Implementation of Health Informatics in Medical Education

Rao T V [1], Beena P M[2]

[1]Professor, [2] Professor and Head Department of Microbiology

Sri Dev Raj Urs Academy of Higher Education & Research Tamaka, Kolar 563 101, Karnataka

Sir,

"Health Informatics" is the constituent of Information and Communication Technology, the field that concerns itself with the cognitive, information processing and communication tasks of medical practice, education, and research, including the information science and the technology to support these tasks. It is an intrinsically interdisciplinary field, with a highly applied focus, but it also addresses a number of fundamental research problems as well as planning and policy issues. Academic units of medical informatics are being established with basis of Information and Communication Technology at a number of Medical Colleges and Institutions. Medical informatics professionals are being sought to serve as faculties and hospital staff, and medical informatics is emerging as a distinct academic entity.

Information and communication technology is comprised of computers, networks, satellite communications, robotics, videotext, cable television, electronic mail ("e-mail"), and automated office equipment. Developments in information and communication technologies (ICT) have resulted in an increasing use of these technologies in the practice of medicine and in the provision of medical care. The gap between the developed and the developing world that exists in information and communication services is also present in a rather dramatic fashion in the health sector. Our health sector is about fifteen years behind other sectors in application of information and communication technologies. Computers are becoming increasingly affordable, more powerful as information-processing tools as well as easier to use.

*Author Correspondence:
Dr. RaoT.V, Sri Dev Raj Urs Academy of Higher Eucation & Research, Tamaka, Kolar 563 101, Karnatak
E-mail: doctortvrao@gmail.com

The rapid emergence of the information and communication technology (ICT) sector has placed India on the global stage during the last one and a half decades, even competing with Developed Nations.

As we have to use information and communication technologies (ICT) in education but how to implement, and to ensure equitable access for teachers and learners. Computers are increasingly used in medical education. Electronic learning (e-learning) is moving from textbooks in electronic format (that are increasingly enhanced by the use of multimedia adjuncts) to a truly interactive medium that can be delivered to meet the educational needs of students and postgraduate learners, using the newer technologies.

- the students can communicate anywhere, any time

- the students can contact the teacher anywhere, any time

- the students can collect and exchange information anywhere, any time

- ICT gives access to knowledge

- in principle the students can draw on a global pool of knowledge

- ICT makes saving, and sharing, knowledge easier

- the students can, individually and/or together create records of notes and presentations (portfolio) and thus register their progress and use it for examinations.

- Several studies proved that empowering students with resources from ICT makes Learning for Life'

- Awareness of learning strategies

- Acting responsibly in improving the personal and professional standards

- Adopting to increasingly globalized world

- Communication of knowledge across geographical and cultural borders makes the strengths of ours to global population.

- Formulating his/her own goals for the learning process

- Controlling the personal learning process

- Finding relevant information

- Organizing and formulating knowledge on their own

- Production of knowledge rather than just re-production.

To achieve this

All the Medical students and Faculty should be trained in the following topics with necessary lectures and Demonstrations on

1. Computer and power of computers in the science and medicine

2. Use of Internet, Modern methods in Internet search

3. Information and communication technology for Medical professionals

4. Retrieval of Medical information

5. e-learning in Medicine

6. Podcasting and Video casting in Medicine

7. Contributing and sharing our knowledge on **www.**

Information and Communication Technologies have become an essential part of modern healthcare delivery system to gain greater efficiency, overall health care and patient safety, as per the research analysis, the implementation of interoperable health IT improves individual patient care and results effectively in public health benefits including early detection of infectious disease, out brakes around the country. India is going for rapid expansion of Medical Colleges and Institutions, Our teachers have to adapt to newer methods of training and teaching the students or else it is difficult to cope up with the speed of changes taking place in every branch of Medicine. Medical informatics certainly helps to fill the gaps in teaching methods Training our Medicos in ICT will change the perceptions of Health care and Delivery system. Are we teachers prepared for a change?

Life in itself is short enough,
but the physicians with their art,
know to their amusement how to make it still short

Roger Bacon