Using Personal Digital Assistants in Clinical Practice

Objectives - the participant will be able to:

- Select applications for the PDA or smartphone to enhance professional practice
- List points to consider when selecting hardware
- Identify additional resources

Factors to Consider in the Selection of a PDA

- Memory
- Expandability
- Co$t
- Display
- Synchronize
- Operating System
- Processor
- Applications Available
- Size
- Handheld or Smartphone
- Future Trends

Frequent Comment on PDA List

- My husband bought me a PDA – now what do I do with it?

Aspects of a System

- Application
- Software
- Operating System
- Hardware
Typical PDA Features

- Electronic “rolodex”
- Time Management Software
- Calculator
- Handwriting Recognition
- Data Exchange
- Utilities

Choosing Your PDA

- SmartPhone or PDA
  - Check with your Phone Carrier
- Extra Costs
  - Phone plan may require “unlimited data” plans
  - Blackberry has fee for server usage
- Benefits of Smartphone
  - All-in-One (Phone, PDA, GPS, MP3)
  - Ease of updating

Skyscape www.skyscape.com
Applications for PDAs in Healthcare

- Emergency Department
- Order Entry
- E-Prescribing
- Point of Care
- Drug Compatibility
- Pt Tracking
- Coding/billing
- Calculations
- Clinical Trials/Research
- Charge Capture
- Decision Support
- Schedules
- Addresses/Contacts
- Podcasts

Hardware Using MS OS

- Samsung Jack
- Palm Treo Pro, 750
- Hewlett-Packard iPaq 9000
- HTC Touch

Other hardware

- Supports health software including Skyscape and Pepid
  - Blackberry
  - iPhone
Accessories
- Memory Cards
- Travel Plug
- Keyboard
- Leather or Hard Case w/ Belt Clip
- Hot Sync Cradle
- Car lighter charger

Handheld Devices:
- Stylus
- Digital Camera Module
- Wireless LAN Module
- Car Dash PDA holder
- Faceplate
- Screen Protectors

More Current Devices - Smartphones

Also....

Operating Systems
- Symbian OS (47% of worldwide market in 2008)
- RIM Blackberry 19.5%
- Windows Mobile (Microsoft) 12.4%
- iPhone (Apple) 10.7%
- Linux 8.4%
- Palm Web OS .9%
Doylestown Hospital, PA.
- Download or read a dictated report
- Vital signs
- Medications
- Labs
  - All available on an iPhone connecting to Meditech Client Server 6.0

Virginia Commonwealth Univ
- Access Cerner EMR
- Charge Capture
- Clinical Results Review
- Use with BlackBerry Devices

George Washington Univ Hosp
- Access EKGs from a smartphone
- iPhones and BlackBerrys
- mVisum software

Consumer Health Applications
- Weight Tracker (BlackBerry)
- On-Time-Rx
- Glucose Tracker
- Yoga
- Health Calculator
- Illustrated First Aid Guidem
  - PetVet (Palm)

PDA Security Concerns
- Protect Data Stored on the PDA
- Protect Data while Synchronized
- Protect Data while Transmitted via Wireless
- Devices managed by the User, not the Organization
- Users may not use proper appropriate and reasonable security measures
- VUMC working toward encrypting all devices

PDA Security
- Safeguard your PDA (technical, physical, procedural)
- User ID and PW Protection
- Timeout Functions
- Virus Protection
- Biometrics
- Security Policies for PDAs
  - Irma Robins, UMB, Asst Advisory Counsel 2002
Points to Ponder .......

- Palm not compatible with Windows XP Media Center
- No support for Palm OS
- iPhone and Blackberry still new
- Consider Carrier before choosing Device
- WiFi access and Cell Phone signals in various facilities

Points to Ponder ..... 

- Consider Amazon or eBay for “unlocked phones”
- Unbound is another good website for Medical Software http://www.unboundmedicine.com/store
- Consider having PDA/programs paid by Drug Rep or your company
- Wyeth.com provides 5 Minute Clinical Consult Online (desktop/laptop) and Epocrates Pro Online free of charge
- Uptodate online rocks!! http://uptodate.com/ 

Resources for Info & Support 

- American Medical Informatics Assoc (AMIA)
  - Knowledge in Motion SIG, www.amia.org
- AACN PDA Center www.aacn.org
- Drexel University, www.library.drexel.edu/healthsciences
- Medical Library Association
  - PDA e-mail list, www.mlanet.org
- PDACortex
  - Conference 6/14/02, www.pdacortex.com

Academic Med Ctr Library

- MobileMicromedix
- Epocrates – free version
- Other Free downloads

More WWW Sites

- PDA cortex www.pdacortex.com (old)
- Lexi-Comp www.lexi.com
- PEPID www.pepid.com/rn.asp
- Skyscape www.skyscape.com
- PatientKeeper www.patientkeeper.com
- PALM www.palm.com

Smartphones

- Palm http://www.palm.com/
- Blackberry http://www.blackberry.com/
- IPhones www.apple.com

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iPAD
- Multi-Touch screen and advanced capabilities

CAST
- Center for Aging Services Technologies
- Pilot studies with technology

There is always something new around the corner...

References

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Susan K Newbold, PhD RN-BC FAAN FHIMSS
Susan.Newbold@HCAHealthcare.com
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