

Comparison of the E- Learning behavior in Tamil between Medical and Dental students in Tamilnadu during 2014

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Introduction:

In the present modern era, instantaneous access to information possible at lightning speed with availability of Internet, which is a vehicle for World Wide Communication. Expertise in efficient handling of the internet has become an essential requirement among the medical professionals. Doctors without computer knowledge could not get connected to the modern world and they are expected to get trained to communicate via the internet. Their expert knowledge which is useful to general public is shared through powerful and cost effective medium of internet.

Telemedicine is the outcome of Internet access, Broadband communicating facility combined with availability of Specialized Doctors to the needy people crossing beyond the geographical barriers. It facilitates to get the experts advice and service at reasonable cost. It reduces many costs such as Establishment and Transportation also increases the serviceable people. Since cost is reduced, it makes much affordable to the economical weaker segment people.

The behavior of learning through the internet is prevalent among the students of different profession in urban areas. That too among the medical and dental students is great and it becomes the part and parcel of the course itself. But E- Learning behavior in Tamil is questionable among the medical and dental students. Hence this study was undertaken to compare the E- Learning behavior in Tamil between medical and dental students in Tamilnadu during 2014.

Materials and methods:

It is a cross sectional study conducted among MBBS & BDS students of different year of study of various medical colleges in Tamilnadu. 500 students were included in the study, among them 300 were Medical and 200 were Dental students. After getting an informed consent from all, a detailed questionnaire about the use of internet in Tamil is distributed to

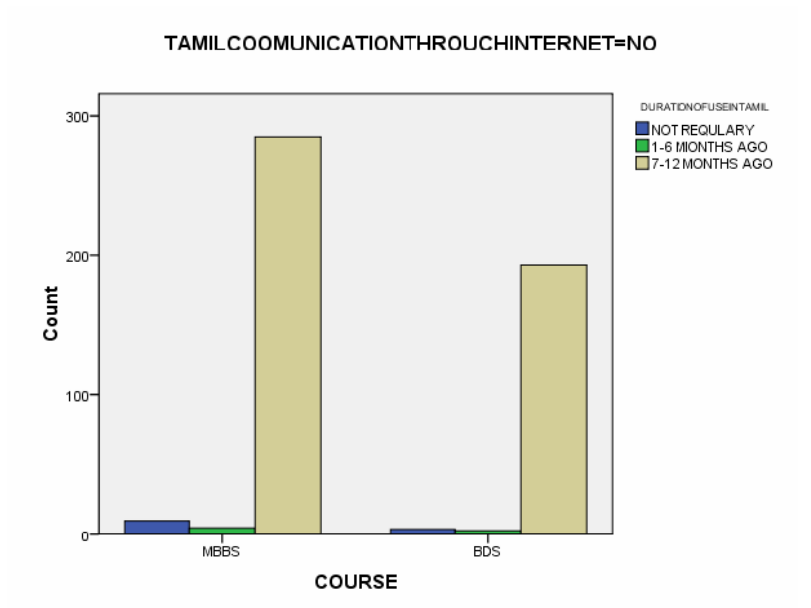
them, explained its need then their answers was collected. All of the students who were included in this study had submitted the answered questionnaires. These data were compiled in an Excel sheet to arrive the statistical data analysis.

Result:

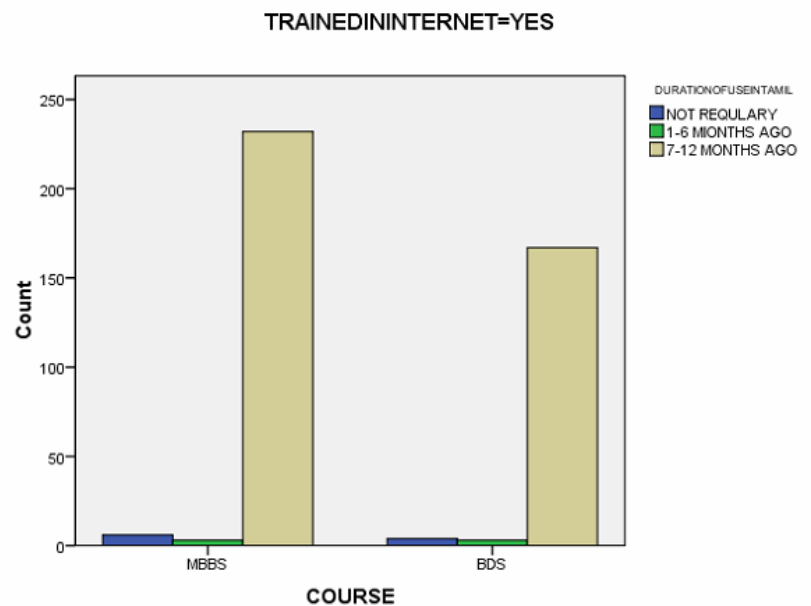
Among the 500 students, 300 were MBBS students & 200 were BDS students.

YEAR	MBBS		BDS	
	Male	Female	Male	Female
I	50	50	0	50
II	0	50	50	0
III	25	25	25	25
IV	25	75	25	25

		MBBS	BDS
Accessing Computer	Yes	300	200
	No	0	0
Place of Access	at College	5	0
	at Home	5	2
	at both, home & Internet Cafe	290	198
Desktop Availability	Yes	300	200
	No	0	0
Laptop Availability	Yes	300	200
	No	0	0
Trained in Internet	Yes	241	173
	No	59	26
Tamil Communication thru Internet	Yes	0	0
	No	300	200



Inference from the above chart is that the trend of using the internet in tamil has commenced recently. i.e Year ago. Before this period no people were used tamil in internet communication.



Discussion:

Barriers to use the internet in Tamil for students among different years of the courses are lack of time to use the Internet and inaccessibility to the Internet, Slow Internet speed and High

cost. Students have familiarized with computers in Tamil is only through personal study and experience. There is no special course for internet usage in Tamil in the college.

Conclusion:

Since MBBS Students spend less amount of time than the BDS students based on the Duration of usages of internet and spending the time for Tamil communication through internet is less. Also Based on Pearson Chi-square it is more than 0.5, we conclude that MBBS STUDENTS USING LESSER RESOURCES FOR LEARNING IN TAMIL THROUGH NET.