What Every PDA Owner Should Know

PDAs

Agenda
- PDAs 101
- Law
- Business
- Library initiatives
- Licensing

What Handhelds Do
- Basic apps
  - Datebook, Contact List, Memo Pad
- Specialized apps
  - full-text, databases, word processing, email, wireless access
- Sync via cradle to desktop or web products
  - Desktop e.g. Outlook, ACT!
  - Web e.g. AvantGo
What Every PDA Owner Should Know

Health care use
- Clinicians
- Appointments
- Billing
- Prescriptions
- Information
- Security
- Logon, encryption etc.
- Personal or Institutional
- Wireless
- Patients
- Monitoring
- Relaying information
- Patient education

Health care education
- Mandatory in some schools
- 3rd or 4th year
- Preloaded, required or recommended hardware and content
- Library may (not) be involved in
  - Content
  - Licensing

PDA Speak
- Cradle
  - Place PDA in to communicate with PC
  - Update & sync info in calendars etc.
- IR Port
  - Used to beam info between handheld devices
  - Wireless syncing
- PDA
  - Personal Digital Assistant
  - Power on Security
  - Simple touch password screen
- Stylus
  - “pen” used with touch screen for updating and accessing

Handheld Hardware

- Handhelds
  - Palm
  - Pocket PC
  - BlackBerry
  - Integrated phones

- Add-ons
  - Memory Cards
  - Wireless
  - Keyboard

Devices

- Palm OS
  - Handspring
  - HP Jornada
  - Palm Pilot

- Windows CE OS:
  - Compaq Ipac
  - BlackBerry

Portability & Convenience

- Palm
- Pocket PC
- BlackBerry
Phone/PDA Devices

- Toshiba 2032
- Treo 300
- T-Mobile PPC

Wireless Networking

- 802.11b - aka Wi-Fi
  - “Always-on” connectivity
  - Longer range
  - Starbucks, etc.

- Bluetooth
  - Device-to-device
  - Shorter range
  - “Secure”

Keyboards
What Every PDA Owner Should Know

Syncing

- Infrared Cradle
- Cradle

Portals

- AvantGo
  - www.avantgo.com
- Handango
  - www.handango.com
- Tucows
  - pda.tucows.com/index

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What Every PDA Owner Should Know

Content Discovery Tools

- Journal articles
- assessment, uses
- PubMed.gov: computers, handheld
- Listservs
- Web
- "Expert" advice
- Consider the source
- criteria
- currency
What are libraries doing?

- Pilot resource assessments
- usefulness
- resource preference
- Training
- User groups
- Individual Consultations
- Policies or Recommendations
- Create resource pages
- technical
- content
- Create custom library “channels”
- Palm farms
- hardware
- content
- Fairs
What Every PDA Owner Should Know

PDAs for Health Care Providers

- Hardware and Accessories
  - Pocket PCs: Hewlett Packard iPAQ, HP iPAQ, HP iPAQ Healthcare H2200, iPAQ HC5465, HP iPAQ Healthcare H2200, iPAQ HC5465
  - Pocket PC Accessories
- General Productivity Applications
  - Microsoft Office Mobile
  - Microsoft Office Mobile for Pocket PC
  - Microsoft Office Mobile for Pocket PC
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  - Microsoft Office Mobile for Pocket PC

Library Services
- Arizona Health Sciences Library
- Arizona Health Sciences Library
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Handheld Recommendations: Faculty of Medicine, Dalhousie University

Handheld computers using the Palm operating system (Pocket PC) are providing essential tools for health care professionals. These devices are becoming increasingly popular among physicians, nurses, and other health care providers. They are being used for a variety of tasks, including patient records, scheduling, and mobile access to medical records and patient data. The small size and portability of these devices make them ideal for use in clinical settings.

