Urology Podcasts and NotebookLM

BY IVO DUKIC

Podcasts, downloadable or streamable digital audio / video shows, have surged in popularity over the last five years due to the ubiquity of smartphones, high-speed mobile networks, and accessible content creation technology. They offer on-the-go access to expert discussions, clinical updates and educational content, often supplementing

and even surpassing traditional resources like textbooks and journals. This portable format is ideal for accessing content during commutes, between cases, or while exercising.

Medical podcasts tend to vary in structure and duration, with little evidence as to which types provide the optimal learning content. Learners favour engaging content (dialogues, anecdotes, humour) and high production quality (good audio, credible hosts / guests, and key summaries) for an enjoyable educational experience. However, 'pod fade' – content cessation, typically within six months – is common, making it frustratingly difficult for learners to find consistently active podcasts.

UK urology podcasts

Podcast name	Primary topics / exam focus	Target audience	Key features / notes
FRCS Urocast	FRCS(Urol) exam prep with expert guests from UK urology	Trainees (ST3+)	Hosted by Sophia Cashman and Hari Ratan
BJUI – BJU International	Journal content summary; author interviews	Journal readers; researchers; clinicians	Monthly updates; associated with BJUI journal
The Urology Docs Podcast	FRCS(Urol) exam prep and general urology with special expert guests from UK urology	Trainees; consultants	Hosted by David Bratt, Mithun Kailavasan and James Akman
TBBB Podcast	Hot topics in urology and surgery, aiming to capture both trainee, consultant, and wider multidisciplinary team (MDT) perspectives	Trainees; consultants; MDTs	Hosted by Samantha Conroy and Marcus Cumberbatch
BAUS Talks: Beyond the Cystoscope	UK urology practice; training; specialty associate specialist (SAS) issues; curriculum; return to work; expert interviews	Trainees; consultants; SAS doctors; medical students	Official BAUS podcast
FRCS Audio Notes (Tom Walton)	FRCS(Urol) exam prep	Trainees (ST3+)	Audio files hosted on BAUS website; donated by Tom Walton to BSoT

European urology podcasts

Podcast name	Primary topics / exam focus	Target audience	Key features / notes
EAU Podcasts	Full urology spectrum; EAU guidelines; diagnostics (prostate cancer); trials (kidney cancer); professional development	Urologists; trainees; healthcare professionals	Official EAU/ESU podcast; weekly updates; 150+ episodes
Eur Urol Podcast	Monthly podcast covering latest highlights of the European Urology Journal	Urologists; trainees; healthcare professionals	Hosted by Nikita Bhatt and Declan Murphy; monthly
Endourology Sound Bites	Journal of Endourology key papers	Urologists; endourologists	Various hosts; monthly podcasts

American urology podcasts

Podcast name	Primary topics / exam focus	Target audience	Key features / notes
AUAUniversity Podcast	Clinical topics; AUA guidelines; surgical techniques; subspecialty updates (oncology, andrology, stones, etc.)	Urologists; trainees; advanced practice providers (AAPs)	Official AUA clinical podcast; frequent updates; 300+ episodes
AUA Inside Tract / AUANews Inside Tract	Advocacy; policy; practice management; diversity, equity, and inclusion (DEI); leadership; finance; resident issues; humanitarian work	Broad AUA membership (urologists, trainees, APPs); researchers; medical students	Official AUA professional issues podcast; regular updates
BackTable Urology	Practical surgical approaches; benign prostatic hyperplasia technology; stones; oncology; andrology	Practising urologists	Independent; high production quality; focus on 'how to' from leading surgeons
Urology Care Podcast	Patient education; wide range of conditions (cancers, stones, erectile dysfunction, overactive bladder, BPH, urinary tract infection); treatments; lifestyle; myths	Patients; caregivers; general public; medical students; junior trainees (basics)	Official Urology Care Foundation (AUA) podcast; frequent updates

DIGITAL REVIEW

Urology Times Podcasts (Speaking of Urol / P&P)	News; conference highlights (AUA, ASCO GU); guideline updates; expert interviews (non-muscle invasive bladder cancer, prostate cancer, benign prostatic hyperplasia, erectile dysfunction)	Urologists; healthcare professionals	From Urology Times publication; Regular updates
Uromigos	GU cancer podcast	Urologists; healthcare professionals	Various hosts, started by Tom Powles and Brian Rini; weekly
Rod Squad: The Urology Podcast for Students	Urology for students	Medical students	Medical students; Parker Adams

Rest of the world urology podcasts

Podcast name	Primary topics / exam focus	Target audience	Key features / notes
GU Cast \ Urology Podcast	Genitourinary oncology	Consultant urologists; oncologists	Hosted by Declan Murphy and Renu Eapen
Talking Urology Podcast	General urology, key landmark papers	Urologists	Hosted by Joseph Ischia and Nathan Lawrentschuk

NotebookLM

The latest addition to portable learning is Google's NotebookLM, an innovative Al-powered research and writing assistant. At its core, NotebookLM acts as a 'virtual research assistant' that grounds its intelligence in your own uploaded content. You can upload content by feeding it any article as a PDF, Google Doc, audio file (MP3), or simply by pasting text. Once the document is uploaded, NotebookLM can then:

- Create 'audio overviews': NotebookLM can transform your uploaded documents into engaging, podcast-style audio summaries with two AI hosts. Currently, this feature is limited to female and male voices with American accents.
- Summarise complex documents.
- Visualise connections with mind maps: NotebookLM can generate mind maps to visually understand relationships between concepts and data points within uploaded content.

- Answer specific questions with citations: directly linking to the exact passages from your uploaded sources. This 'source-grounding' dramatically reduces the risk of AI 'hallucinations' and ensures factual accuracy.
- Generate new content and ideas, e.g., an outline for a presentation on advancements in urinary incontinence treatments. NotebookLM can help brainstorm ideas and generate structured content based on uploaded materials.

Podcasts are a powerful tool for continuing professional development. NotebookLM is an interesting addition to this landscape, allowing users to create on-the-go audio summaries in a podcast format from key papers or guidelines. As the podcast and AI landscape evolves, more UK-specific resources will emerge, including more software and hardware tools that are already making sound editing and recording easier.

⁶⁶ Learners favour engaging content and high production quality⁹⁹

SECTION EDITOR AND AUTHOR



Ivo Dukic, Consultant Urological Surgeon, University Hospitals Birmingham NHS Foundation Trust. ivodukic@nhs.net @urolsurg