Electronic Documentation using Integrated Nursing Education System: Nursing Students' Experience, Perceptions, Attitudes and Intention to Use

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Background:

Electronic health record (EHR) systems have been implemented in healthcare organizations in different countries including selected Malaysian hospitals in the last decade. Health professionals including nurses navigate EHR system in relation to patient history, nursing assessment and interventions, progress notes, vital signs, intakes-outputs, incident reports, physicians' orders and so forth. Preparation of nursing students as the future professional nurses who would accept and utilize the EHR system proficiently for a safe delivery of healthcare practice is imperative.

Through a cross-institutional memorandum of academic understanding in year 2015, the web application Integrated Nursing Education System (iNES), a simulated electronic health documentation, web-based application (at https://www.ines.sg) from the National University of Singapore (Kowitlawakul, 2014) has been made accessible to students in the Department of Nursing, Faculty of Medicine and Health Sciences (FMHS) of UNIMAS for teaching-learning purpose.

This study aims to examine nursing students' experience with the newly introduced technology and the extent of new learning that they may have gained. Students' perceptions, attitudes, intention to use iNES and factors influencing their intention to use iNES for simulated EHR was also identified.

Conceptual framework and aims of study:

The Technology Acceptance Model (TAM) was used as a conceptual framework to guide the study (Davis, et al, 1989 in Kowitlawakul**,** et al**,** 2015). The TAM (Figure 1) consists of five constructs: perceived usefulness (PU), perceived ease of use (PEOU), attitude toward using (ATU), intention to use (ITU) and actual system use. It attempts to describe, identify, and predicts the factors that influence the intention of people to use the particular computer system. The two key determinants on the acceptance of computer systems are the perceived usefulness (PU) and perceived ease of use (PEOU). These two key determinants impact the users' attitude toward the computer systems, as well as their intentions to use the system. The intention to use the system then leads to the end users' actual behavior.