

THE NEUROLOGIC EXAM WEBSITES: A STATUS REPORT ON SUCCESSFULLY SHARED LEARNING OBJECTS

Paul E. Burrows, University of Utah, USA

During the last four years, Paul D. Larsen, MD (University of Nebraska Medical Center) and Suzanne S. Stensaas, PhD (University of Utah School of Medicine) have worked with the Media Solutions department (University of Utah) in the design, development and dissemination of learning and demonstration materials for the neurological examination and its “window” into the anatomical localization of clinical problems. Two websites are posted: NeuroLogic Exam and Pediatric NeuroLogic Exam. Central to the project’s vision is freely sharing the dozens of video clips used in these websites. Our goal is to facilitate the re-purposing of our media assets by others in health sciences education.

We enable our visitors to view media on-line or download videos for later re-use. To date, over 500 requests for download are approved and tracked in a database. The nature and scope of the requests to re-use the media files are summarized and categorized, giving the development team insight into the impacts the websites are having, who is asking to download the videos, and for what purposes. General visitation stats are charted. The collaborative effort to share our media resources through our websites and the HEAL Project are reviewed. Beyond the desire to spawn and deliver good educational materials, we are compelled to ask how the wider dissemination of authored learning objects via the World Wide Web enhances their value while positively influencing the institutional reward systems for academic publishing, promotion and tenure.