



1st National Nursing Informatics Conference 2005 Proceedings

Nurses & Informatics: Transforming Healthcare

Sept 14 – 16th, 2005 – University of Toronto, Ontario

CONCURRENT SESSIONS THEME 3: Nursing Informatics Applications in Education

Implementing a Learning Management System in a Hospital Setting: A Real-World Experience

by Anya Wood, BA, MEd, Brenda Laurie-Shaw, RN, BScN, MN & Cathy Johnson, RN, BHS/Health Informatics

ABSTRACT

Continuing education in a clinical setting is migrating from a classroom-based model to a just-in time approach that provides access to education and training as it is required. University Health Network (UHN), a large multi-site quaternary care hospital, has embraced this shift by purchasing a Learning Management System with the goal of integrating education into the daily lives of its nursing staff.

Active involvement from Nursing Informatics and Clinical Educators from across the organization are key to the successful implementation of this solution. Anticipated immediate benefits will include the ability to: meet increasing educational needs of staff, capitalize on the limited availability of educators, promote learner responsibility, facilitate the tracking of educational initiatives and assist the hospital to meet government, professional and local mandatory educational requirements. While the benefits of implementing a Learning Management System are clear, the process is not without its challenges.

This presentation will describe the process of selecting and implementing a Learning Management System, the pros and cons of adopting an innovative technology, the lessons learned including the technical and people challenges we faced and tips for organizations looking to adopt eLearning in the future.

ABOUT THE AUTHORS

Anya Wood, BA, MEd

Anya is the eLearning Education Manager at the University Health Network (UHN). She is responsible for leading the eLearning initiative at UHN in the nursing and allied health populations. Anya will facilitate the implementation, course creation process development and collaboration with partner hospitals. She will also provide consultation on elearning to other departments in the hospital.

Brenda Laurie-Shaw, RN, BScN, MN

Brenda is the Director of Nursing Informatics at the University Health Network. In this corporate role Brenda is responsible for identifying the needs and opportunities for nurses to incorporate telecommunications and information technologies in their practice in order to achieve the best possible outcomes of patient care and to advance the practice of nursing.

Cathy Johnson, RN, BHS/Health Informatics

Cathy is a Project Manager in Nursing Informatics at the University Health Network. In this corporate nursing role, Cathy oversees the development of the Intranet and Internet sites for Nursing and Allied Health. Cathy has provided leadership and expertise with the nursing elearning initiative at UHN.