

# A Descriptive Study to Assess the Opinion Regarding Virtual Classes among B.Sc. Nursing Students of Selected Colleges of Bhopal, Madhya Pradesh India

Subin S

Assistant Professor, Department of Medical Surgical Nursing, Pragyan College of Nursing, Near RGPV Gandhi Nagar, Bhopal, Madhya Pradesh, India.

## Introduction

In the modern world there is an increasing use of network computers, the Internet and advances in telecommunication technology, e-Learning has been widely recognized as a valuable tool for learning and training. The traditional means of higher education has remained dominant in some developing countries. With the significant growth of e-learning, teachers and students normally explore new ways of constructing knowledge. The current technology being heavily researched as an educational platform is the World Wide Web. The “www” which represents a platform for information storage and dissemination can be accessed in minimum time, and this is very important to the educational community.

## Need and Significance of the Study

A new learning environment needs to be created which will provide autonomy and flexibility, establish contacts and easy communication between centers of culture and knowledge, and facilitate easy access for all citizens of a knowledge based to society. Conventional class room-based teaching involves the delivery of course lectures by the lecturer in a particular place at a specific time. Hence it imposes a constraint of time and place on both the instructor and the student. Due to the human factor, the lecturer may not always be able to put the optimum effort towards preparing and delivering course models. Direct interaction with the student is not easy because of the large number of students needing attention. The remedy to this situation seems to be the learning techniques that are based on modern technologies such as the Internet and “www” combined with traditional classroom teaching. One of the ways this can be achieved is through the use of virtual classrooms.

For the complete application of this modern technique assessment is needed. amalgamating nursing education with the latest technological trends is the need of hour and of prime importance for the maximum benefits of students’ future. Hence it was felt need to investigate the opinion of students about virtual classes.

## Statement of the Problem

“A descriptive study to assess the opinion regarding virtual classes among BSc nursing students of selected colleges of Madhya Pradesh India”.

## Objectives

### The objectives of the study were

- Assess the opinion of BSc nursing students regarding virtual classes.
- To associate the level of opinion regarding virtual classes among BSc nursing students with their selected demographic variables.

## Assumptions

- Students may have different opinions regarding virtual classes.
- Each individual student may have different opinion in the aspects of favorable, neutral & unfavorable level.
- The opinion may be varied from one individual to other individual.

## Theoretical Framework

Conceptual/ Theoretical framework used in this study based on HildaTaba modified inductive model (1971).

## Review of Literature

Review of literature is mainly classified in to two sections:

E-mail Id: subinsudarsanan1990@gmail.com

How to cite this article: Subin S. A Descriptive Study to Assess the Opinion Regarding Virtual Classes among B.Sc. Nursing Students of Selected Colleges of Bhopal, Madhya Pradesh India. *Trends Nurs Adm Edu* 2018; 7(2): 1-3.

Copyright (c) 2018 Trends in Nursing Administration & Education (P-ISSN: 2348-2141)



- **Section I:** Literature related to theoretical information
- **Section II:** Literature related to empirical information

Agarwal K et al. conducted a study on “Effectiveness of virtual classroom training in improving the knowledge and key maternal neonatal health skills of general nurse midwifery students in Bihar, India”.<sup>1</sup> The objective of the study was to evaluate the effectiveness of virtual classroom training in improving the MNH-related skills of the nursing-midwifery students in Bihar, India. They are selected 83 GNM students from both public & private sector. The final results reveal an increase in Post-interventional score (52.3) in comparison with Pre-interventional score (21.3). It shows that there is an improvement in level of knowledge after the application of Virtual classroom.

U. S. Department of Education (2014), conducted a study on “Evidence based practices in online learning: a meta-analysis and review of online learning studies”. The overall results of the “meta-analysis found that, on average, students in online learning conditions performed better than those receiving face-to-face instruction”. The meta-analysis of 51 study effects, 44 of which were drawn from research with older learners, found that students who took all or part of their class online performed better, on average, than those taking the same course through traditional face-to-face instruction. Instruction combining online and face-to-face elements had a larger advantage relative to purely face-to-face instruction than did purely online instruction. Studies in which learners in the online condition spent more time on task than students in the face-to-face condition found a greater benefit for online learning. Most of the variations in the way in which different studies implemented online learning did not affect student learning outcomes significantly.

## Methods

### Research Methodology

Descriptive research design is used in this study. The research approach adopted for this study is quantitative approach. The population for the present study constituted of students of BSc III year & IV-year nursing course in a selected nursing college of Madhya Pradesh. The sample size for the study is comprised of 120 nursing students. Purposive sampling technique is used to select the samples.

**Independent Variable:** Virtual Classes.

**Dependent Variable:** Opinionnaire response regarding virtual class room.

**Tool:** Structured rating scale regarding opinionnaire response of the BSc nursing III year & IV year.

### Development and Description of Tool

The tool was developed through extensive literature review of book, journals, personal experience & the expert guidance. The tool is comprising of two parts:

- **Section A:** Demographic profile of the nurses (5 items)

i.e.-Age, gender, group of students, exposure to virtual classes and percentage in last exam.

- **Section B:** Structured rating scale were categorized in to 6 areas which comprises a total of 18 opinionnaire response of student regarding virtual classes.
- **Scoring criteria's:** Unfavorable (01-30), Neutral (31-60) and favorable (61-90).

