E-Coaching trends in Medical teaching

FAIZA JAVAID TARIQ
Lecturer, Department of Community Medicine, Lahore Medical & Dental College- Lahore
Email: faiza.javaid@lmdc.edu.pk, Contact: 0322-4071610

The concept of distance learning or education dates back to 1840s, and by 1960s, the development of electronic media, e-learning became a revolutionized way to communicate between the teachers, coaches, mentors and students.

Fazel[1] suggested that without understanding learning theories, coaching cannot effectively facilitate learning process and thus these coaching practices could potentially collapse into a theoretical abyss. The most effective coaching practice integrates the classical conditioning, reinforcement, transformative learning, and experiential learning theories in order to make lasting changes through the process of deep learning and understanding. Therefore, coaching as a different approach which considered cognitive and behavioral aspect of learning can lead to improvement of educational level.

What is "E-Coaching": In a rapidly moving world where so many of our day-to-day activities are now online, it has become essential to adapt coaching processes in order to better suit clients' circumstances and needs. Above all, clients want sustainable and time-efficient results. Modern electronic educational technology is an important part of society today[2] as it reaches out to a mass audience. Electronic coaching (e-coaching) is an inexorable development for everyone who is a professional coach, mentors, teacher, supervisor, and guides or helps people in their jobs. The "e-coaching systems" helps to deliver a highly personalized, timely, around-the-clock coaching in a wide variety of domains and to a broad audience.

In addition to e-learning, these educational technology encompasses many aspects like instructional and communicational technologies, multimedia learning, technology-enhanced learning, computer-based training, digital educational collaboration, cyber-learning, personal learning environments, networked learning, virtual learning environments which are also called learning platforms, m-learning or mobile learning, and many others.

"E-Tools" for Medical Teaching: The commonly and most widely in use e-coaching tools are Google Classroom, Kahoot, Flipgrid, Socrative and Formative. Although these are a few examples of the newer teaching tools, they are helpful in creating an environment to teach and coach.

Moreover, these new teaching tool open an avenue for round the clock interaction between the coaches or mentors with their students. Coaches can set up a web-based resources, which provide center to facilitate the coaching process. Learners could access materials such as interactive scheduling tools, goal setting tools, learning activities or exercises, assessments and on-line measure tools, digital records and review progress. Also, students can be divided in to smaller groups, depending on activities or those who need extra time and guidance, and as a whole class in a classroom where regular classwork activities can be monitored. Importantly, in an institutional based setup student can be invited to different classrooms through the college or institution's database, or through a private code like in Google classrooms, that can then be added by the teachers and co-teachers and also by the students, or these codes can also be automatically imported from an institutional domain. Considering, at the same time, these E-Systems do raises a number of practical and ethical concerns regarding privacy and personal autonomy, hence, deserves a careful consideration[3]. Furthermore, these tool provide a paper free environment, which is economical and takes less storage space.

In conclusion, e-learning or e-coaching can provide and reap very beneficial impact to advancing medical education and the teaching technologies.

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