**

What did we propose in our submission? We highlighted key points of our proposal in the "NN/LM MCR Past and Future" session at the virtual MCMLA meeting. We'll post a link to the recording in the RML news as soon as it is available. You’ll be hearing more about what we proposed in the 64 pages of program description of the 800+ pages of the proposal for 2016-2021 as we get closer to the implementation date.

-Claire Hamasu, Associate Director

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**Systematic Review Workshop: The Nuts and Bolts for Librarians**

Kristen DeSanto
In April I attended the Systematic Review Workshop: The Nuts and Bolts for Librarians, presented by the University of Pittsburgh Health Sciences Library System, and I would like to thank the MidContinental Region of the National Network of Libraries of Medicine for the generous professional development award that made it possible.

The award application requested that applicants first meet in person with their administrators to discuss how the professional development event could be applicable to their position, and how it could benefit their institution. I have since changed jobs, but at the time that I submitted the application, I discussed the workshop with my then-director. I explained that I had heard from staff who were interested in learning more about conducting systematic reviews, but I had not yet felt prepared enough to offer that as a service. I talked to colleagues from other institutions who had attended this workshop and they highly recommended it, so I felt confident that this event would be beneficial. I discussed with my director that attending this workshop would enable the library to offer systematic review services to staff, and she was supportive.

The workshop consisted of two full days and one half day of presentations and hands-on exercises, and was held in a teaching lab inside Falk Library at the University of Pittsburgh. Each student had access to a computer, and all presentations and class materials were loaded on flash drives that were provided to the attendees. Since many people had traveled from other states (and one from another country) it was very convenient to not have to bring a laptop, or have a stack of papers to take home. The subjects covered included the process and typical timeframe for conducting a systematic review, the librarian’s involvement as a co-investigator, conducting the reference interview, search strategies (including choosing databases, harvesting search terms, using methodology filters, searching grey literature, and hand searching), data management, literature search delivery, and writing the methods section for a publication.

The workshop is intended for medical and health sciences librarians interested in gaining practical knowledge about the process of conducting a systematic review. It is not intended to give instruction on how to search various databases, but provides a road map to follow when collaborating on a systematic review or comprehensive literature search. I thought that one of the main strengths of this workshop was the collective knowledge and expertise of its librarian-instructors: Charlie Wessel, Mary Lou Klem, Linda Hartman, Barbara Folb, and Andrea Ketchum. They spend a good deal of time on systematic reviews at their institution, both providing instruction on how to conduct systematic reviews as well as participating as co-investigators and conducting expert searches.

A final word of attention—enrollment is limited and the workshop tends to fill up quickly, so I recommend adding your name to the waiting list so that you can receive an email announcement when registration opens for the next workshop. Instructions for this can be found on the home page of the workshop website (http://www.hsls.pitt.edu/systematicreview/). In closing, I found this workshop very beneficial, and would recommend it to other medical and health sciences librarians looking to collaborate on systematic reviews in their own institutions.

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Introducing Christian Minter

Christian Minter is the new Nebraska/Education Coordinator for the National Network of Libraries of Medicine, MidContinental Region. She is located at the University of Nebraska Medical Center in Omaha, Nebraska. She received a BA in Biblical Studies from Washington Bible College and a MS in Library and Information Science from The Catholic University of America. Christian recently completed the National Library of Medicine Associate Fellowship Program. During the first year, she managed multiple projects that contributed to improving and promoting NLM resources, and the second year was spent at the William H. Welch Medical Library at Johns Hopkins University, where she provided research support and consumer health information services.

Christian moved to Omaha from Baltimore, Maryland. In her free time, she enjoys yoga and figure skating.
New Resources on Domestic Violence From NLM

Every minute, an average of 24 people are victims of domestic violence in the United States. Domestic violence is physical, sexual, or emotional abuse that usually involves a spouse or partner. It is sometimes viewed as a private family issue, however, domestic violence is a serious public health concern. It affects millions of people from many different backgrounds and it is preventable.

