In medical practice clinical questions confronted by practitioners often go unasked and unanswered. The structure of an academic inpatient medicine team offers a unique opportunity for collaborative knowledge management around real patients’ needs. In 2009, Keith Posley and Lauren Maggio developed an online “Team Space” to provide internal medicine teams a mechanism for members, including a clinical librarian, to develop clinical questions generated from patient care, view search and critical appraisal instruction, and upload related articles for discussion and decision making. The Team Space is used as platform for teaching and discussion on rounds.
Benefits of using a team space:

Provides a mechanism for teams to manage knowledge needs.

Extends the boundaries of the traditional team room.

Encourages inquiry.

Fosters team collaboration.

Provides opportunities for feedback and additional patient-centered IL instruction.

Exposes past and present team members to additional cases and literature.

Creates an institutional memory that provides links to recurrent questions and related literature.

Tips for managing a team space:

- Introduce the concept of a shared digital Team Space early
- Set explicit expectations for how the team will utilize the team space. For example, you may:
  - Require team members to post at least one clinical question per call cycle.
  - Assign each team member a day to be responsible for capturing and posting the team’s clinical questions for that day.
- Set an example: Post your own clinical questions
- Respond to team member posts by adding feedback, posing related questions and offering additional instruction in searching, critical appraisal and application to patients.
- Leverage questions and posts as starting points for teaching topics during attending rounds
- When referencing studies on rounds later post the original articles to the Team Space
- Provide team members feedback on their posts
- Encourage collaboration within the Team Space

Want your own Team Space?

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Information Literacy and the Team Space

Identify, articulate and communicate knowledge gaps

Navigate one’s information landscape in real-time

Evaluate information and resources

Apply information to improve the

For more information on Information Literacy:
http://lane.stanford.edu/classes-consult/infoliteracy.html

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