Imagine being a graduate nursing, medical or pharmacy student standing with your peers in a busy hospital hallway during morning rounds. The preceptor asks the group an unexpected tough clinical question and expects a clear, concise answer. Nervously and with panicked looks, your peers flip through the patient’s chart and look to one another for an answer. You, instead, reach into your pocket for your phone. After just a few clicks in your Lexicomp® mobile application from Wolters Kluwer Clinical Drug Information, you have the information you need to help you answer confidently and share your findings with the group.

“We evaluated several mobile resources, including those that were free. Lexi-COMPLETE gave the most up-to-date, current and robust response for my students.”

Claire DeCristofaro, MD
Clinical Assistant Professor
College of Nursing, DNP Program
The Medical University of South Carolina

A clear, concise answer is just what Claire DeCristofaro, MD, ordered! DeCristofaro is an associate professor at Western Carolina University (MSN program, Asheville, NC), a distance educator at Resurrection University (Oak Park, IL), and a clinical assistant professor with the DNP program in the College of Nursing at the Medical University of South Carolina (Charleston, SC). She and her faculty peers developed simulation scenarios as part of their Advanced Health Assessment course, designed to simulate bedside clinical encounters in the community setting to prepare FNP students for precepted clinicals. The scenarios are based on instructor-written worksheets that incorporate history taking, ordering and interpreting diagnostic tests, performing a physical exam, generating a differential diagnosis and working diagnosis, and a treatment plan, including prescriptions and patient/family education with referrals for consultation as indicated. To facilitate clinical decision making for each scenario, students used a mobile application from a smartphone/tablet with point-of-care resources for pharmacology, laboratory/diagnostic, and other clinical information in the Simulation Laboratory. The success of this blended technology in a laboratory learning exercise prompted DeCristofaro and her colleagues to submit a journal article describing the teaching methodology, which was accepted for publication in the Journal of the American Academy of Nurse Practitioners.
LEXICOMP MOBILE APPS STAND OUT OVER FREE RESOURCES

The mobile app chosen for this course was Lexi-COMPLETE, the premier Lexicomp point-of-care mobile application package from Wolters Kluwer Clinical Drug Information. “We evaluated several mobile resources, including those that were free,” explained DeCristofaro. The most important criteria were the extensiveness, level, and timeliness of content. “Lexi-COMPLETE gave the most up to date, current and robust response for my students.”

Lexi-COMPLETE contains more than 20 databases, including Lexi-Drugs® core drug information database, rated the most robust drug resource and prescribing tool available in independent reviews. It also features a highly regarded drug interactions screening program. With access to daily updates, Lexicomp Mobile Apps provide the most up to date, unbiased drug information and clinical content to help improve medication safety and positively affect patient outcomes. Stored directly on the device, Lexicomp mobile applications are available on the most popular smartphones and tablets, including iPhone®, iPad®, and Android™ devices.

STUDENTS ARE BETTER PREPARED FOR PATIENT ENCOUNTERS

When armed with both experience and Lexicomp medication decision support content, “the students go on into their clinicals better prepared. They feel more confident and make more efficient decisions,” stated DeCristofaro. “The added payoff,” she explained, “is that they have an enhanced understanding of the literature and where to look for referenced information.”

In addition to to adult drug information and interactions databases, Lexi-COMPLETE also includes AHFS DI® Essentials™, The 5-Minute Clinical Consult, and pediatric and neonatal drug information. Students can reference any one of the many databases within Lexi-COMPLETE to aid in medication selection, check for potential drug interactions, research IV compatibility, check pediatric dosage range and more. Additionally, users can seamlessly link between databases, saving valuable time and helping improve workflow efficiency.

LEXICOMP IS A RESOURCE FOR NURSE PRACTITIONERS, TOO

DeCristofaro’s students have found Lexicomp Mobile Apps so valuable, they often go on to renew their subscriptions before completion of their advanced degree in order to continue using the resources in professional clinical practice. According to DeCristofaro, “Eighty percent of my students renew their subscription before they graduate.”

And why wouldn’t they? As stated by DeCristofaro, “Regardless of a provider’s title, we are all held to standards of practice. Nurse practitioners, like physicians, have holistic patient management obligations, are responsible for ordering and interpreting laboratory and imaging diagnostics, have prescribing obligations, and are expected to follow clinical practice guidelines.” Lexicomp drug information and clinical content assists all types of providers, including nurse practitioners, in meeting patient-care goals, such as enhanced medication safety, patient education, and positive patient outcomes.

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About Medical University of South Carolina
Founded in 1824 in Charleston, The Medical University of South Carolina is the oldest medical school in the South. Today, MUSC continues the tradition of excellence in education, research, and patient care. MUSC educates and trains more than 3,000 students and residents, and has nearly 13,000 employees, including approximately 1,500 faculty members. As the largest non-federal employer in Charleston, the university and its affiliates have collective annual budgets in excess of $1.7 billion. MUSC operates a 700-bed medical center, which includes a nationally recognized Children’s Hospital, the Ashley River Tower (cardiovascular, digestive disease, and surgical oncology), and a leading Institute of Psychiatry. For more information on academic information, clinical services or hospital patient services, visit www.musc.edu or www.muschealth.com.