Domestic Violence Health Issues

In the U.S., over 12 million people a year suffer abuse from a spouse or partner, and most of the victims are women. Domestic violence increases a person’s risk of death and injury (bruises, broken bones, internal bleeding, etc.). Other health risks include:

- **Physical**: asthma, bladder and kidney infections, high blood pressure, stroke, heart disease, irritable bowel syndrome, chronic pain syndromes, and joint disease.
- **Emotional**: anxiety, depression, and suicide.
- **Reproductive**: sexually transmitted diseases, unplanned pregnancy, poor prenatal care, low birth weight and premature births.
- **Risky behaviors**: risky sex, substance abuse, or eating disorders.

NLM Resources

The National Library of Medicine (NLM) recently released two new resources on domestic violence. The first is *Confronting Violence: Improving Women’s Lives*, an exhibition that looks at the history of the nurses involved in advocating for domestic violence victims. The second is a domestic violence resource page with links to current literature, data, and other resources to support research, policymaking, and clinical practice.

Looking To The Past

The medical field hasn’t always acknowledged the unique healthcare needs of domestic violence victims. NLM’s History of Medicine Exhibition Program launched the *Confronting Violence: Improving Women’s Lives* exhibition to tell the story of the 20th century nurses that improved healthcare services, developed best practices for patient care, and took part in activism to raise awareness within the larger medical community of the public health issues related to domestic violence.

The traveling banner exhibition is available for six-week bookings to libraries and cultural centers. For more information, visit [Book a Traveling Exhibit](http://nnlm.gov/mcr/p2pp/). The online exhibition features resources for students and educators. It includes a digital gallery of images and videos, K-12 lesson plans, higher education modules, online activities, and suggested readings.

Resources for the Present and Future
NLM’s National Information Center on Health Services Research (Nichsr) released a domestic violence research resource to complement the Confronting Violence exhibition. The resource page is a part of the Health Services Information Central portal, and provides support for researchers, policymakers, administrators, and healthcare providers. The page covers intimate partner violence, reproductive and sexual coercion, child abuse, and elder abuse. Resources include: news, literature search queries, data and assessment tools, education and training, legislation, and more.

A few of the resources are highlighted below:

**Domestic Violence Resource Network**
http://www.nrcdv.org/dvrn/
The Network promotes practices and strategies to improve the national response to domestic violence. It includes multiple resource and learning centers, and the National Domestic Violence Hotline.

**The National Health Resource Center on Domestic Violence**
Supports health professionals, administrators and systems, domestic violence experts, survivors, and policy makers. The Center provides professional, education and response programs, advocacy and technical assistance, and free culturally responsive materials to use in a variety of settings.

**Domestic Violence: Understanding the Basics**
An interactive online module to help new advocates and health professionals understand the issues surrounding domestic violence.

**Respect Toolkit: Work with Male Victims of Domestic Violence**
This toolkit provides support for work with men who are victims of domestic violence.

- Christian Minter, Nebraska/Education Coordinator

References:


Data Curation & Management Journal Club – Seeking members!

This year, the NN/LM MCR is starting a journal club with the purpose of helping club members understand big data and identify roles librarians can play in data management and curation. The club will follow both the Medical Library Association’s Discussion Group Program and PubMed Commons Journal Clubs structure. The plan is to have our first meeting in November 2015!

If you have an interest in this club, we want you to join us.

Check out the requirements for membership and the club meeting overview.

Requirements:

1. Librarians with at least a masters degree or equivalent
2. Preference goes to NN/LM MCR members

Club Meeting Overview:

- The club will be hosted in Moodle
- Meetings will be hosted in Adobe Connect
- Members will meet once per month to discuss a selected article through April 2016

We are capping the number of club members at 15 so sign up today!

If you have any comments or question, please contact either John Bramble (john.bramble@utah.edu) or Alicia Lillich (alillich@kumc.edu)

Mobile App Experience Project

1st Quarter Reviews

We’ve restarted our popular mobile apps project with even more reviewers.

The cost of apps continues to be a major barrier to accessing and experimenting with for-fee apps that might improve work performance or efficiencies. Most for-fee apps have a free version but those usually provide only bare bones functions and work as a tease to get the user to purchase the full versions. To counter this, we’ve provided a group of Network members with either a $50 iTunes or GooglePlay purchase card to try out and review at least four apps.

The app evaluation criteria we are using for this project is a modified version of the app evaluation worksheet developed by faculty at the Spencer S. Eccles Health Sciences Library. In addition to the base information (app name, operating system, sponsor/publisher/creator, cost, web links, etc.), we wanted to collect other helpful information that librarians typically would provide a client. Information such as: primary user (professional/layperson); creator’s credentials; bias; up to date information; ease of app’s navigation/access; etc. We also asked the evaluator to rate the app from excellent all the way down to not good.

