OBJECTIVE
In August 2004, librarians at the Columbia University Augustus C. Long Health Sciences Library met with the faculty of the dental school to discuss creating a library toolkit for a Pathophysiology course for dental students. The objective was to create an online tool to teach dental students pathways leading to answers to clinical questions using carefully selected library tools and resources.

METHOD
The Toolkit is a set of html documents. The information is organized by resources and resource types, selected by librarians, on the subject of Pathophysiology. This poster features the central and most dynamic part of the Toolkit - the case studies component. Case studies and discussion questions have their own organization structure as shown on the right.

The librarians were provided with a syllabus that contained clinical case studies followed by a series of discussion questions. The case studies component was designed to guide students to the correct library resource(s) for answering the discussion questions. Elements of EBM (Evidence Based Medicine) were introduced to help students decide the type of question they were dealing with: background, foreground, therapy or diagnosis etc. To answer a specific ‘type’ of question, the students were shown how to develop efficient search strategies using the appropriate library resources.

The screens were presented with navigation and design elements that were consistent throughout. This made the user comfortable and familiar with the Toolkit environment. With ease, the user may view all the questions consecutively or randomly.

CONCLUSION
The EBM approach was not originally planned while creating the Library Toolkit. We found, however, that the components of EBM lent themselves naturally to incorporating cognitive approaches to the case discussion questions.

The Library Toolkit was integrated into the dental school curriculum and placed into Courseworks. It helped the faculty to incorporate more of the EBM components in teaching Pathophysiology to dental students.