Table of Contents
- Pocket PC: PDA
- Pocket PC: PDA
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Types of Medical Apps

- Information sources
- Drug lookup tools (Micromedex)
- Diseases and condition lookup (5MCC)
- Tools (administrative, decision tools)
- Cholesterol, pregnancy, BMI etc.
- Distilled evidence / practice advice
  - UptoDate, FirstConsult etc.

Tools – Decision Aids

- For
  - More accurate dosing
  - Diagnostic Aid
  - Risk assessment
  - “Evidence-based”
Information Sources

- Free

Information Sources

- Fee

- Download materials
- Searchable
- Many cross-linked to other products
- Sync on the web for updates
- May require supplementary software - (e.g. AvantGo)
- Many publishers license identical content

Static Information - Books
Drug Info

- Extremely popular use
- ePocrates,
PDR
- A2Zdrugs
- Frequent updating needed
- Most free sources contain spyware
Palmtop Content Selection

*It's not like buying books*

Download and Install Issues

- Does it come in my handheld flavor?
- Do I have enough space
- How will I update?
- Do I need supplementary software?
  - And will I have enough room?

Syncing Issues

- On sync, (too) much can be revealed
  - pre-registration for downloads provides info
  - initial download is tagged with a cookie-like identifier
  - handheld software may be set to retain information on usage
  - usage patterns may be synced back to the download provider
Licensing is different

- License is either blanket or “per palmtop” not concurrent use
  - Who do you authorize?
  - How?
  - What about privacy?
- Product sellers are not always our typical content vendors
  - e.g. 5 Minute Clinical Consult = Skyscape

Libraries bypassed

- Vendors going to:
  - IT
  - Department or Organization
  - Individual
- Many decision makers are unaware of content issues
Content may not be complete

- How complete are the conversions?
- Handheld capacity is limited
- "Abridged" versions are common
- Optimal “family” of products
  - Skyscape “family”

Publisher “versions”

- Multiple versions of same content, different producers
  - e.g. 5MCC Lexi-comp and Skyscape
  - Download to evaluate
- Usability varies and is key
  - vary between products and vendors
  - no big winners
- Syncing success may vary
  - Publisher controls the sync, what happens when….?
**Distilled Content**
- Content extracted from many sources
- Practice recommendations
- Articles, clinical practice guidelines, books, directly from "expert" advisors
- Web-based w/optional handheld
  - FirstConsult.com
  - UptoDate.com
  - Inforetriever/InfoPoems

**Hardest content to evaluate**
- Quality
- Timeliness
- Accuracy
- Evidence
- "Value added"
- Synthesis
- Abridgement

**Distilled Content - Evaluation**
- Who selects the resources?
- Who writes the content?
- Will the publisher prefer resources from their own content “family”?
- How often is content updated? Criteria?

*Be prepared to conduct your own tests!*
Is the library MoA?

- Staff
- Use
- Development
- Support

- Collection development
- Selection criteria
- Vendor relationships
- Licensing
- Pricing

What we tell users..

- If free…
  - check privacy policies of commercial downloads
- For all products…
  - plan an updating schedule
    - join alert service or set your own schedule
  - evaluate content carefully

If you decide to deploy...

- Consider your goals carefully
  - goals are platform-independent
  - could wireless computers with the web do the job just as well?
- Create a deployment team
  - IT experts
  - Expert users
  - Librarians
What Every PDA Owner Should Know

U of T status

- Lots of “unofficial” use and purchase
- No current requirement for incoming students
- Research:
  - Geriatrics palm top project
  - DFCM
    - Medical education
  - Palm top Patient Record (with library participation)
    - Additional information resources loaded
      - basic and optional “packs”: drug db, OVID@Hand, 5MCC
  - Linkage between patient record and resource use

U of T initiatives

- Librarian Use
- Research projects
- Joint library-faculty committee
  - evaluate content
  - recommend solutions
  - provide advice and peer expertise

Are Tablets next?

- More powerful
- Handwriting recognition
- Annotations
- Vertical niche

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Final Thoughts

- Device Independence
- Model License Agreements
- Critical Mass of Experience