Take a look at the summary of the app evaluations below and perhaps it will help you select an app that is right for you or your patrons. All app reviews will be published on our web site in the future.

-Alicia Lillich, Kansas/Technology Coordinator

Please note…the app evaluations submitted by the project participants are theirs alone and are not the evaluation of the National Network of Libraries of Medicine.

Previous Reviews:
2014-2015 Quarter 1
2014-2015 Quarter 2
2014-2015 Quarter 3

Rank – Excellent:
Clinical Pattern Recognition: Knee Pain | iOS, Web browser (monthly subscription) | $19.99 | Content Current: 2015
USER TYPE: Physical Therapists, Athletic Trainers, Clinicians, Chiropractors, Educators, Students
ABOUT: This app allows users to learn or review common pain patterns and see hypotheses for the cause (e.g., osteoarthritis, meniscal tears, etc.). For potential conditions, the app provides information on prevalence, clinical findings, physical exam, interventions, and outcome measures.
APP CRED: The team at clinicalpatternrecognition.com, includes Dr. Michael Wong, Dr. Marshall LeMoine, Dr. Anne LeMoine, and Dr. Emmanuel Yung. All are PT, DPT, OCS. Two members are FAAOMPT.
CONTENT CRED: Many pages provide a list of references for the text provided. In most cases, the references are hyperlinked to the articles in PubMed.
NOTES: The app was last updated in 2015, but whether the information was updated or whether the changes might have been software related is unclear. A couple sections of the app were a little slow to load, but the issue seemed to occur only when accessing sections (e.g., Special Tests) that pulled up a lengthy list of video content.

Explain Everything | iOS, Android, Windows | $2.99
USER TYPE: Students, Educators, Information Professionals
ABOUT: Explain Everything is a unique interactive screencasting whiteboard app being used by over 2 million students, teachers, leaders, and learners around the world.
APP CRED: A team of innovators, artists, learners, and leaders dedicated to developing creativity-inspiring applications.
CONTENT CRED: Unknown
NOTES: This productivity app can be used by a variety of audiences. Information professionals might consider creating videos, narrating PowerPoints or Keynotes, and giving presentations using this app. Excellent resource for interactive teaching and learning.

Patient Education Bundle (Orthopedic Set) | iOS | $44.99 | Content Current: 2014
USER TYPE: Health Professionals
ABOUT: A selection of 3D patient education videos that includes cutting edge animations describing conditions, treatments, and operations.
APP CRED: 3D4 Medical
CONTENT CRED: Physicians and animators. I could not find any credentials on the physicians or animators of the videos.
NOTES: Wonderful videos that can be used for teaching patients, medical students, and residents. There is a drawing tool on each video so a physician can stop the video and draw on it. I found this feature useful, especially for a patient or student who is having a hard time understanding. There is no sound on the videos, narration would be nice. Handouts and Powerpoint slides can be created. Well organized. The video quality blew me away, they are so detailed.

PDF Expert 5 | iOS | $9.99
USER TYPE: Health Professionals, Students, Information Professionals
ABOUT: This is the Swiss Army PDF annotation app. Need to fill out PDF forms? This app does it. Need to edit, review and annotate PDFs? This app does it. Need to sign documents and registration forms? This app does it.
APP CRED: Readble is a well-known and experienced app developing company.
CONTENT CRED: Unknown
NOTES: PDF Expert is for anyone, student or professional, that needs to read and annotate PDF documents. Once annotated, files can be shared via iTunes or over the Wi-Fi Drive. The app offers indexing of the documents, so the entire collection can be searched more efficiently. I put the app to use during a recent educational technology research project, and found using it on my iPhone to be a time saver. Having the ability to read and make notes on my selected PDF articles streamlined my writing production. Readble recently developed a desk top class application for iPad named PDF Office, which is designed to serve those that need to do more "create and edit" functions with PDF documents. The company compared the two apps to how Adobe Acrobat and Acrobat Reader function, with PDF Expert being more similar to Acrobat Reader. This would drive the selection of which app to buy, if you are in the market for a PDF annotator or creator.

