



# Clickers in the Classroom and Beyond:

## Using Personal Response Systems to Improve Student Learning

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**What are clickers?**

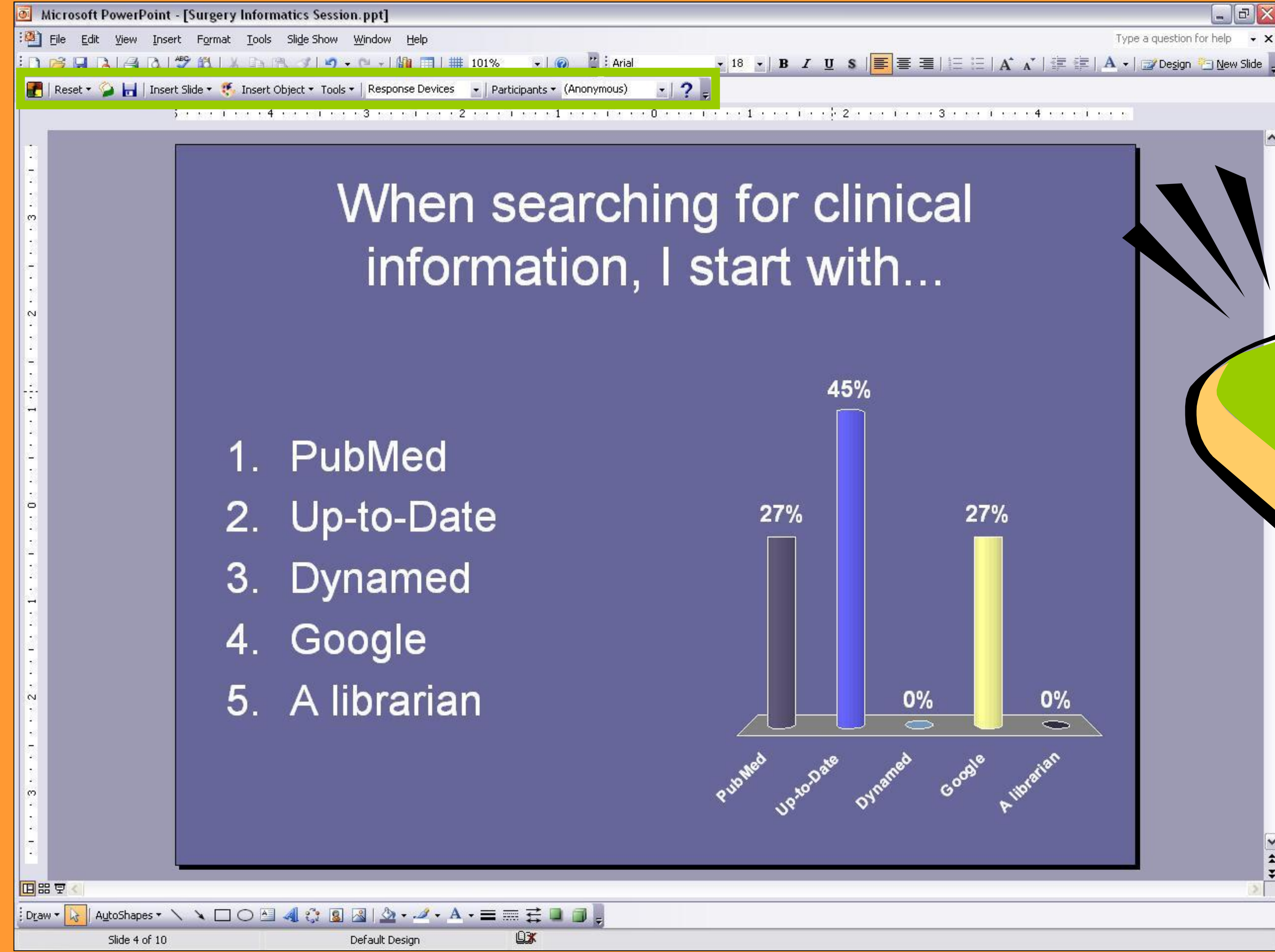
1. Audience response system
2. Allows instantaneous interactions between instructor and students
3. 3 components:
  - a. *clicker* (handheld transmitters) used by the students to send an answer or vote
  - b. *receiver* transfers responses to the instructor's computer
  - c. *software* on the instructor's laptop tabulates responses instantaneously in graph format

**Background**

1. Library received 21st Century Grant for Innovation, Service and Program Enrichment
2. Purchased 75 clickers
3. Taught library liaisons how to incorporate clickers into class presentations

