

P.A.T.C.H Survey Assessment

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I took the P.A.T.C.H. Survey Assessment and received a score of 74/100. I am not sure if that is considered a bad or good score for this assessment! The assessment, I gathered, is to see where someone is with using technology and computers, specifically in healthcare. Most of my answers received a 1.5/2 because I selected “agree” instead of “strongly agree”. I did not select “strongly agree” or “strongly disagree” because it takes a lot for me to strongly agree or disagree on something! For example, on the question that states, “I would love to be a proficient user of computers”, I selected “agree” because love is a strong word! I do not mind using computers, but I would not say I would *love* to be a proficient user. I might say I would *like* to be a proficient user. On another question it stated, “I would enjoy learning course work using a computer program.” Again, it is the wording that got me there and why I did not select “strongly agree”. I would not say I would *enjoy* it, but I would not mind learning via a computer program.

Other questions on the assessments I just simply did not all the way agree or disagree with, such as with this one: “computers are impersonal and dehumanizing.” I selected “disagree” on this one, but I do feel at times that computers can be impersonal and dehumanizing. I sometimes feel that while computers have streamlined many processes, they have, in some ways, taken away the face-to-face interactions with patients and families. An example of this would be at my current workplace, we have no pediatric psychiatric in house, so any mental health evaluation patient has to be seen via telehealth. They still see a real person, but it is on an iPad. I feel that interacting with the physician or therapist in person would be much more beneficial for the patient.

Another question I selected “disagree” and not “strongly disagree” on was this one: “computers are frustrating to use.” Most of the time I would most definitely strongly disagree with this statement. I grew up in the age when technology was on the rise. I can remember having computer classes in school as early as third grade. However, technology is not perfect. There are times when the WiFi is slow or things crash, as we all know! Since we are talking about healthcare, I can think of one example where I believe using paper is faster, and the computer would be more frustrating and slower. There has been a push when there is a code blue or rapid response to use the specific charting system for that in Epic. However, I find it to be faster to write on paper in real-time during those situations and then go and back-chart. I am not familiar with that particular flowsheet, and if I was to be a recorder in an emergency situation, which I have on a few occasions, I would not be able to record properly for not being able to find what I needed on the computer. A goal I have would be to learn this specific charting for code blue and rapid response so that I can use it if I am recording in those emergency situations.

In closing, I feel the score I received on this assessment probably was not as accurate as how I actually feel about computers because I grew up in the technology era. I know how to use them efficiently. I feel they are a great tool in healthcare. They reduce charting times and medication errors due to providers writing illegibly, etc. There are safety measures put in place because we have computers and other technology. As with any advance in medicine or technology, there are drawbacks. The drawbacks to computers and technology in general is the lack of face-to-face interaction with patients. However, I feel that the best healthcare providers will be able to find a good balance of providing both compassionate and efficient care with the use of technology.

References

P.A.T.C.H. assessment scale v.3. FlexiQuiz. (n.d.).

<https://www.flexiquiz.com/SC/S?p=21fde718-f37d-49a0-b259-e291dbdda003&rg=t>