

Computers are Happening

Gradually more and more hospitals are becoming computerized. Some systems work fairly well and some can be quite cumbersome. Regardless, computers may very well be part of your orientation to a new hospital now a days.

When you interview with each potential hospital, you may want to ask whether or not they have computerized charting so you have an idea what you are in for.

One tip to consider when learning a new program is to remember that the mouse has a right click button as well as a left click button. The left click button is the one you are used to using to open up documents and click on different areas. However, when you are trying to figure out how to do more in that section consider clicking on the right side and see what options come up. Your life may become much easier.

Sometimes, while you are in training, it can help to write down the basic steps for the most common things you would be doing on the computer system while you are getting used to using it.

Another thing to remember about computer systems in the hospital is the need to know where the refresh button is. You have to hit refresh often to find the latest orders and meds that have already been given. You want to deal with the most current scenario.

There are definitely advantages and disadvantages to using computers in the work place. I really like computers for some things, but I have to admit that in the work place, I would prefer my good old pencil and paper that I carry around with me and fill out all the blanks right in front of me (the full visual).

Regardless of how we feel about it or how well it works, or how computer savvy we are, computers are happening and we have to adapt.