One of the first questions new residents ask is which PDF annotator to use. I will be confident in recommending PDF Expert to them in the future.
**Rank – Very Good:**

**ABCs of Medical Management of Stones** | iOS | $0.99 | Content Current: 2014
USER TYPE: Health Professionals
APP CRED: Margaret S. Pearle, MD, Glenn M. Preminger, MD, David S. Goldfarb, MD, and Donald P. Griffith, MD, with additional input from Charles Y.C. Pak, MD. Professors of Medicine from different universities in the United States.
CONTENT CRED: Margaret S. Pearle, MD, Glenn M. Preminger, MD, David S. Goldfarb, MD, and Donald P. Griffith, MD, with additional input from Charles Y.C. Pak, MD.
NOTES: They want to reach out to younger doctors who rely on mobile devices so that they have an intuitive and easy way to diagnose and treat kidney stones.

The treatment plans do suggest two drugs manufactured by Mission Pharmacal, saying that they may be useful.

**CBT Keeper** | Android, Web Browser | $1.99 for premium version | Content Current: 2014
USER TYPE: Laypersons
ABOUT: Takes the user, in simple steps, through the principles of cognitive behavioural therapy (CBT), with the aim of overcoming anxiety and depression.
APP CRED: Jeff Clark (a medical student at the Cleveland Clinic Lerner College of Medicine of Case Western University) is responsible for the app and Jamie Clark is responsible for the graphics.
CONTENT CRED: The app is based on the principles of cognitive behavioral therapy from the book, “The Feeling Good Handbook” by David D. Burns, MD.
NOTES: This app allows you to understand the basics of cognitive behavioral therapy and helps you to work through mood disorders such as depression and anxiety by creating cards that give you points by charging you with working through cognitive distortions such as “all or nothing thinking,” “discounting the positive,” and “fortune telling.”

I think this is a good app to go along with Dr. David Burn's book. They should potentially be marketed together and could be mentioned to a library patron if they are checking out his book.

**Drawboard PDF** | Windows | $9.99 (free trial available)
USER TYPE: Clinical Librarians
ABOUT: The top paid Windows PDF app to read, annotate, and mark up your PDFs. Ideal for replacing pen and paper – avoid having to print documents ever again, making annotating PDFs a breeze. Open existing PDFs, create a new PDF, annotate using an extensive array of tools, and save back as a compatible PDF.
APP CRED: Drawboard
CONTENT CRED: Unknown
NOTES: This app is designed to avoid carrying paper around and have the option to highlight and take notes and keep all your pdfs in one place. It is very easy to use and has a lot of the options I wanted (like typing my notes in boxes rather than hand writing them with my finger on the screen). I will be using this in the future to read and take notes on pdfs on my Surface and have the notes with me when I round.

**English<>Spanish Medical** | iOS, Android, Windows Phone | $19.99 (Free 7-day trial) | Content Current: 2015
USER TYPE: Health Professionals, Medical Students
ABOUT: This dictionary app contains virtually all health-related terms likely to occur in a conversation between a health worker and a Spanish-speaking patient, including common colloquialisms and slang terms not found in similar dictionaries.
APP CRED: MobiSystems, Inc
CONTENT CRED: Glenn T. Rogers, MD, University of Cincinnati Medical School, business dealings in Mexico, decades of treating Spanish-speaking patients.
NOTES: The app supports education by offering a “word a day” button so users can pick up useful words each time they open the app. The sample dialogues would be useful in an office or clinic setting, thus increasing efficient communication between staff and patients. There are brief articles on Spanish pronunciation, medical Spanish tips, abbreviations, and typical dialogues to use – very handy! Doesn’t support audible pronunciation.
Infectious Disease Compendium: A Persiflager’s Guide | iOS, Android, free web version also available | $5.99 | Content Current: 2015
USER TYPE: Health Professionals or Students
ABOUT: A hyperlinked guide to Infectious Diseases. Over 600 pages of information on antibiotics, organisms, and diseases. Intended as a quick reference for non-infectious disease practitioners. Updated monthly from the literature. References link to Pubmed or primary sources.
APP CRED: Privately developed by Mark Crislip, Infectious Disease specialist at Legacy Health in Portland, OR; editor for Science-Based Medicine site.
CONTENT CRED: It includes links to free articles in PubMed Central, which are clearly marked as external links.
NOTES: The Infectious Disease Compendium includes information on a wide variety of topics that fall under the categories of bugs, drugs, and diseases. The writing is both clear and colloquial, with occasional authorial asides about the downsides of alternative therapies and problems with the available evidence for specific treatments. The app includes clear tables of contents and well-organized topic pages with consistent headings.