### Data Collection Method

A formal order was obtained from the college authorities to conduct the main study from March 2018 to April 2018. The investigator collected 120 samples who fulfilled the inclusive criteria. Data collection was done within the given period in Nursing colleges of Madhya Pradesh. Opinionnaire response was assessed with the help of structured rating scale and analyzed by the help of inferential and non-inferential statistics.

## Results

### Section A: Description of Sample Characteristics

Majority of the selected BSc nursing students were 86 (71.67%) belonged to the age group of 18-20 years. Most of the selected BSc nursing students 98 (81.67%) were females and 22 (18.33%) were males. Half of the selected BSc nursing students 60 (50%) from BSc. Nursing III year and remaining half were from BSc Nursing IV year. 100% of samples have an exposure to virtual classroom. Selected BSc nursing students were 75 (62.25%) were in the category of average on the basis of last year examination performance.

### Section B: Frequency & Percentage of Opinion Score of BSc Nursing Students 3<sup>rd</sup> year & 4<sup>th</sup> Year Students Regarding Virtual Classes

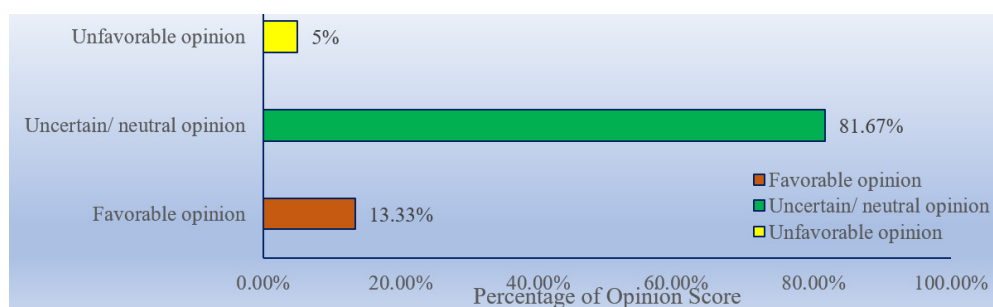
Its reveals that majority i.e. 98 (81.6%) of BSc nursing students have a neutral response i.e. between 31-60, 16 (13.33%) has favorable response regarding virtual classes score is ranging from 61-90, 6 (5%) is having unfavorable opinion regarding virtual class room the score is ranging from (13-18).

Table 2

Category	Frequency	Percentage
Favorable opinion	16	13.33%
Uncertain/neutral opinion	98	81.67%
Unfavorable opinion	6	5%

### Session C: Association of Level of Opinionnaire with Selected Demographic Variables

The demographic variable such as age, exposure to virtual classes showed significant association with the opinionnaire score whereas opinionnaire score was found to be independent of selected demographic variables such as gender, group of students and scores obtained during previous examination to the topic as evident by the computed chi-square value.



**Figure 1.** The bar diagram showing the percentage of opinion score of BSc nursing students regarding virtual classes

## Discussion

The study results projects that most of the BSc nursing students have an uncertain/ neutral opinion regarding Virtual class room. Its due to the lack in the area of technological skill and equipment's from the side of Virtual classes host.

On the basis of demographic characteristics majority students were in the age group of 18-20 because of continuity of education after 12<sup>th</sup>. Most of the students are female (81.6%) it might be due to that mostly females were motivated to nursing. 100% sample have an exposure to virtual classroom because institutions have an accessibility of virtual classes.

## Implications

The findings of present study have implications for nursing practice, nursing education, nursing administration and nursing research.

## Nursing Practice

- The studies information can be converted into information Education Communication system for nurses who were working in clinical settings.
- The induction classes, journal club presentations can be conducted for nurses working in clinical setting through virtual classes.

## Nursing Administration

- The nurse administrator should promote trained the staff nurses regarding applications of virtual classes.

## Nursing Education

- To teach the students regarding benefits & competency of e-learning methods.
- Promote the establishment of consortium for e- nursing teaching learning method.
- Indian nursing council cal open a virtual learning platform for all nursing institutions of India.

## Nursing Research

- The collected data can be shared to the concern authority's institution to overcome the barrier and for the effective utilization of virtual classes.
- The information can be disseminated to the nursing fraternity who were working in teaching institutions of Madhya Pradesh.

## Recommendations

On the basis of findings of the study, the following recommendations are being made:

- A similar study can be replicated on a large sample to generalize the findings.
- An experimental study can be undertaken with control group for effective comparison.
- A similar kind of study can be conducted using true experimental design so that generalization could be made.

## Limitations

- Nursing related literatures in Indian context were limited in number.
- The study was conducted for a small sample size in a selected setting by purposive sampling, which limits the generalization of principles.

## Conclusion

Thus, it concluded that the findings suggest that there is neutral response regarding virtual classes among BSc Nursing Students.

**Conflict of Interest:** None

## References

1. Agrawal N, Kumar S, Balasubramaniam SM et al. Effectiveness of virtual classroom training in improving the knowledge and key maternal neonatal health skills of general nurse midwifery students in Bihar, India: a pre-and post-intervention study. *Nurse Educ Today* 2016; 36: 293-297.
2. Basavanthappa BT. Textbook of education. Jaypee Brothers, New Delhi. 2004.
3. Justin F. Characteristics of virtual classroom. 2013. Available from: <https://www.learndash.com/characteristics-of-a-virtual-classroom/>.
4. Neerja KP. Textbook of Nursing Education. Jaypee Brothers, New Delhi. 2005.
5. Virtual Classroom. Available from: <https://www.techopedia.com/definition/13914/virtual-classroom>.

Date of Submission: 2019-02-18

Date of Acceptance: 2019-03-07