

Attitude of Nursing Teachers Towards E-Learning

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ABSTRACT

E- Learning is developed from the information technology. The teachers are definitely needed to use information technology in the teaching learning process. The researcher tried out to assess the nursing teacher's attitude about e learning by doing an online survey for 30 patients. The data revealed that the teachers although are teaching using books and notes, are also blending the teaching using e learning. Teachers find it more convenient and user friendly to use computers for preparing lessons and also it is time saving. The majority of the teaches are in the age group of 35 to 45 years are this generation teachers are the digital emigrants who are interested in using technology in teaching learning process.

Keywords: Attitude, nursing teachers, E-Learning.

INTRODUCTION

E learning term means use of computers in teaching learning process. E learning includes various methods in teaching learning process, some examples include using Emails, blogs, text chats, Wi-Fi, animation, google forms, computer aided evaluation, simulation, games, learning management systems, discussion boards, websites, software's, etc. can be used as various methods to involve E learning in teaching learning process.

The word E learning must be little bit fearing for the teachers who lack confidence in use of computers for teaching learning process. Whether or not to use E learning in teaching learning process might be a dilemma for the teachers who are not trained in using so or who are not exposed to computers much.

E- Learning plays an important role in engaging the students in the educational course. Teachers in the current scenario are using E-learning. Looking at the current scenario it has become mandatory to use E learning to keep in par with the changes in the education field.

E learning enhances the teacher's role as a mentor. It is very important tool to engage the students in teaching learning process. The students nowadays are very much technology friendly. They are continuously engaged in E learning. Therefore the teachers too have to keep themselves upgraded related to E learning.

NEED AND IMPORTANCE OF THE STUDY

The teachers when they use E learning are they really interested in using it or they are using it without any option. In order to study this the researcher thought of assessing the attitude of nursing teachers about the E-Learning in teaching learning process. Nowadays the technology is provided in all the teaching institutes. It's the teachers need and initiative to get involved in E learning. The important point which needs to be highlighted in this research is that nowadays the teachers who are teaching are in the age group of 30 – 45 years who are introduced to the technology and methods of E learning. But the teachers who are above this age group are bit reluctant to involve E learning in their teaching learning process. The technology was not that advanced in that era.

Teacher's attitude in using E learning depends on their attitude to use computers in a sustained manner.

In order to study this the researcher wants to find out whether these teachers are also taking initiative to involve in E learning willingly or are they forcefully involved in it.

REVIEW OF LITERATURE

1 The effectiveness of teaching learning process depends on suitable technological tools. It can include both hardware and software. Preferences or choice of the learners also plays an important role in enhancing teaching learning process. Teacher plays dual role it can be as a developer of the e learning content or can

also be as an implementer of the E learning content. Teachers also needs to be competent enough to implement the E learning process. (4)

2 A study done in Tanzania shows that the teachers have a positive attitude towards E learning. The teachers needs to be exposed to E learning in order to implement this in their teaching learning process. This study also focus that teachers needs to be encouraged towards E learning process. (5)

3 A study done by S. Mohummad states that, E learning increases the academic and employability skills of the learners. This study results showed that majority i.e. 2/3rd of the faculty have a positive attitude towards E learning. (6)

From the above studies it is evident that E learning is the need of the hour and many teachers are definitely trying to implement this E learning in their teaching learning process. The management and the higher authorities need to encourage the teachers to implement E learning in teaching learning process and also make the necessary arrangements related to technology in order to implement the E learning in the teaching process.

Statement: Attitude of nursing teachers towards E-Learning.

OBJECTIVES

1. To assess the attitude of nursing teachers towards e learning.
2. To analyze the role of age on attitude of teachers towards e learning.

ASSUMPTIONS

1. The attitude of the nursing teachers may vary from individual to individual.
2. The age of the nursing teachers may have impact on the attitude of nursing teachers towards e learning.

Research Approach: Quantitative approach is used in this study.

Research Methodology: Survey method was used for data collection in this study.

Setting: Selected colleges of Nursing affiliated to Maharashtra University of Health Sciences.

Population: The population in this study **included** nursing teachers who are working in the colleges of nursing affiliated to Maharashtra University of Health Sciences.

Sample: The sample in this study included nursing teachers who are working in the selected colleges of nursing affiliated to Maharashtra University of Health Sciences and who fulfill the inclusion criteria.

Sample Size: 30

Sampling Technique: Non Probability Convenience Sampling was used in the study.

Criteria for sample selection:

INCLUSION CRITERIA

1. Willing to participate in the study.
2. Able to access the survey form via internet.

Tool: 4 point Likert scale was used in this study.

Technique: Self reporting technique was used in this for collecting the data from the samples. As the tool was administered online to the participants.

Plan for data Analysis: Descriptive: frequency and percentage will be used in analyzing the data statistically.

DATA COLLECTION

The instrument in this study was an online survey that was used to gather data from 30 participants, from within the different nursing colleges affiliated to Maharashtra University of Health Sciences.

Ethical considerations were followed by taking Participants consent through emails and what's app and accordingly the link of the tool was forwarded to them. The participants completed this 10 min survey and submitted to the Researcher online itself. The study was conducted in a manner that protected the confidentiality of the participants. Survey items were developed based on an extensive literature review. The study gathered quantitative data to answer the research questions.