Interfaith Care for the Ill | iOS | $4.99 | Content Current: 2011
USER TYPE: Chaplains, Ethics Committees, Health Care Providers
ABOUT: Few experiences in life are more difficult than finding the right words to comfort someone who is ill or dying. Matters can become even more complicated if the afflicted person is of a different religious background than your own.
APP CRED: Templeton Press
CONTENT CRED: Unknown
NOTES: Only the five major world religions (Buddhism, Christianity, Hinduism, Islam, and Judaism) are represented. However, Christian prayers are provided for 7 denominations (General, Episcopalian, Lutheran, Presbyterian, Orthodox, Methodist, Roman Catholic).
My library supports an accredited Clinical Pastoral Education (CPE) program. I have shared this app with some of the chaplains. They not only liked it, several told me they purchased it based upon their ability to preview it on my iPad.

Mediquations | iOS, Android | $4.99 | Content Current: 2014
USER TYPE: Health Professionals
ABOUT: Mediquations has over 230 medical calculations and scoring tools in an intuitive interface. It provides powerful search, categories and favorites to make the equations people use readily available. It supports International and US units.
APP CRED: Mediquations was designed and developed by Zack Mahdavi as a 3rd year medical student from The University of Texas Medical Branch, who majored in Computer Science at University of Texas at Austin. Zack is now a resident in neurosurgery at Virginia Commonwealth.
CONTENT CRED: Unknown
NOTES: When I asked an internal medicine resident at University of Missouri-KC whether he used QxMD Calculate, he said some of their equations didn’t seem to match up. He switched to Mediquations and recommended it.
The lack of information about the content’s author or source is troubling.

Noteshelf | iOS | $7.99 | Content Current: 2014
USER TYPE: Anyone including Health Professionals, Information Professionals, and Laypersons
ABOUT: Noteshelf lets you take notes, annotate PDFs, sketch ideas, sign contracts, fill forms, print documents, and more right on your iPad. Syncs with Evernote and works with all popular cloud services such as Dropbox, Google Drive, and Box.
APP CRED: Fluid Touch Private, Ltd.
CONTENT CRED: Unknown
NOTES: The app can sync with Evernote, Dropbox, and Google Drive. You can import and annotate PDF, Microsoft Word, Powerpoint, and Excel documents (which are converted to PDF format). You can create multiple notebooks and add passcodes to those with sensitive data. You can share a single page of your notes via email, Twitter, or Facebook, or print your notes if you have an AirPrint compatible printer.
Pill Monitor – Medication Reminders and Logs | iOS | $0.99 | Content Current: 2015
USER TYPE: Patients
ABOUT: Pill Monitor is designed to manage any of your pills/medications, take pills on time with this app, don’t miss taking pills again. Taking pills at the same time everyday will be good for your health, let Pill Monitor remind you when it’s time.
APP CRED: Maxwell Software
CONTENT CRED: Unknown
NOTES: Medication safety remains a top concern in hospitals. Patients and their families often hold primary responsibility for conferring accurate information about medications. Depending on the circumstances, patients may not be in the condition to communicate that information. A portable, electronic version of a patient’s medication list is important for timely, efficient care and patient safety. Additionally, scheduled medication reminders for patients and their caregivers can improve compliance and result in better health outcomes.

Pill Monitor has the features that one would expect for managing medication lists and alerts. As it provides no medical information and no advertising, bias is not an issue. Maxwell Software builds a variety of apps for health and wellness, medical and finance use. A major flaw of many medication trackers – Pill Monitor is no exception – is the lack of an authoritative index of generic or U.S. brand names for drugs or supplements.

The key features and ease of use, along with pass code functions and iCloud backup, make this a good choice tracking medications, setting reminders, and emailing drug lists and history of drugs taken.

