

It was the need to back up clinical decisions with sound medical knowledge that induced the Vancouver Medical Association to form a Library in 1906, beginning the service that would eventually become the College library. What was crucial to clinical decision making 100 years ago is unchanged today: physicians want information that is authoritative, relevant, and rapid, and they want it where the need arises—the point of care.

The College Library has an excellent collection of point-of-care resources bundled into an electronic database entitled Stat!Ref. One simple search phrase entered into the Stat!Ref

Information @ point of care

textbox gives you access to the full text of the latest edition of 18 top-quality medical texts, including *Harrison's Principles of Internal Medicine*, as well as the American College of Physicians' *PIER*. *PIER* is an evidence-based decision-support tool that gives, in modular form, screening, diagnosis, and treatment for some 350 diseases. Each recommendation is accompanied by a graded level of evidence, with links to appropriate resources. Stat!Ref also includes an electronic version of *Stedman's Medical Dictionary* and an interactive anatomy tool. College members may access Stat!Ref by log-

ging onto the College's web site at www.cpsbc.ca, clicking on Library, then selecting the link Electronic Journals and Books on the Library's main page. Give it a try!

Perhaps the Library's founding fathers would feel it remiss of us not to mention the original, portable, easy-to-use point of care tool: a ready-reference handbook slipped into the pocket. We also have those.

—Linda Clendenning

—Karen MacDonell

—Judy Neill

Librarians/Co-Managers