

Online tools for Teaching – Dr. Wes Jackson – Cabin Fever 2010

The physician of the 21st century lives in an entirely different world than his predecessors. Medical knowledge has been growing exponentially and has been made available to not only physicians, but also consumers of health care. Printed material cannot possibly keep pace with advancements, nor is it possible for an individual physician to assimilate the vast amount of information available.

Physicians are much more mobile and require instant access to large amounts of information wherever they are working at the time. Colleagues are often thousands of miles away. Increasing demand for new physicians fuels the need to look at new teaching models, some of which involve considerable distances between the university and the student.

This workshop explores some of the tools that our students use to navigate this 'information highway' and offers some tips that will help physicians to guide them in a constructive manner. It will also touch on new ways of collaboration over large distances using the Internet.

Definitions:

Wiki: a Web site that allows users to add and update content on the site using their own Web browser

Blog: (a contraction of the term "**weblog**") is a type of website, usually maintained by an individual with regular entries of commentary, descriptions of events, or other material such as graphics or video

RSS feed: **RSS** (most commonly translated as "Really Simple Syndication" but sometimes "Rich Site Summary") is a family of web feed formats used to publish frequently updated works—such as blog entries, news headlines, audio, and video—in a standardized format.[2]

Podcast: a series of digital media files, either audio or video, that is released episodically and downloaded through web syndication.

Medical Wiki examples:

Medpedia (www.medpedia.com) - UCSF, U of Michigan, Harvard, Stanford, Berkeley etc.

Ganfyd (http://www.ganfyd.org/index.php?title=Main_Page) - British

Medical Education (<http://medicaleducation.wetpaint.com/>)

Google Docs (docs.google.com)

Medical Blog examples:

- Medical Education blog (http://blogs.usask.ca/medical_education/)
- Clinical cases and images (<http://casesblog.blogspot.com/>)
- Medical Pills (<http://medicalpills.blogspot.com/>)
- Family Medicine Digital resource library (<http://www.fmdrl.org/index.cfm>) - Society of Teachers of Family Medicine. University of Texas
- MedEd Portal – AAMC program (<http://www.aamc.org/mededportal>)

Websites - examples:

CMA (<http://www.cma.ca/>)

Toward Optimized Practice (<http://topalbertadoctors.org/index.html>)

Practical Prof (<http://www.practicalprof.ab.ca/>)

College of Family Practice (<http://www.cfpc.ca/>)

Univadis (<http://www.univadis.ca/>)

RPAP Virtual Library (<http://www.vlibrary.ab.ca/>)

AdvancingIn (CME) (<http://advancingin.com/>)