

# **Innovational Application of Information Technology. in Clinical Conferences ---Crux integrated system---**

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Although digital images have been prevailing in the last 10 years, a database software for the integration of patients' clinical information and digital images is still lacking. Clinical conferences, based on demonstration of images and clinical data, are held in every teaching hospital and are very important in differential diagnosis and experience-sharing among doctors. However the details or files of clinical conferences are usually stored as separate files in file manager of Microsoft Windows, which couldn't be specifically retrieved easily for review or student-teaching purpose afterward. Programming by C# language with SQL Server which served under Microsoft® Windows Server 2003, we develop an integrated software (Crux integrated system), which not only offers storage of patients' digitalized photos and their clinical information but also contains an excellent design for clinical conferences. Any target patient could be retrieved easily with its versatile search, and the clinical information with corresponding photos would appear simultaneously on the screen during conference or at clinical visit without delay. Case preparation for clinical conferences is easy and automatically recorded. Important comments during discussions are instantly keyed in for review. An innovational application of different fields in the database makes teaching, discussions at conference, and patients' follow-up or alerting message at clinic much more practical and efficient. Besides, all case reports, oral paper presentations, seminars, special lectures and other academically important files could be conveniently uploaded in the system for all-purpose search and review later. With the system, all efforts in clinical conferences could be accumulated and substantially helped late-comers to learn and share. **Conclusions:** The ultimate goal of electronic database—What You Want Is At Your Fingertips—is achieved in this software (The Crux integrated system). Its high performance with innovational application makes it excellent for patients' images/data integration and clinical conferences in dermatology departments, which might also be suitable for other clinical department and worthy of promotion.