

The students' perspectives of the new Information Technology programme for the new entrants of the Faculty of Medicine and Allied Sciences, Rajarata University of Sri Lanka

Dr. H.K. Wijayarathne

Faculty of Medicine and Allied Sciences, University of Rajarata, Sri Lanka.

Dr. V.R. Walpola

Faculty of Medicine and Allied Sciences, University of Rajarata, Sri Lanka.

Dr. A.M.P. Mahamithawa

Faculty of Medicine and Allied Sciences, University of Rajarata, Sri Lanka.

Dr. D.P.D.G.D.S. Bandara

Faculty of Medicine and Allied Sciences, University of Rajarata, Sri Lanka.

Dr. B.T.B. Wijerathne

Faculty of Medicine and Allied Sciences, University of Rajarata, Sri Lanka.

Contact e-mail address: kalumwijaya@gmail.com

eHealth Sri Lanka 2010,1(suppl.1):S18

DOI: <http://dx.doi.org/10.4038/sljbmi.v1i0.3557>

Only the Abstract is available

Abstract

Background Information Technology (IT) is about to make a massive move into medical practice, not only in selected areas of 'high-tech' medicine, but throughout the field.¹ Taken together with the experience from classroom teaching, optional teaching of basic IT still needs to be integrated into medical studies. Therefore, the medical students must have a certain level of IT awareness to build a successful medical carrier.

Method: An IT course was designed for the new entrants to the Faculty of Medicine and Allied Sciences, Rajarata University of Sri Lanka to be followed during their orientation programme from November 2009 to February 2010.

After following the course, a feedback was taken from new entrants; individually using a validated questionnaire.

Results: 94.9 % of students agreed that the contents of lectures and discussions were useful and 67.54% out of it, strongly agreed. 93.6% of the total have found the language used in teaching is easy to understand but 55% of them did not strongly agreed. 47.7% of the students have felt that the time allocation for modules was sufficient but 30.9% needs more time. 78.5% of the total concluded as a well organised programme but 59.4% out of them needs it to be improved. 87.7% have found the teaching sessions interesting.

Conclusion: The majority of students have felt that the course was well organised and have used a simple language and ultimately the teaching sessions have become interesting. The contents of the course were highly useful and they wanted the time allocated for the overall course to be increased.

Reference: 1. Thomas Berlage. Information Technology in Medicine. ERCIM News [document on the Internet]; April 1997. Available from: http://www.ercim.eu/publication/Ercim_News/enw29/intro.html.

Keywords - language used in teaching, simple language, IT awareness