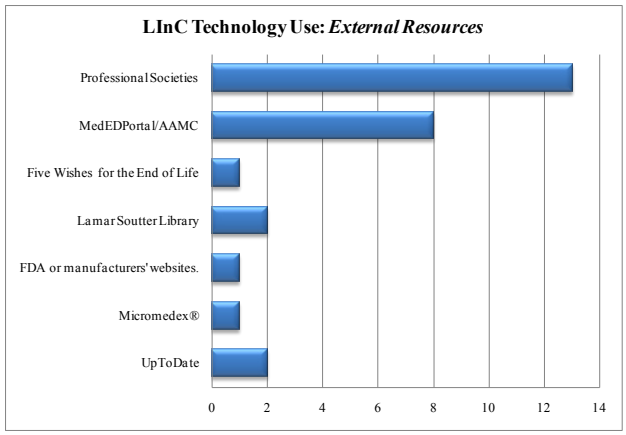
LInC Technology Use Survey Results: *External Resources*

Results

Sixteen of the 38 survey respondents report using "external resources" in their teaching. Thirteen report use of *Professional Societies*, citing "*pre-prepared curricula*", *topic generation and materials, teaching modules, and images and simulation* as the primary rationale for using society-produced materials. Besides lecture and course preparation, faculty report the value of exposing students and residents to appropriate use of peer-reviewed and empirically based literature via both 1) modeling the use of open access and copyrighted sources, and 2) by assigning the expectation that medical students will review topic information in advance of lecture or laboratory attendance. Specific societies mentioned include: ACOG, COMSEP, CDEM, SAEM, ASCCP.



Use of *MedEDPortal/AAMC* is reported by eight faculty, with two positive reviews citing it as "*…typically a good source of information*" and an "*excellent resource without having to reinvent…*" The one negative comment addressed limited variety of topics and learner-levels available via the site.

Faculty named five specific resources in the category "*other*": Five Wishes for the End of Life (1), FDA and pharmaceutical manufacturers (1), Micromedex® (1), *UpToDate* (2), and the Lamar Soutter Library (2). All cited currency, accessibility, professionalism, self-learning, and reliability of materials. One faculty respondent reports use of online textbooks and professional journals via the Lamar Soutter Library, purportedly allowing for fewer handouts and less opportunity for copyright issues; however the caveat is offered that navigation can be awkward, slow, and limited, particularly in electronic textbook use.

While the respondents, in general, were in agreement about usage and strengths and weaknesses of external resources, several interesting comments stood out as unique and or advisory:

…provide COMSEP materials to the students as a resource for learning objectives/goals.
… clearly demonstrated how students can access a particularly good site for learning and self-assessment.
… Social bookmarking & RSS - for personal learning network, not affiliated w/ a course or program at UMMS.

…educational materials for patients and for faculty; quality improvement materials for clinical practices (professional societies)
I look here regularly for cases, objectives, new ideas that we can integrate into our course. (MedEDPortal, professional societies)