THE PTOLEMY PROJECT
Research Community Building in Africa
A Community of Medical Curiosity
Need for Electronic Health Information
Ptolemy mechanisms
Ptolemy Participants
Results

- 150 Participants
- Spend 3-6 hrs per month on Ptolemy
- ¾ use Ptolemy from home or home+work
- Spend about US $50/month
- Read more now
- Prefer Western journals (BJS, NEJM, Lancet, annals)
- 33 presentations, papers & Chapters (up to Sept 03)
Impact of Ptolemy on different areas of practice

- Clinical: Not Applicable, Not Enhanced, Somewhat enhanced, Enhanced, Greatly Enhanced
- Teaching: Not Applicable, Not Enhanced, Somewhat enhanced, Enhanced, Greatly Enhanced
- Research: Not Applicable, Not Enhanced, Somewhat enhanced, Enhanced, Greatly Enhanced
Identifying Priorities for Surgical Development in East Africa: The EASI-Delphi Process

Massey Beveridge, Kirsteen Burton
University of Toronto, Office of International Surgery
Comparison

Ptolemy
- Research Project
- 150 individuals linked to UofT
- Library Based
- Home access
- Well-defined users
- Electronic publishing (Bioline)
- Cheap and readily replicable
- Builds a community

HINARI
- Service Project
- > 1000 institutions
- Publisher based
- Institutions only
- Broad audience
- ? Uptake
- ? Cost
Future directions

- HINARI region
- CIHR Global health research grant
- URL Analysis
- COSECSA Candidates’ group
- Open access archiving
- Survey of Medical Students
- Neurosurgeons / Paediatricians
- Replication