

Sri Lanka Medical Association

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"Moving from Millennium Development Goals to Sustainable Developments Goals"

Method

A web-based application which supports capturing of cancer registry data electronically was developed and implemented replacing the paper based system. The basic software infrastructure was developed using Free and Open Source Software with a two-tier client-server system architecture.

Results

The system is able to capture cancer registry data from 18 Oncology, and oncological surgery units, 67 Histopathology and Haematology laboratories, 25 Oral and maxillofacial units, 15 government hospitals with specialist care, and well woman clinics, 05 private sector hospitals and pathology laboratories, and 42 death registrar offices in Colombo district.

Conclusions

The system ensures timely availability of information that is needed for better improvement in cancer surveillance. This information will help monitor cancer trends over time, identify cancer pattern in various populations, allocating health services, clinical, epidemiological, and health service research.

PP127

ICT literacy among new medical entrants

<u>Dasanayaka IPEU¹</u>, Bandara MRPM¹, Hettige S¹, Ediriweera EPDS¹

¹Faculty of Medicine, University of Kelaniya

Introduction and objectives

The ICT literacy has become a fundamental cornerstone of modern education, learning and health care delivery.

This study aimed to evaluate the prior exposure on Internet, Email, Microsoft Office package, Social Networking (SN), Internet telephony (IT) and Cloud Storage Services (CSS) among new entrants to Faculty of Medicine, University of Kelaniya.

Method

Moodle based self-administered questionnaire was given to new entrants during the orientation program.

Results

The results are described according to the 2015 (n=159) and 2016 (n=147) batches respectively.

99% had accessed Internet previously (n=157 and n=146, P=0.6). Those who surfed Internet daily were 42% (n=53, n=74, P<0.01)95% had email accounts (n=146, and n=144, P=0.02). 13% accessed emails daily (n=21 and n=19, P=0.94). 57% used CSS (n=82, n=92, P=0.05) and 94% had been SN (n=149, n=135, P= 0.53) and 62% used IT (n=99 n=99, P= 0.35). 98% had used MS WORD (n=156, n=143, P=0.63), 82% had used MS **FXCFI** (n=130,n=132,P=0.05) and 96% had used PPT (n=153,n=137,P=0.23) before entering to the University. There was no significant difference between usage of WORD and PPT (P=0.06) but significantly lower usage of EXCEL compared to WORD (P<0.01) and PPT (P=0.01)

Conclusions

Majority of students had used internet and internet based services including email, CSS, SN, IT. Their exposure to MS office package was satisfactory. Daily Internet browsing and utilizing email were significantly (p<0.01 for each batch) lower in comparison to the number utilizing the services. CSS and IT we e not popular when compared to other services.

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In-vitro preparation of dry bones from remnants of dissected cadavers

An effective method of reutilizing human cadaver waste

Edirisinghe EAST¹, Semina K.W.T¹, Werahara A.T.I¹, Jeewantha A.D.B¹, Selvarajah C.M.D¹, Weerasekara M.R.I.S¹, Perera K.C.C¹, Dissanayake PH¹, Yasewardene SG¹

Department of Anatomy, Faculty of Medical Sciences, University of Sri Jayewardenepura

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Introduction and objectives

Cadaver dissection and exposure to skeleton is currently in practice in all medical faculties worldwide. Although the usage of natural bones is recommended in learning anatomy, due to the legal and ethical issues, the availability of natural bones to medical students is decreasing. The objective of this study was to develop a method to prepare dry bones from dissected cadaver waste.

Method

Dissected cadaver specimens were cleaned and disarticulated at large joints. Long bones were dipped in boiling chamber and potassium hydroxide (KOH) was added to a ratio of KOH: Bone weight = 5g:1kg. Specimens containing small bones were wrapped in a steel-mesh. The specimens containing long and small bones were boiled for 5 & 2 hours respectively and buried in plastic buckets containing red-soil and compost. Lactobacilli bacterial solution was added to increase the decaying process since the formalinized tissues resist decaying. After 3 months bones were recovered and re-boiled for disinfection, left to air dry and varnished.

Results

Bones retained original morphometry and the method produced higher numbers, utilizing minimum space in a short time period. Preparation of bones by burial of formalin preserved body parts takes an extensively long time to decay. This method, reduces the load of dissected human tissue which needs to be removed and buried in a cemetery and thereby greatly reduces the maintenance cost of a dissecting laboratory.

Conclusions

Already formalinized bones should last long and have high durability as published by Ohman et al,.2008. This novel method is an effective method of reutilizing human cadaver waste by preparing dry bones.

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Perception of post-interns on the necessity of a secondary language training programme for medical officers in Sri Lanka

Ranasinghe J M S D¹, Silva D.T², Ratnayake D.R.D³, Padeniya A¹, Epitakaduwa C¹, Suraweera S⁴

¹Society For Health Research and Innovation

² National Hospital of Sri Lanka

³Blood Bank, Base Hospital Panadura

⁴Base Hospital Horana 🗀

Introduction and objectives

To describe the perceptions on secondary language training programme for medical officers who have completed their internship

Method

A cross-sectional study was done among the post intern medical officers who completed their internship on 4th December 2012. A pretested interviewer administered questionnaire was administered to 822 medical officers. This included questions on the necessity, ideal timing and the composition of a secondary language training programme. Ethical approval was taken from the National Institute of Health Sciences, Kalutara

Results

Out of the 822, 753 (91.6%) doctors responded to the questionnaire. Among them 723(96.0%) stated that it is essential to have a secondary language training programme. Majority (n=516,68.5%) responded that it should be done prior to internship while 141 (18.7%) stated it should be soon after the internship period. Of the respondents 45% (n=309) affirmed that the training programme should be of 20 days duration and 207 (27.5%) stated it should be a 10 day programme. Of these medical officers, 465 believed that that 75% of the programme should focus on speaking skills and 25% writing skills. One hundred and eighty (23.9%) believed that it should focus only on the speaking component.

Conclusions

From their experiences during medical internship, medical officers believe that there is a need for a secondary language training