

Practice Libraries - an outmoded idea?

The 'practice library' is on the list of areas to be reviewed when teams visit practices with a view to achieving approval or re-approval for that practice to be accredited as a training practice.

Increasingly frequently a discussion ensues about the use of the practice library and shift to the use of the internet by GPSTRs (GP Specialist Training Registrar) as their first port of call when seeking information.

This Issue was discussed at the Deans' meeting on the 20th January 2010 and the below is a brief summary of the outcome of our discussion. Before the reader wonders about the average age and internet skills of the Deans, a straw poll of registrars also informed the discussion and conclusions:

- The benefits of using a variety of learning styles has been established, (Honey and Mumford, 1992) with the introduction of revalidation comes a cap of 10 learning credits on internet based reading and courses (RCGP, 2010) Surely some of the credits can come from reading and reflection on a chapter of a book?
- Reading a book (or other paper based resource) is a change from sitting at a desk and could help to meet health and safety guidance about the maximum number of hours that should be spent continuously at a screen.
- Having books around will encourage a different type of browsing. For example the cover of Roger Neighbour's book (Neighbour, 2005) describes the concept of developing 'an inner consultation style' more eloquently than any word that can be read anywhere.
- There was consensus that there are some topic that were more easily or better addressed. The specific publications were not so easily agreed.

Thus the recommended reading list is proposed as a recommended list. We intend it to be a dynamic one that will alter in response to suggestions and feedback.

A word of caution! It is important that the internet is used thoughtfully and skilfully to access information. I have been driven to distraction by the uncritical use of Wikipedia particularly as a serious reference in an academic essay. Wilkie 's leader in the most recent copy of Education for Primary Care gives all of us food for thought on this topic. (Wilkie, 2009)

Dr A McEwen
28th January 2010

(Cantillon et al., 2003)

CANTILLON, P., HUTCHINSON, L. & WOOD, D. (eds.) 2003. *ABC of Learning and Teaching in Medicine*, London: BMJ Publishing Group Ltd.

- HONEY, P. & MUMFORD, A. 1992. *The manual of learning styles*, Maidenhead, Peter Honey.
- NEIGHBOUR, R. 2005. *The inner consultation: how to develop an effective and intuitive consulting style*, Radcliffe Publishing.
- RCGP. 2010. RCGP Guide to the Credit-Based System for CPD. Available: http://www.rcgp.org.uk/PDF/Credit-Based%20System%20for%20CPD_2nd%20version_110110.pdf [Accessed 28 January 2010].
- WILKIE, V. 2009. Online learning in primary care: the importance of e-professionalism. *Education for Primary Care*, 20, 423-4.

Practice Library Ideas

Title	Author	ISBN	Year suitable for	No of times recommended
New MRCGP in a Box	Mallika Panukollu	9781853156076	All	1
nMRCGP AKT Study Guide	A Khan, R Jabbour and A Rehman	9781846192302	ST2/3	1
A Guide to the CSA (DVD)	Mark Coombe	000000000DVD3	ST2/3	1
Oxford Handbooks (various)	Various	Various	All	1
ABC Series (various)	Various	Various	All	2
Colour Atlas of Dermatology	Gary M White	9780723432982	All	2
Medical Statistics Made Easy	Michael Harris and Gordon Taylor	9781904842552	All	1
The Inner Consultation	Roger Neighbour	9781857756791	All	2
The Inner Apprentice	Roger Neighbour	9781857756708	All	1
The Doctor's Communication Handbook	Peter Tate	9781846193927	All	1
Teaching and Learning Communication Skills in Medicine	Kurtz, Silverman and Draper	9781857756586	All	1
Skills for Communicating with Patients	Kurtz, Silverman and Draper	9781857756401	All	1
Delivering Mental Health in Primary Care	Alan Cohen	9780850843149	All	1
The Maudsley Prescribing Guidelines	David Taylor	9780415424165	All	1
RCGP DVDs on CBDs, COTs, etc (various)	RCGP	Various	All	1
Becoming a GP	Amar Rughani	9780956183200	All	2
Cambridge Calgary consultation skills (various)	Various	Various	All	1
RCGP curriculum book	B Riley, J Hayne and S Field	9780850843163	All	1
Illustrated Textbook Paediatrics	Tom Lissauer	9780723433972	All	1
Medicine textbook	Robert Souhami and John Moxham	9780443064647	All	1
Clinical Methods/Examination book (various)	Various	Various	All	1
Child Abuse and neglect - A Clinicians Guide	Hobbs, Hanks and Wynne	9780443058967	All	1
A good palliative care book (various)	Various	Various	All	1
BMJ	www.bmj.com	N/A	All	1
College journal	Various	N/A	All	1
Bad Science	Ben Goldacre	9780007284870	All	1
Reckoning with Risk: Learning to Live with Uncertainty	Gerd Gigerenzer	9780140297867	All	1
Essential Guide to Educational Supervision in Postgraduate Medical Education	Nicola cooper and Kirsty Forrest	9781405170710	All	1
The Condensed Curriculum Guide for GP Training and the New MRCGP	Ben Riley, Jayne Haynes and Steve Field	9780850843163	All	1
Medical Education and Training: From Theory to Delivery	Yvonne Carter and Neil Jackson	9780199234219	All	1
Reckoning with Risk: Learning to Live with Uncertainty	Gerd Gigerenzer	9780140297867	All	1
Handbook of Palliative Care	Christina Faull, Yvonne Carter, Lilian Daniels	978-1405121125	All	1

Macleod's Clinical Examination: With STUDENT CONSULT Access (Paperback) 12th Edition	Graham Douglas Fiona Nicol and Colin Robertson	978-0443068485	All	1