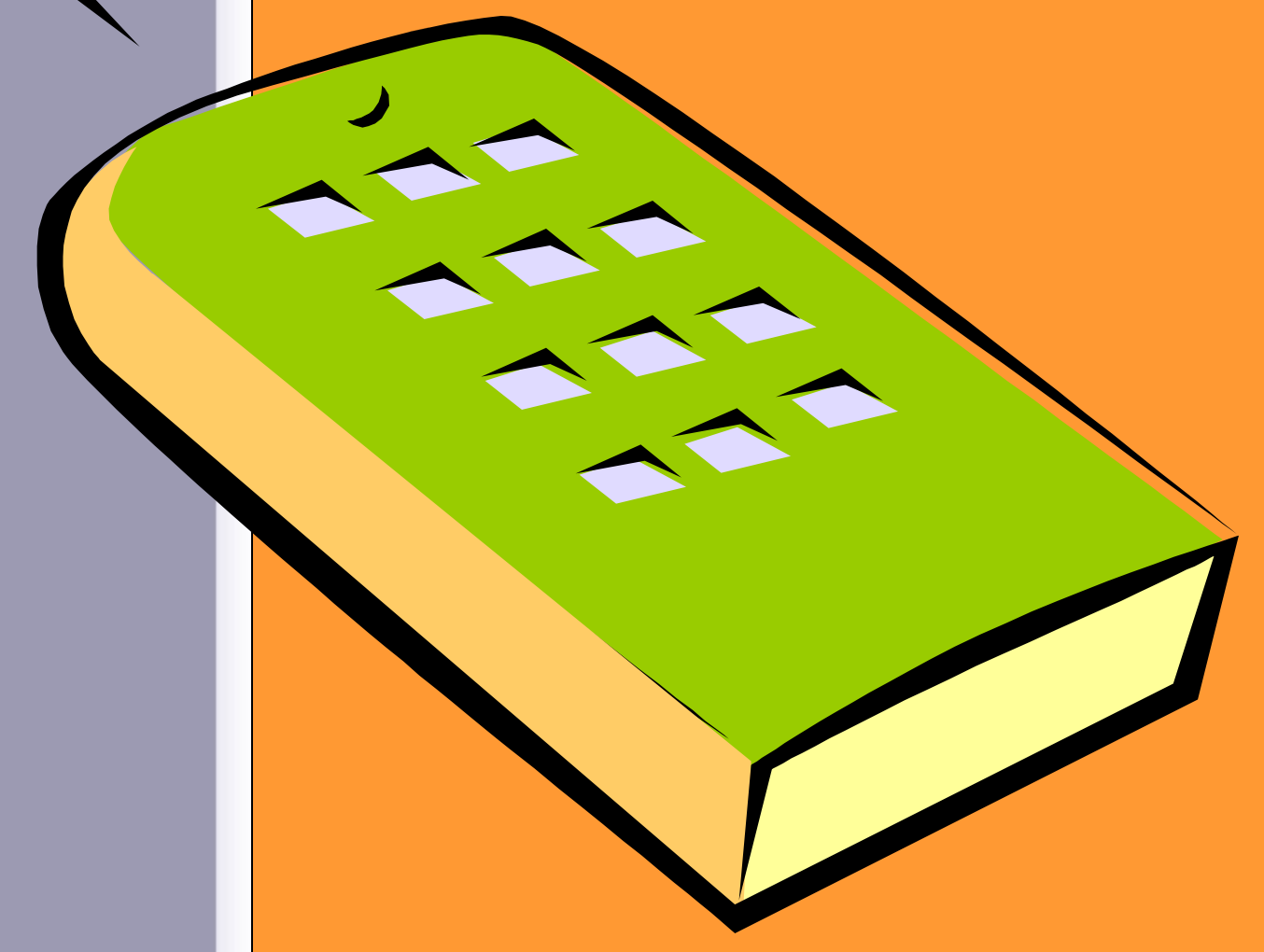
**How are clickers used?**

1. Incorporated into in-curriculum nursing classes with pre- and post-tests to assess student knowledge
2. Guest lectures in the Information School to engage students in lecture content
3. Pre-op library sessions for surgery residents to assess their searching skill levels
4. Transported out of the library, wherever we can tote our laptops to teach
5. Used for library staff development/education



**Results**

1. Provided real-time assessment for instructors on student knowledge and progress
2. Gave instant feedback for students
3. Successfully encouraged active engagement, attentiveness, and class participation in class content through anonymity
4. Provided information for the content of future classes



**Challenges**

1. Developing appropriate, thoughtful questions that allow students to apply their recently acquired knowledge
2. Increasing instructor flexibility in teaching style
3. Gaining familiarity with the software and equipment
4. Creating documentation to promote ease of use and consistency of practice