I want to get involved in a Twitter Chat...but how?  
A Guide Prepared for ACP National Internal Medicine Day Twitter Chat  
October 28, 2019 at 8-9PM EST

Joining Twitter Chats are an easy, low-stakes way to meet and get to know internists from all over the globe, potentially leading to friendships, collaborations, and projects (including publications)!

**Step #1:** Follow the account for the Twitter Chat you want to get involved in – in this case @ACPInternists, as well as any accounts they are tagging in their tweets as co-hosts or contributors who will be likely to post during the chat. Take note of the hashtags that are used in their tweets promoting the chat, as these are likely to be used during the chat (example: #NIMdaychat, #ACPCECP (Council for Early Career Physicians), #ACPCRFM (Council for Resident/Fellow Members), #ACPCSM (Council for Medical Students)).

**Step #2:** Get used to using Twitter on your computer rather than your mobile device (cell phone, iPad), as it is more user-friendly on a computer. A great example of how to manage multiple hashtags and following accounts is using an app like TweetDeck: [https://tweetdeck.twitter.com/](https://tweetdeck.twitter.com/)

For step-by-step guidance on TweetDeck usage, check out this tutorial: [https://www.wikihow.com/Use-TweetDeck#Managing-Your-Columns_sub](https://www.wikihow.com/Use-TweetDeck#Managing-Your-Columns_sub)
**Step #3:** On the day of, jump right in!

- It can be helpful to post a “high volume warning” so your followers know you will be joining a chat and may encourage some of your followers to join in!
- Introduce yourself when the host sends the introductory tweet with some information about yourself so others know a bit about you.
- Make sure to include the hashtag in all of your tweets and tag the host to remain connected to the initial chat!
- Most introductory tweets will guide how the chat will go – for example “We will label questions Q1..., Q2..., etc., please label your replies A1..., A2..., etc.”
- If you notice bots or trolls joining in on the conversation but not in a meaningful way, try your best to ignore them – engaging them is what they want and feeds into their negative attitude.
- If you get behind or get distracted, don’t worry! These chats are meant to be interactive and flow as such – duck in and out as you can!
- Feel free to use GIFs as responses – they are quick emotive ways to join in and respond to others thoughts!

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References:
https://twitter.com/MedStudentChat/status/1113479811995979776