

# ANESTHESIOLOGYU: DEVELOPMENT OF A COLLABORATIVE LEARNING ENVIRONMENT BY HARNESSING THE POWER OF DYNAMIC COMPUTING

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## Abstract

**Introduction:** An ever-increasing amount of information is being delivered to anesthesiology providers. To access, process and clinically apply information that is filtering into the literature requires an increasing amount of time. Relatively new computer technology has great potential in harnessing information as well as allowing collaborative learning and filtering of relevant information leading to a more efficient transfer of knowledge between anesthesia providers. We present a poster to introduce the use of this computer technology for dynamic, collaborative knowledge transfer in anesthesiology.

**Methods:** A relatively newly coined word for the Internet is web 2.0. This advancement in the Internet is commonly meant to mean dynamically pushing information to the user instead of requiring the user to search for information they need. In the area of anesthesiology, many students, residents, anesthesiologists, and physicians are interested in keeping up to date on the latest developments in their field; however, the thought of searching for relevant information is too daunting. In addition, the amount of valuable information that is gleaned from searching the web is often squelched by a large amount of irrelevant information. Newer technologies such as web-based database search algorithms, RSS (really simple syndication), blogs, wikis, and social networks allow people to stay connected to clinically relevant information and share experiential knowledge in a timely and efficient manner. **Results:** The authors have harnessed the power of dynamic, web-based computing power to develop a web site dedicated to the transfer of knowledge in anesthesiology. The next step of this project is to encourage physicians, residents, anesthesiologists, and students to use the site and provide input to the relevance of the material presented. Once a network of users access the site, additional social networking will further help to provide relevant information to the anesthesiology community.

**Conclusion:** Using computers to establish a social network has the power of revolutionizing how we stay current with the ever-increasing amount of medical information. This poster presents a number of technologies to assist with the process of knowledge transfer between anesthesiology practitioners.

## References:

1. AnesthesiologyU – A website developed for collaborative learning in anesthesiology. <http://www.anesthesiologyu.com>