

Security

Recommended software is TealLock Corporate edition (www.tealpoint.com) for Palm Powered devices and SafeGuard PDA (www.utimaco.com) for Pocket PCs. Both allow numeric keypads for passwords and encryption of specific files (eg HanDBase files).

Databases

HanDBase is a fully featured relational database. The “relational” bit means it can elegantly handle complex information, and is the standard for database programs on PCs. It can efficiently handle data creation, storage and searching. Through the infrared beam, beaming, synchronizing and printing are also possible.

<http://www.handheldsfordoctors.com/learn/organisation/handbase3review.htm>

Database fields

<i>Text</i>	<i>Integer</i>	<i>Float</i>	<i>Pop-Up</i>	<i>Check-Box</i>
<i>Unique</i>	<i>Image</i>	<i>Date</i>	<i>Time</i>	<i>Heading</i>
<i>Link</i>	<i>Linked</i>			

Example form

How would you design these in HanDBase?

1. Patient details: name, date of birth, ID, sex, ward, bed, etc.
2. Blood results: RBC, Hb, MCV, WCC, date, time, etc.

Surgical logbook

"Handheld computers for surgical logbooks", *International Journal of Surgery*, 2004 vol 2 issue 1.

<http://www.handheldsfordoctors.com/learn/organisation/surgicallogbook.htm>

Medical references

- Medhand – excellent technology, whole bookshelf of textbooks, but very expensive: www.medhand.com.
- InfoRetriever – focused, relevant answers to clinical questions by the patient's bedside: www.infopoems.com.
- Epocrates – affordable prescription reference now localised for British, Spanish and German users (original US version still excellent and freely available for Palm Powered devices): www.epocrates.com.

Further reading

- Free video tutorials by Dr Chris Paton to accompany “The Doctor's PDA and Smartphone Handbook” (Mohammad Al-Ubaydli, RSM Press, 2006) available from www.handheldsfordoctors.com/smartphone.
- HanDBase tutorials at <http://www.ddhsoftware.com/support.html>
- QEH hematology department – chapter 12 of “Handheld computers for doctors” and as a paper: Mohammad Al-Ubaydli, Laura Deans: Introduction Of Handheld Computers Into The Haematology Department Of A District General Hospital. *The Internet Journal of Pediatrics and Neonatology*. 2003. Volume 3 Number 1.

<http://www.mo.md/id155.htm>

- QEH family practice – chapter 13 of “Handheld computers for doctors”. We discussed with the GPs instances when the practice's reliance on paperwork was most irritating to the doctors. Three areas became apparent: 1 - The personal development plan; 2 - Tracking of expenses; 3 - The cataloguing of useful clinical literature.
<http://www.handheldsfordoctors.com/book/text/chapter13.htm>
- QEH internal medicine department – chapter 14 of “Handheld computers for doctors”. Like many hospitals in the UK, this one has been trying to cope with the reduction in junior doctors' hours. Reducing hours means increasing reliance on the shift system; more shifts mean more handovers; and handovers carry with them the risk of reducing continuity of care. The consultants asked whether handhelds could assist in providing this continuity.
<http://www.handheldsfordoctors.com/book/text/chapter14.htm>
- DatePak allows you to share calendars with the rest of your team.
<http://www.handheldsfordoctors.com/learn/organisation/datepak.htm>
- RepliGo is good for storing read-only documents on a handheld computer. This is ideal for local guidelines and protocols.
<http://www.handheldsfordoctors.com/learn/ebooks/repligo.htm>
- Offline web browsers allow you to download a website for later reading on your handheld computer. One of the best, Plucker is freely available from www.plkr.org for Palm and <http://vade-mecum.sourceforge.net/> for Pocket PC.
- Software – <http://www.handango.com>