Tool

This study is carried out to explore the nursing teacher's attitude towards E-learning. The tool used for data collection was 4 point Likert scale. It included statements and options as strongly agree, agree, disagree and strongly disagree. The respondents had to tick on any one option which they felt according to them was most appropriate. The total number of statements were 18. The statements were both positively and negatively stated in order to maintain uniformity. The scores of the items were summed up and the percentages of the scores were calculated and accordingly a table was prepared to display it.

DATA ANALYSIS

TABLE-1
N = 30

Sr. No.	Statement	SD %	D %	A %	SA %
1.	E – Learning is very economical for educational institutions to adopt.	5	15	65	15
2.	I believe using e learning will improve the quality of my work.	10	20	18	52
3.	Computers make work more interesting	14	12	26	48
4.	I prefer reading articles in e learning	25	35	22	18
5.	It is easy to revise electronic educational material than printed material	12	20	16	52
6.	I prefer using a computer to prepare my lessons.	7	13	65	15
7.	I feel uncomfortable reading a text book on a computer screen than a physical textbook.	6	14	45	35
8.	I enjoy teaching using computers	7	3	70	20
9.	Delivering a lecture through electronic technologies is very difficult.	23	64	8	5
10.	E learning requires expensive technical support	6	8	52	34
11.	E learning reduces the quality of knowledge attained.	82	15	1	2
12.	Interacting with the computer system is often frustrating.	72	15	6	7
13.	A face to face method is more learner centered than E learning methods.	11	42	34	13
14.	I believe using E learning technologies will improve my job performance	4	3	68	25
15.	Communicating through social networks is fun	1	3	76	20
16.	I like reading magazines on new technology inventions	20	24	35	21
17.	Teaching through E learning is tiresome	56	23	11	10
18.	E learning increases learner's social isolation.	24	32	21	23

From the above table it is clear that 65 % of the teachers believe that E – Learning is very economical for educational institutions to adopt, which is the positive attitude towards e learning.

From the demographic variables i.e. Age maximum number of the nursing teachers were from the age group of 35- 45 years. The inclination of this generation teachers was seen more towards e learning as these teachers are digital emigrants.

When asked whether E learning will improve the quality of work, 52% strongly agreed to this point. 48 % of the teachers thought that computers make the work more interesting. Almost equal number of teachers agreed to the fact that they prefer reading articles in E learning. 52% of the teachers said that it is easy to revise electronic educational material than printed material. Majority i.e. 65 % of the teachers agreed that they prefer computers for preparing lessons. I feel uncomfortable reading a text book on a computer screen

than a physical textbook, when asked about this highest number of teachers agreed and strongly agreed to this fact.

Highest number of teachers i.e. 70 % said that they enjoy teaching using computers. 64 % of the teachers opted that delivering a lecture through electronic technologies is very difficult. Highest number i.e. 52 % of the teachers agreed that e learning requires highest technical support. Maximum number of the teacher's i.e. 52 % believe that E learning reduces the quality of knowledge attained. E learning reduces the quality of knowledge attained when asked this statement 82 % of the teachers strongly denied this. 72 % also strongly disagreed to the statement that Interacting with the computer system is often frustrating. A face to face method is more learner centered than E learning methods, to this statement there is almost equal agreement and disagreement within the nursing teachers.

Maximum i.e. 68% believe that using E learning technologies will improve my job performance. 76% opted that yes communicating through social networking is fun. There was almost equal agreement and disagreement to the statement that, I like reading magazines on new technology inventions. Highest i.e. 56 % opted that teaching through E learning is tiresome. There was almost equal agreement and disagreement to the statement that E learning increases learner's social isolation.

DISCUSSION

The results of the study have shown a positive attitude of the nursing teachers towards E learning. Majority of the teachers who are in the age group of 30 plus accepted the fact that E learning is a better means of communicating with their students and keep them engaged. E learning also improves the confidence level of the teachers whenever they are dealing in the class room. The barriers of E learning are similar to the study done by **Pajo and Wallace (2001)** which states that improper technical support is the major shortcoming in implementation of E learning in the teaching learning process.(7)

The study also highlights that using computer for E learning is a fun and it is easy to prepare lessons through E learning and also E learning offers flexibility in teaching learning process, teachers strongly agree that it is easy to prepare lectures using computers. This study is supported by **Suri & Sharma, (2013)**. (8)

CONCLUSION

From the above data it is clear that, the nursing teachers are majority in favor of using e learning for teaching learning process. Teachers are also ready to take initiative in using e learning as the tool in teaching learning process. Teachers portrayed a mixed opinion towards e-learning. Thus this research can further be taken up to study the attitude of teachers towards e-learning.

The above study proves that implementation of E learning in the teaching learning process is going to benefit the society and the institution in long run. It is going to make the teachers more self-sufficient and skillful in handling the students who are more technology friendly and are more comfortable with technology use.

The study shows that positive attitude of the teachers is an positive step towards progress and also towards future growth of the nursing field as the more technology is used, the more it will help in speeding up the growth along with increasing the accuracy in nursing education field.

RECOMMENDATIONS

Similar studies can be undertaken with larger number of the samples. All teaching staffs needs to be motivated in the use of E learning technology in teaching learning process. Universities and institutions should monitor the E learning process and its use in the institution. The availability of technical staff need to be arranged in order to solve the difficulties encountered in use of E learning in teaching learning.

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