

On July 28 2008, Dr Smith read and rated an InfoPOEM on email entitled “*ABCD score predicts seven day stroke risk in patients with TIA*”. This InfoPOEM had the following types of cognitive impact: *learning, confirmation, reassurance and motivation to learn more.*

Then on December 11 2008, Dr Smith was working in the emergency department. In the presence of a trainee, and during a patient encounter, he searched for information on transient ischemic attack. The same InfoPOEM “*ABCD score predicts seven day stroke risk in patients with TIA*” was retrieved to address a clinical question, to look up something he forgot, and to share information with a patient and with other health professionals. “*I was [looking for that particular InfoPOEM] actually [...] I retrieved it while I was working in the emergency department [...] I was seeing a patient with TIA symptoms [...] I remember discussing it [the InfoPOEM] with a resident or a student[...]The reason for the search was to have good data to discuss the level of urgency with which the patient should be seen by a neurologist [...] It’s sometimes difficult to get them [neurologists] to see the patient “sur place”, immediately [...] So it was just to be well informed. It would give me some additional ammunition to have the neurologist come in and see the patient.*”

When evaluated in the search context, the InfoPOEM had the following types of cognitive impact: *recall, confirmation, and reassurance.* “*The information confirmed what I think... there is consensus in emergency practice literature that this is the right thing to do [...] [And] I had read the POEM before so I remembered it.*”

Dr Smith used this information to maintain and justify the management of the patient, a woman in her seventies. “*The neurologist saw the patient. The patient had a CT scan. The patient was put on medication and discharged for outpatient follow-up for other studies. But fairly expeditiously, so...investigations were done on short-order.*”

Finally, no patient health outcomes were associated with the application of this information. “*Had I not retrieved this POEM, things would have proceeded exactly as they had [...] [But] in another context, there might be a patient that was more borderline and maybe a neurologist who was less compliant where it might have made a difference, it might have [helped] to persuade the neurologist to see the patient.*”