Prizmo Scanning & OCR | iOS, Mac OSx | $9.99
USER TYPE: Anyone who needs to scan in a document using a mobile device.
ABOUT: Prizmo is a photo based scanner app that lets you scan and recognize text documents, business cards, and images, and then export them as PDF/Text, vCard, or JPEG/PNG. It allows the user to capture and export documents any time, anywhere.
APP CRED: Creaceed (Belgian Company)
CONTENT CRED: Unknown
NOTES: The hardest part of using the app is getting the camera to take a good photo. The picture to text works fairly well, but it had a harder time with italics. Scanning an entire page of a PDF from a journal results in a lot of errors, but if you need raw text it’s a good place to start. Correcting mistakes is a lot easier than typing everything out again. Correction can be made in app. It separates out sections of text. The image quality is a lot better than a free app (iScanner) I tried to compare. Text to voice is great, especially for those with visual impairments.

Journal Club for Android | iOS, Android | $4.99 | Content Current: 2015
USER TYPE: Health Professionals, especially Medical Students, Residents, Faculty, and Clinicians
ABOUT: Powered by wikijournalclub.org, focuses on the top articles in internal medicine and puts landmark trials at your fingertips. Written by physicians, these article summaries are distilled into bite-sized morsels that clinicians can digest.
APP CRED: wikijournalclub.org, www.wikijournalclub.org/app
CONTENT CRED: Too many to list here,
NOTES: I explored the web site while I was evaluating the app and found the app to be a good mobile representation of the information found on the site.

Since the app is the mobile representation found on a wiki there are the same positives and negatives that apply to information wikis. The wiki seems to me to be well regulated and monitored as to contributors, as well as transparent in its operation which provided to my satisfaction a sense of trust in the information provided. Of course any summary can be verified through comparison with the original article if needed.

In addition to being searchable, the information index can be sorted by topic or date.

I realize that there is going to be a delay between publication of a clinical trial and its summary/posting by the wiki but I wish there were more entries from 2015. This however will not prevent me from using this app or recommending it to my patrons.

Rank – Fairly Good:
Journal Club for Android | iOS, Android | $4.99 | Content Current: 2015

USER TYPE: Physicians, Medical Residents, Students, Other Medical Staff

ABOUT: The Journal Club app provides summaries of clinical trials and journal articles. The summaries provide concise information about clinical trials and research studies, including information about study design, study strengths and weaknesses, and the overall study conclusion.

APP CRED: The app’s content is derived from the Wiki Journal Club. This site operates like most other "wiki" type pages where various authors can contribute to the wiki. There is an editorial board that oversees the content of the wiki page. All of the editors and contributors listed on the “About” page are MDs, MD candidates, DOs, PharmDs, or PharmD candidates.

CONTENT CRED: Within each article summary you will find a full reference to the article, additional references cited in the summary, link to PubMed, link to the article’s publisher (full text can be downloaded if the user or the user’s library has subscription to the cited journal, and a link to the Wiki Journals Club web site (the content on the wiki is identical to the content found in the app).

NOTES: This type of information is very useful to have in a mobile app environment. It allows residents, physicians, and other hospital staff to quickly review summaries of studies during busy shift times.

The Apple version of the Journal Club app was reviewed by iMedicalapps.com in 2012: http://www.imedicalapps.com/2012/05/journal-club-app-clinical-trials/. For this review I used the Android version of the app, which has been updated since this 2012 review. While the app does cite the sources for studies summarized, it does not actually list the authors of the summaries. It would be helpful to know who exactly authored each summary in case question arise or inaccuracies are found. On the wiki page you can look at the history of the entry and find some authorship information, but the author is sometimes listed under a generic username and not under the actual author’s name. The app contains summaries of articles that were published from the early 1990's up until 2014. The earlier articles are supposed to be “landmark” or historical studies that are still used today for patient treatment purposes.

Probably the biggest weakness of this app is the lack of content. The amount of content, since it is derived from the Wiki Journal Club page, is entirely reliant on volunteers to produce. Some disease topics are better covered than others. For example, there are 28 summaries of studies about stroke, but only 4 summaries about asthma and only 2 about cardiac arrest. This may be due, in part, to the expertise and interests of those that contribute to the wiki page.

