Introducing Mobile Devices to Dana Medical Library: Successes and Challenges

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Mobile devices

As of January 2012:

• 46% of all American adults own a smartphone¹

• 19% own a tablet computer²

Locating mobile resources

• The Dana Mobile Apps LibGuide provides brief descriptions of apps and mobile resources available to patrons.
• Detailed instructions for installing or accessing specific resources are included.
• Went live in March 2011
• Most popular Dana LibGuide: more than 2150 views this year
• Spike in usage following classes
Mobile Apps LibGuide

http://danaguides.uvm.edu/mobile
Dana Mobile Web Page

library.uvm.edu/dana/m/

Access on any mobile browser, e.g. Safari, Google, Firefox

Selected information from Dana website in an easy to read and navigate format
Mobile Friendly Databases

Databases with mobile enabled websites

- Nothing to install
- Some will automatically redirect you to mobile version, others will not
- Streamlined, not all features available
- Many require you to create a username and password from a network computer before you log in with your mobile device
- Most will automatically recognize your IP address if you are on campus
Creating an account

Open database on computer on campus
Look for place to create account/sign in
Selected Mobile Databases

Wireless or cellular (3G) connection required

• Access Medicine
• CINAHL
• Clinical Pharmacology
• UpToDate
• Web of Knowledge
Library Databases with Apps

• An “app” is a program that runs on your mobile device

• Content is downloaded to your device

• Apps for Dana-licensed databases are free

• An activation code may be required

Skyscape
Dynamed
Micromedex
Natural Standard
Nursing Reference Center
Stat!Ref
E-Books

Display best on tablets (e.g. iPad)

• AccessMedicine
• MDConsult
• R2 Library
• Ebrary
• Stat!Ref
iPad Circulation Pilot

- Lending 2 first generation iPads and 2 iPad2s
- Available to UVM students only
- 7-day loan period
- iPad kits include an iPad (16GB, wi-fi only), power adapter, dock cable and carrying case
- Pre-loaded with content of interest to Dana patrons
- Patrons may add content with own iTunes acct.
- iPads are reset to default settings upon discharge, then stored in charging station in secure closet
Successes

Mobile Apps **very** popular

- Dana App page highest number of views

iPads for Students

- Frequent circulation

Sexy

- The libraries are involved with this developing technology
Challenges

Various Access, Data Mgt Methods
• Activation codes vs online access
• Wireless vs cellular access

Keeping Current
• Rapid technology changes

Circulating iPads
• Reseting to default settings
• iTunes account maintenance