



A comparative study to assess the perception towards online and offline learning during COVID-19 pandemic among 4th year BSC nursing students

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Abstract

Introduction: In March 2020 COVID-19 is declared as the Global pandemic and it has affected all lives, process, and system adversely. Pandemic has created lot of changes in all sectors. This is especially true in case of educational system due to advancement of technology. Many changes have taken place in educational system or sector. The concept E-learning was introduced but not been made as compulsion but due to the pandemic. The colleges and schools were shut down and there was no possibility to conduct offline classes.

Objectives: To assess the perception towards the online classes during COVID-19 pandemic among nursing students. To assess the perception towards the offline classes during COVID-19 pandemic. among nursing students.

Methodology: A comparative approach was used in this study. This study was conducted in selected nursing at Mangalore. 60 samples were selected by simple random sampling technique. Data was collected by a rating scale and analyzed using comparative statistics.

Results: The finding of the study concluded that online learning during COVID-19 pandemic, the academic life of the students was affected negatively. There was a significant association found between online and offline learning during academic life of nursing students with selected online learning characteristics like computer skills and offline characteristic like discipline, time spent for learning etc.

Conclusion: Finding of the study showed that the perception of 4th year BSc Nursing students was average perception towards online and high perception towards offline learning. Hence it can be concluded that most of the students have positive perception towards offline learning and negative perception towards online learning.

Keywords: Offline learning, COVID-19, nursing students

Introduction

Corona virus disease 2019 (COVID-19) is a highly infectious disease and was declared as a pandemic on 11 March 2020 by WHO. Lockdown has been one of the strategies to slow down the spread of infection [1]. On the evening of 24 March 2020, the Government of India ordered a Nation-wide lockdown for 21 days limiting movement of the entire 1.38 billion population of India as a preventive measure against the COVID-19 pandemic in India [2]. After the ease of Nation-wide closure, the Central Government of India authorized local authorities to impose lockdowns within the jurisdictions as appropriate Preventive measures of social distancing, use of face masks, and self-isolation prompted the closure of the Educational Institutions. Worldwide 1.54 billion children and youth enrolled in schools and universities where affected [1].

Traditional educational or face-to-face classroom also have many qualities. Students are required to attend the class, learn the material, submit assignment etc. Traditionally, classroom instruction is known to be teacher centred and requires passive learning by the student [3]. The teacher lectures and comments, while students often take notes and ask questions. Offline education system offers formal learning through classroom based studies where lessons are taught in a sequential manner along with the periodic assessment by qualified teachers. There is also a human touch associated with offline education where learning is not only confined to the walls of classroom but also to the human interaction that occurs at canteens, library etc [4].

Online education, an outcome of the digital world has taught us many things at all the levels of education. The Institution each time considered online educational apps or digital learning as a supplemental tool and also they had difficulty in mainstreaming it, due to non-understanding of its efficiency. However, the existing situation boost up us for implementation of technology, testing with online learning and measures its success [5]. Online education could be a consistent solution to accommodate this problem. The Government of India, for the first time, is allowing Indian Universities to offer online degrees which previously were limited to foreign universities. Education is going to be digital in the foreseeable future and with the right infrastructure and policies in place, we would be better prepared to handle it [6].

Objectives of the study

- To assess the perception towards the online classes during COVID-19 pandemic among nursing students.
- To assess the perception towards the offline classes during COVID-19 pandemic. among nursing students

Methodology

A comparative non experimental survey approach, comparative research design was adopted for the study. 60 Fourth year b.sc nursing students were randomly selected for the study. Rating scale consisted of 15 online and 15 offline items. The resulting score was categorized as low perception (0-15), moderate perception (16-30), high

perception (31-45). Permission was obtained from concerned authorities and informed consent was obtained for data collection.

Results

Table 1: Perception towards online and offline classes. n=60

Grading of perception	Online		Offline	
	Frequency	Percentage	Frequency	Percentage
Low (0-15)	0	0	0	0
Moderate (16-30)	39	65	09	15
High (31-45)	21	35	56	85

It is evident from table-1, that 85% of students have high perception towards offline learning and 35% students have high perception towards online learning. 15% students have moderate perception towards offline learning and 65% have moderate perception towards online learning.

Table 2: Mean, Standard deviation, Karl Pearson’s coefficient.

	Mean	SD	r
Online	28.12	4.03	1
Offline	34.25	3.69	-0.40

It is evident from table – 2, that mean value of online learning is 28. 12 and that of offline is 34 25. The standard deviation of online and offline learning are 4.03 and 3.69 respectively. The Karl

Discussion

The finding of the study concluded that online learning during COVID-19 pandemic affected the academic life of the students negatively. There was a significant association found between online and offline learning during academic life of nursing students with selected online learning characteristics like computer skills and offline characteristic like discipline, time spent for learning etc.

A comparative study was conducted in Kashmir, to assess the effectiveness of online and offline learning among higher education students. The method of data collection was online survey method via Google. Among 550 higher education students, 41.3% believe that online learning saves time and 3.3% respondents prefer online learning during the current situation of COVID-19 pandemic.

Major findings of the study showed that 53.3 % students managed study time effectively in online learning, 65% students felt comfortable to deal electronically, 70% felt that online learning was less expensive, 71.67% students felt difficulty in monitoring evaluation process, 81.66% felt very difficult to complete practical work, 65% felt on line learning is barrier for interaction with patients.

93.33%, students felt that offline classes are interactive, majority of the students agreed that offline classes made them to maintain discipline and punctuality i.e 95% and 83.33% students felt that offline education consumes more time and energy.

Conclusion

Finding of the study showed that the perception of 4th year BSc Nursing students was average towards online and high perception towards offline learning. Hence findings of the study proved that offline learning was more effective than online learning.

Conflicts of interest

None

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