It should also be noted that the Wiki Journal Club page is freely accessible from an internet browser. I think the mobile app version would probably still be a good choice for those who would like to view the content in the mobile environment, but users also have the option of not purchasing the app and just accessing from a mobile web browser. Despite some of its weaknesses, I would likely recommend the Journal Club for Android app to my users. It is fairly inexpensive and provides good information in a digestible, easy-to-understand format. It is not as comprehensive in scope as the article summaries found in the Annals of Internal Medicine (in their former ACP Journal Club for example), but it is less expensive than ACP apps (unless the patron is a member of the ACP), and would likely be especially useful for medical students and residents. I would just caution that this is not a comprehensive resource, and that other resources would need to be utilized if a user cannot find the information they are looking for via the app.

Marvin | iOS | $3.99

USER TYPE: Students using etextbooks, Recreational Readers

ABOUT: Marvin is an eBook reader for people who are passionate about their books, “the most brilliant eReader to out in a long time.

APP CRED: Appastafarian

CONTENT CRED: Unknown

NOTES: This is mostly a productivity app. The app’s purpose is to provide all of the features of paper reading but with additional features for quick look up and in-text notes.

The app has lots of bells and whistles. I am not sure how common these tools are in other eReaders (highlighting, bookmarking, notes, dictionary). One unique feature, I thought, was you can quickly share parts of the book or notes on social media and “deep view,” which which looks up a character or word and retrieves information on that word or person. Once
reading, the app is finicky when tapping to show tools. It takes several taps to bring the library or home screen page option up. I would stick with iBooks or other readers which allows for other formats than Epub (ex. Marvin does not open PDFs).

**Shelved** | iOS | $0.99 | Content Current: 2011
USER TYPE: Librarians, Laypersons, Readers
ABOUT: Are you a librarian at heart? Do you have what it takes to work in a library? This game is your test! The point of the game is simple: put the books in order–but any librarian will tell you that’s not as simple as it sounds.
APP CRED: Scott & Diane La Counte
CONTENT CRED: Unknown

NOTES: The concept is great! However, the app is very buggy. While I was using, it would often lock up. I don’t believe it is being updated or worked on. I never thought about using an app for training purposes, but it makes sense given the generation of student workers on my staff. I think this would be a great app for training and to brush up on skills. It operates as a game so I can see it being useful for student workers.

**Rank – Not Good:**

**Instant Blood Pressure** | iOS | $4.99 | Content Current: 2015
USER TYPE: Laypersons, Patients
ABOUT: Instant Blood Pressure lets you measure your blood pressure using only your iPhone – no cuff required. It is not a medical device. It uses a patent-pending process created by a team of forward-thinking biomedical engineers and software developers. Measurements take less than 40 seconds and produce a systolic, diastolic, and heart rate measurement.
APP CRED: AuraLife
CONTENT CRED: Unknown

NOTES: This is a "recreational" medical device, not a medical instrument that records your blood pressure. It does send you to tutorials to learn how to use it and takes blood pressure, but there is no way to know how truly accurate it is. If the technology worked, the app would be a wonderful addition to blood pressure monitoring, but it does not work.

There have been some editorials on this app (Wired) which is for iPhone only, because of the inaccuracy of the information and physicians are afraid the users will think that it is a credible device to use instead of a blood pressure cuff. I wanted to try it. I think some of the readings have been good, but if I can’t trust it, why use it? Also, there is no way to store and track the readings and data. I would not recommend this app.

### Our 2015-2016 Reviewers

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<tr>
<th>Name</th>
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<tr>
<td>Kate Conerton</td>
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<td>Laramie, WY</td>
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<td>Lori Fitterling</td>
<td>Kansas City University of Medicine &amp; Biosciences</td>
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<td>Angela Hardi</td>
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Dear Whooo,

I recently changed jobs and started as the hospital librarian in an urban hospital. The previous librarian had some serious illness problems, and had not been able to keep up the library for several months. I decided to revitalize the online library communications as a first priority to make library access easy for hospital users. I have been able to accomplish that task, but the quantity of communications and requests for services that I receive is pretty low. Do you have any suggestions for how I can spread the word that library services are alive and well?

Thanks,
Wanting More

Dear Wanting,

Congratulations on your new position! I’m sure you are facing a challenge in your desire to reactivate library services after your predecessor’s illness. Unfortunately, we all tend to forget about things as soon as they slip from our view, so many of your users may have “forgotten” about the library leaving you with a public relations problem.

