



**Chapter Council Presents  
Sharing Roundtables  
MLA Annual Meeting  
San Antonio, TX  
Monday, May 16, 2005**

## **Table 22B: PDAs & Health Care**

**Facilitator:** Leslie Schick

**Recorder:** Bryan S. Vogh

**Additional Participants:** Pamela Corley, Carol Jeuell, Sarah Kirby, Alice Weber

### **Topics discussed and ideas shared:**

The majority of people at the table had Pocket PC based PDAs from Dell.

We discussed the availability of programs for PDAs. We discussed why more programs were available on the Palm operating system, but that it is shifting to the Pocket PC OS. We discussed companies like <http://www.skyscape.com/> and how they provide content on SD cards not necessarily as downloads like many others.

We discussed moving documents from the PC to the mobile device. Documents to go and Quick Office programs were mentioned as possible solutions to the moving of the document and editing. There was a consensus that editing on the PDA was very difficult and that the feature set on the PDA was reduced enough that editing on the desktop was preferred and that the PDA version be used to answer questions or to show parts of the data to others.

Documents To Go [http://www.dataviz.com/products/documentstogo/index\\_palm.html](http://www.dataviz.com/products/documentstogo/index_palm.html)  
Quickoffice <http://www.quickoffice.com/>

There is a program that will allow one to do screen captures under the Windows OS and that the Palm emulator is available if you need to do live demos or to create screen grabs to put in a PPT presentation.

Syncing on multiple computers with Palm Desktop and ActiveSync  
There can be up to two relationships or computers that you can sync with Pocket PC's ActiveSync. Palm seems to work best with syncing only with one computer.

Epocrates (<http://www2.epocrates.com/index.html>)

Discussed how it works and who uses it the importance of regular syncing or the program does not work. The program has to be in the memory of the device so check for current guidelines. This is only available for the Palm OS for free and there is a paid version for Pocket PC.

Discussed the types of services that one could put in place  
Check out program or loan programs for PDAs

Hard reset when the device is returned to erase data

Loan period of two weeks

Also have other resources available on memory cards, but license is only for the loan unit and did not cover use on an individual's personal unit.

Discussed where to find free medical calculators and what OS had more available.

Also touched on the accuracy of the programs and legal issues related to their use.

Every one was interested in finding more programs to run on their PDA.

The following web sites were discussed or mentioned as resources:

<http://library.uchc.edu/pda/>

<http://www.usc.edu/hsc/nml/lis/tutorials/pdas.html>

<http://southmed.usouthal.edu/library/resources/resourcespda.htm>

<http://www.library.ualberta.ca/pdazone/health/index.cfm>

<http://web.simmons.edu/~fox/pda/>