

ONLINE SKILLS TRAINING FOR HEALTHCARE PROVIDERS: DREAM OR REALITY?

Background

Research shows that combining online and face-to-face learning provides an improvement in effective learning and establishing strong learning outcomes.

The shift from traditional to online and blended learning in lifelong health care education has gained momentum, raising questions about the effectiveness of these methods for training practical skills. [1,2,3,4]

Aim(s)

This study aims to create an exemplary e-learning module for healthcare providers, followed a manual and checklist on how to create an online skills training for healthcare providers so that they get the tools to get started.

Methods

To address this, a rapid literature review was conducted to explore the viability of online and blended education for teaching practical skills. Additionally, expert interviews (n=10) were conducted to gather insights into the strengths, concerns, and needs of current education activities, while focus group interviews with healthcare providers (n=13) collected their experiences with existing training and onboarding activities.

Drawing from the findings of the literature review and interviews, a manual, checklist, and e-learning module were developed. The e-learning module focused on ergonomics and was created as a best practice example. To assess its effectiveness, healthcare providers (n=7) tested the module using the Thinking Aloud method.

Results

The results of this study include the development of a comprehensive manual and checklist for creating e-learning, based on the literature review and expert interviews. Furthermore, an ergonomics e-learning module was developed as a practical demonstration. Incorporating feedback from healthcare providers, the e-learning module will be refined and utilized as a preparatory tool for training practical skills in healthcare.

Discussion

The discussion highlights the success of online skills training within a blended learning approach. However, further testing and refinements are required to assess the effectiveness of the developed manual, checklist, and e-learning module.

Implications and future perspectives

This study has important implications for the healthcare field. Implementing the manual and checklist for online skills training and evaluating their effectiveness is a first future perspective to explore. Additionally, the e-learning module on ergonomics can be implemented and assessed using learning analytics to provide insights for future improvements.

References

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