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UpToDate Use as a Predictor of Medical Student Success


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RATIONALE

- Speed and ease of use are prioritized over most other criteria in choosing how to look up clinical information, leading to popularity of electronic clinical resources.¹
- UpToDate (UTD) is one of, if not the most, frequently referenced clinical knowledge resources, and its adoption in a hospital system correlates with better performance.²
- Prior work has shown a correlation between Internal Medicine resident UpToDate use & In-Training Exam score.³
- Given its proven popularity, the usefulness of UTD as a teaching tool must now be assessed against commonly agreed upon measures of medical student clinical competency.
- Research question – what is the relationship between UTD use and common outcome measures in medical education?

BACKGROUND

- Commonly used criteria for assessing clinical competency in year 3 students include the following:
 1. NBME Subject Examination Scores (% correct)
 2. RIME Scores (Reporter, Interpreter, Manager, or Educator in the clinical setting of each clerkship)
 3. Step 2 Clinical Knowledge Scores (1-300 point scale)
 4. Step 2 Clinical Skills Scores (Pass/Fail)
- Every student at WSUSOM is provided UTD access, and usage is tracked as both time spent and mouse clicks.
- Students entering year 3 are assessed for biological knowledge using USMLE Step 1 exam (1-300 point scale).

METHODS



N = 900 students
(Classes of 2020-2022)

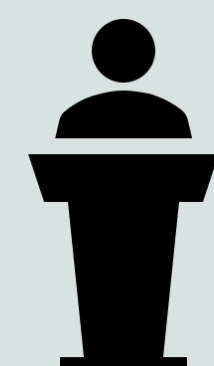
Gather UTD usage data for each student across year 3

Use Step 1 score to control for pre-existing knowledge and test-taking skills



NBME Subject Exams

Relationship with UTD usage?



RIME Scores

Relationship with UTD usage?



Step 2 CK Scores

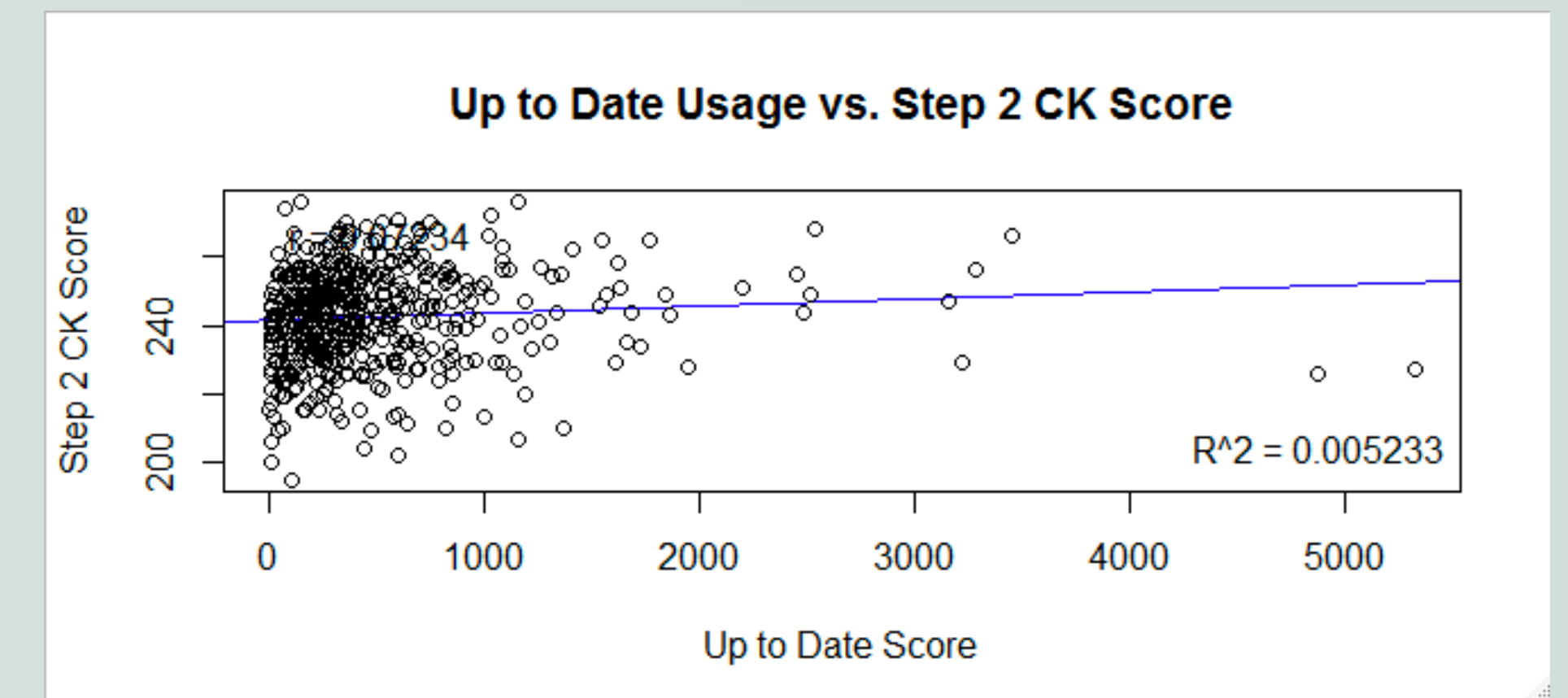
Relationship with UTD usage?



Step 2 CS Scores

Relationship with UTD usage?

PRELIMINARY RESULTS AND CONCLUSIONS



- Preliminary data suggests that UTD, although clinically useful, did not correlate with Step 2 CK score.
- Data is currently being correlated for other outcomes.
- Linear regression showed Step 1 score was a significant predictor ($p < 0.001$) of Step 2 CK and UTD usage was not.
- This 3-year period covers a time before and during a shift to make Step 2 CK more closely mirror the scenarios that students encounter on the wards.⁴⁻⁵
- This project and resulting investigations have the potential to lead to a better prepared future physician workforce – a benefit to medical educators and society more broadly.

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