Five years of distance learning in BOSNIA & HERZEGOVINA

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INTRODUCTION

• Definition of distance learning as “use of technologies based on health care delivered on distance” covers areas such as electronic health, Tele-health (e-health), telematics, telemedicine, Tele-education, etc.

• Distance learning or learning from the distance represents the educational technique which keeps significant position in the actual medical education of the health care professionals abroad, especially in postgraduate and continuous medical education.

• With two projects in this area Possibilities of introduction of Distance Learning in Medical Curriculum and Introduction and Implementation of Distance Learning in Medicine, professor Masic and his associates from the Cathedra for Medical Informatics, Medical faculty, University of Sarajevo have made tremendous progress in education of undergraduate students and medical professional in Bosnia and Herzegovina.

• Recommendation for sustainable Distance Learning and really lifelong educational process and described activities and efforts on introduction of distance learning in teaching process at Medical faculty, University of Sarajevo, Bosnia and Herzegovina and shown the key aspects of modern tele-education system.

• This is for the first time in B&H that students are able to apply for exam, have exam and results on the web site as well as his/her picture and all other significant data.
DISTANCE LEARNING

Traditional way of learning and learning from the distance

- Results of different tests prepared by lectors has trend to show advantages in comparison with traditional learning methods and there is significant distinction in affirmative attitude to educational materials between distance and traditional learning
- Traditional methods demonstrate better organization and they are clearer in respect to distance learning
- Organization and needs for more efficient influence of distance learning very often improve traditional methods by teachers
- Future research should be focus on critical factors in determining student involvement in development of educational process.
- The variety of teaching and learning options provided by technology allows education to be provided in an appropriate manner to a broader student demographic then ever before.
B&H and Internet users

• By late 1994, the Internet includes 3.2 million computer nodes spread across more than 57,000 institutions in more than 80 countries, with an estimated 30 million users. By the end of the century the Internet linked more than 400 million persons.

• The 2002 Euro barometer survey showed that an average of 78% of EU medical GPs were online, with at the highest level – 98% in Sweden and 97% in United Kingdom. Number of “online patients” grows every day as well. The 2003

• Euro barometer survey on health information sources shows that 23% of Europeans use Internet for health information and that 41% of the European population considers that Internet is a good source of information on health (8).

• E.g. every 60th citizen of Bosnia and Herzegovina uses Internet (50.000 citizens of 3.000.000 citizens in Bosnia and Herzegovina) and in Slovenia every forth Slovenian is familiar and uses Internet technologies
BH universities
Distance learning in medical curriculum

- In October 2003, University of Sarajevo began with Distance learning education, opening University Distance Learning Centre.
- Cantonal Ministry approved and supported Possibilities of introduction of Distance learning in Medical curriculum; Introduction and implementation of Distance learning in medicine
- With UTIC help center for distance learning, “LUCIS CENTRUM”, is created
Uploaded lectures

Hardware and software, Medical documentations, Medical informatics, Methods of data manipulation, Nomenclatures and classification systems, Data organization, Data, information and knowledge, Lecture 1, System and communication, Structure and data organization and Expert systems.
• Lecture contents will be presented in our virtual classroom. In our case, learning material from the subject of medical informatics, and later, hopefully from other medical subjects, will be available on web site, www.e-learning.ba
First DL exam

Prezentacija na Medicinskom fakultetu

Prvo elektronsko polaganje ispita

U amfiteatu Medicinskog fakulteta jučer je održana završna prezentacija projekta „Uvođenje učenja na daljinu u medicinski curiculum“, tako što je po prvi put u historiji Univerziteta u Sarajevu organizirano elektronsko polaganje ispita.

Ovaj projekt se realizira na Katedri za medicinsku informatiku Medicinskog fakulteta od 2002. godine i odobrili su ga Federalno i Kantonalno ministarstvo nauke i obrazovanja. Cilj projekta je unapređenje obrazovnog sistema primjenjujući savremenih edukacijskih metoda u skladu s preporukama Bolonjske deklaracije o reformi obrazovnog procesa na Univerzitetima u BiH.

Tokom prezentacije prikazana je procedura učenja na daljinu, prijavljivanje ispita putem računara, te elektronsko polaganje ispita.

Z. P.
Website of the cathedra

www.imasic.org/mi/
Advantages of distance learning

- Increase capacities of educational institutions;
- Education can be easily adopted to the needs of education on-the-job;
- Costs of educational process are smaller;
- It is possible to distribute the education uniformly, thus the new educational programs are available for fields outside of educational and economic centres;
- Enables the possibility of access to the foreign educational resources to the various institutions;
- Superior quality of the knowledge gained.
Conclusions

- Bologna process, which started last years in European countries, provide us to promote and introduce modern educational methods of education at biomedical faculties in Bosnia and Herzegovina.

- Cathedra of Medical informatics and Cathedra of Family medicine at Medical Faculty of University of Sarajevo started to use web based education as common way of teaching of medical students.

- Satisfaction with this method of education within the students is good, but not yet suitable for most of medical disciplines at biomedical faculties in Bosnia and Herzegovina.
Thank you on your attention

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