

Customer Case Study

Tyler Kuhk, Nursing Student

“e-Therapeutics⁺ is helping me get through nursing school and will definitely benefit a practising nurse. I want to have this when I’m working, there’s no doubt about it.”

*-- Tyler Kuhk, Nursing Student
Lakehead University*

Customer Profile

- 3rd year nursing student
- Lakehead University, Thunder Bay, Ontario
- Ontario Regional Director, Canadian Nursing Students’ Association (CNSA)

Why e-Therapeutics⁺?

- Desire for a single, centralized source of information to reduce stress and increase efficiency when completing assignments and research
- Requirement for frequently updated resources to ensure accuracy and relevancy of information
- Need for constant, instant access to reliable information to aid in providing superior patient care

Benefits of e-Therapeutics⁺

- Access to detailed, disease-specific information saves time and energy when completing assignments or researching conditions
- Frequently updated resources mean data is current and relevant in practical situations
- Advanced tools and features lead to increased confidence in the classroom and work place

Situation

Nursing is a rapidly expanding field in health care and its practitioners need to be constantly aware of the latest advancements. For nursing students, this need is intensified by the vast amount of knowledge they are required to learn and recall to prepare them for the work force. Evidence-based practice is coming to the forefront for nurses and current, reliable resources, in both educational and practical environments, are critical for providing superior patient care.

Solution

In April 2008, nursing students at Lakehead University in Thunder Bay, Ontario, established a chapter of the Canadian Nursing Students’ Association (CNSA). With this association came access to e-Therapeutics⁺ (via the Canadian Nurses Association’s NurseOne portal). Tyler Kuhk, third year nursing student and Ontario Regional Director for CNSA, immediately saw the benefits of e-Therapeutics⁺ and sought ways to incorporate it into his daily routine. From general research for drug studies and clinical rotations to pathophysiology research and nursing theory courses, Tyler has found that the use of e-Therapeutics⁺ helps him complete his assignments and augment his knowledge efficiently and effectively, from one central location.

Results

The discovery of e-Therapeutics⁺ has made Tyler Kuhk’s nursing education a lot less stressful. “I wish I’d had e-Therapeutics⁺ in my first year,” he says. “My life would have been so much better!”

During clinical rotations, Tyler finds that e-Therapeutics⁺ helps him access the information he needs instantly. “For drug studies,” he explains, “I used to have to flip through the pages and index of the drug guide to get at the information the clinical instructor was looking for. With e-Therapeutics⁺, I can simply type in a drug name and immediately have all the pertinent information I need, right at my fingertips.”

The disease-state organization of e-Therapeutics⁺ is key for nursing students. “That’s how we’re taught to think about it in our program,” says Tyler. “When I see a patient with a specific condition, I can easily look it up on e-Therapeutics⁺ and get a thorough overview of the condition, therapy, drugs; it’s a lot of information right in front of you.” The tools and features of e-Therapeutics⁺ are also beneficial: the Product Identification Tool gives extra confidence when administering drugs to patients; and the fact that e-Therapeutics⁺ contains Canadian content means that students are familiar with Canadian standards and terminology, making transition into the work force easier.

Due to the year-end establishment of the Lakehead CNSA chapter, many students were unaware of their new access to e-Therapeutics⁺. However, Tyler reports that students taking courses over the summer are using the application and are thrilled with it. “We did several presentations at the end of the last school year,” says Tyler. “Summer students were very interested and began using it for their clinical rotations as soon as we had access.” This year, e-Therapeutics⁺ demonstrations are scheduled to take place during orientation week, in hopes that the first year students are exposed to the NurseOne portal and get used to using it. “e-Therapeutics⁺ can be incredibly important resource for students, especially those in first year,” he says. “Having access to this resource right from that start will make completing assignments and additional reading much more efficient and effective and we’re really trying to promote it internally.”



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