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Attitude and Practices Among Health Science Students Towards e-Learning: An Observational Study

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Aim:

to analyse the experiences and awareness among the undergraduate students towards E-Learning during COVID-19 pandemic and to evaluate the attitude and practices towards the online learning among them.

Background:

The COVID-19 Pandemic has created a lot of havoc in the history of mankind. Implementation of social distancing has forced many countries to go into complete lockdown and also led to a halt in the ongoing academic sessions of schools and colleges. E-Learning has proved to be really helpful in terms of not halting the speed of education and maintaining the continuity. There are a few challenges that every student is facing with this sudden transition of methodology in learning.

Hence the present study was conducted with the aim to analyze the experiences and awareness among the undergraduate students towards E-Learning during COVID-19 pandemic and to evaluate the attitude and practices towards the online learning among them.

Methods:

A National Cross sectional and Observational study was conducted among 1110 undergraduate students (1st to final years of different health sciences institutes in India) at Dr DY Patil, School Of Medicine, Navi Mumbai in the Pharmacology Department. Data was collected using a pre validated, self-administered questionnaire. Descriptive Statistics was used to analyze the data.

Results:

A total of 1110 undergraduate students from 17 different health sciences institutes in India had participated in this study.

- 83.15% students suggested that a prior training of the faculty with the use of technology would improve the session.
- 64.77% students faced difficulty in understanding through online medium.
- 77.93% students prefer classroom teaching over Live Online Lectures and
- 61.62% would like to resume with classroom teaching post the pandemic.

Conclusions:

In the present study we have concluded that even though E Learning has helped us and is the need of the hour, it cannot replace the traditional classroom learning as well as practical aspects of bed side teaching.

Conflict of Interests/Comments: Nothing to declare.