I applaud your diligence in updating and improving your online communication tools; they are certainly important in carrying out the work of the hospital librarian. However, I suggest that you recognize that these tools are exactly that – tools. The skeleton of your success working with other hospital staff and departments is your relationship with those people.

Geoff Colvin, Senior Editor at Large, Fortune Magazine at Time, Inc. has written several pieces about what makes people and teams successful at work. In his article “What Really Makes Teams Work” he discusses the trend toward working in teams because of the increasing complexity of knowledge required in the workplace. Because no one individual can master the knowledge necessary to complete the demands of today’s workplace, teams evolve to bring the needed skills together to focus on producing high quality work. I think a case can certainly be made for including a librarian on healthcare teams as a person with needed and unique skills. These teams may not be directly clinical but may include such groups as quality improvement, protocol development, staff education, patient education, tumor boards, administrative affairs, etc.

Colvin continues his argument toward developing successful teams by analyzing the communication patterns of highly productive teams. It turns out the most important factor in team effectiveness is the social interaction skills of the team members, especially including face-to-face communication. The quality and nuance of the communication is dependent on the face-to-face component, and those “visible social signals” that aren’t available in digital communication. Furthermore, “When digital interaction is effective, it’s most
likely between people who already have a face-to-face relationship."¹

What does this mean for you, Wanting? I think this information gives you a big push toward implementing your personal "Library Promotion Plan"! The crux of the issue is to place yourself in situations where you can meet others, share ideas, and create opportunities for shared projects. To quote Steve Jobs, "There's a temptation in our networked age to think that ideas can be developed by e-mail and iChat. That's crazy. Creativity comes from spontaneous meetings, from random discussion. You run into someone, you ask what they're doing, you say 'Wow,' and soon you're cooking up all sorts of ideas."²

The first step to achieving Steve Jobs' vision of interconnectedness is to get out and meet people. Since you are fairly new to the hospital, this is a perfect opening to make appointments and meet the key personnel. You can identify key personnel by position title, function within the hospital and also by examining library records to find out names of previous library users. As you meet these individuals, you will discover how they prioritize their job responsibilities, current issues and problems, and areas you may be able to work together. Establishing comfortable working relationships may take several meetings and lots of initiative on your part, but with time and persistence you will find areas where you can contribute. This is a never-ending process; there are always new connections to make and new initiatives that offer the opportunity to use your skills in different ways.

One trick that may make your "Library Promotion Plan" more effective is to use a "one pager." This is a one-page document with a catchy title, picture, or illustration relating to your services and a brief description of what you offer. A good presentation on how to create a one pager can be found at https://goo.gl/pBoEoX. (Warning: the sound on this recording is faulty, but the content is transcribed and worth going through.) You can use this document to introduce your self and to leave for future reference after your appointment. I have found this technique to works.

I hope this has been helpful, Wanting. It takes time and effort to make the connections needed to build a successful program. The key is to be persistent and consistent with your efforts to get out of the library and interact with hospital personnel in their environment. The personal relationship that you start today will pay off in ways you never expected!

Please do let me know how you connect. I'd love to hear from you!

Sincerely,

Whoop


Password Management Software
Using passwords properly is an important part of web security. A safe password can help protect your personal and professional information and ensure compliance with HIPAA and/or FERPA requirements.

Security experts now recommend that passwords should:

- Be at least 8 characters in length
- Contain a mix of uppercase and lowercase letters, numbers, and symbols
- Not include any dictionary words
- And be unique to each account

Coming up with passwords to meet these requirements and then remembering them can be a daunting task. Many people find themselves reusing passwords out of convenience, but this can expose you and your workplace to risk. If you are finding yourself lax with the strength of your passwords, you may want to consider trying out a password manager.

Password management software suites are designed to help you generate secure passwords and keep track of them. Instead of trying to memorize login credentials for every site that you visit, a password manager only requires you to remember one master password. They often include advanced features, such as storing and automatically filling out form data, sharing passwords with other accounts, and access across multiple computers and/or mobile devices.

There are a lot of password managers that offer similar features. Many are available for free or a low cost. PC Mag maintains a detailed comparison on their website: [http://www.pcmag.com/article2/0,2817,2407168,00.asp](http://www.pcmag.com/article2/0,2817,2407168,00.asp).

-Alicia Lillich, Kansas/Technology Coordinator