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## A study to assess the attitude regarding online classes among nursing students during COVID-19 pandemic at selected school of nursing Karaikal

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### Abstract

This study aimed to assess the attitude of nursing students regarding online classes.

**Objective:** 1. To determine the perception of nursing students towards online learning during pandemic. 2. To assess the attitude of nursing students towards online learning.

**Setting and Design:** Descriptive cross sectional survey research design was used and non probability sampling Methods were used to drawn samples through online Google form. The sample collected from school of nursing students and study sting was immaculate institute of health sciences, Karaikal. There were total 20 attitude question with five point rating scale were used. Total sample were 136 school of nursing students. Data has been collected by online Google form.

**Statistical Analysis Used:** Descriptive statistics applied where, data was analyzed by using SPSS software, and Frequency, percentage, tables etc were used to represent the statistical data.

**Results:** Out of 136, 63(6.32%) were belong age 19-20 years, 80(58.82%) were third year, 77(56.61%) were live urban, 59(43.38%) were rural area, 72(52.94%) were travel 21-30km, 42(30.88%) more than 30km, 60(44.11%) have above Rs.15,000 monthly family income 119(87.5%) were used mobile for online lecture, 84(61.76%) were have average network, Attitude regarding Online Classes were 9(6.61%) had Inadequate Attitude, 8(64.70%) had Moderate Attitude, 39(28.61%) had adequate Attitude.

**Conclusions:** Regarding the online lecture 64.70% school of nursing students has moderate attitude and 39(28.61%) had adequate attitude is means now days students are line online classes than physical mode due 10 various reasons such as, time consuming, reduce traveling, risk of accidents and corona, more time can Spend with family etc.

**Keywords:** WHO, COVID-19, pandemic, corana

### Introduction

Good education has the power to transform students lives. Traditional teachers are focuses more on class room teaching. The year 2020 COVID-19 crisis, which was officially declared a pandemic by the World Health organization (WHO) had major impact across government sectors, including education <sup>[1]</sup>. The COVID-19 pandemic significantly disrupted every aspect of human life including the education <sup>[2]</sup>. The closure of schools and universities affected more than 1.5 billion students. In Puducherry and Tamil Nadu the pandemic resulted in closure of all educational institutions for almost 9 months <sup>[3]</sup>. A large part of the world experienced a lock down that closed educational institutions affecting more than 80% of world student population. Physical class room teaching was switched into virtual class's very fast <sup>[4]</sup>. Professional in developed countries needs training to become more qualified nurses. Most of them prefer to get online training which provide leaner with variety of benefits such as convenience, flexibility and opportunities to work collaboratively, has considerable potential for nursing continuing education <sup>[4]</sup>. India went into a national wide lockdown due to COVID 19 in the month of March 2020. The university introduced mandatory e- learning for all medical and Para-medical students <sup>[7]</sup>. Social cognitive theory explain in the factors influencing the learner's online readiness perception about online learning it will influences their willingness to adopt blended learning as a method of learning <sup>[8]</sup>. Students perception and readiness towards online learning will be the key in introduction blended learning. The concepts of online classes are not new as it has been a functioning many academic courses in a long time. Many universities are offering online courses for the learners.

Students are perceived difficulties related to online teaching and learning are the key reasons for less use of online in certain part of our country. This includes skill deficit, time, cost, infrastructure, poor communication, collaboration attitude and culture. Studies suggest that by developing strategies that ensure continuous engagement of students throughout their study helps more to enhance performance of students.

Electronic learning is categorized as synchronized and Non-synchronized e-learning. Synchronized learning is a Teaching learning activity in which both the student and teacher will be online at same time and hence it is more social and avoids frustration by asking and answering questions in real time. Non-synchronized Learning is an offline learning, which does not require active involvement of student and teacher at real time.

Online learning nowadays considered as the potential method of learning especially in students of medical & nursing teaching. There is no strong evidence that classroom teaching is better method of learning as compare to the online learning. This pandemic (lock down) has left no options in front of institutions other than temporarily shut the doors or shift to online classes. Though online classes students and teachers are adopted as an alternative for traditional classes but they must be the part of futuristic education so that students must be acquainted with technological skills. Online classes have shown an aspect of continuing the academic education. It has been shown in researches that students retain 25-60% more, when they learner online in comparison of 8-189. In traditional classroom teaching and 40-60% less time to learn than in classroom settings.

WhatsApp, zoom and Google meet are some of the apps used for conducting online classes. Some institutions have also developed their own software for online classes in order to give good education. It is almost a new notion for the nursing students to take online classes on regular basis so they were never being evaluated for their attitude towards online classes in this context. At the same time, learners' attitude and acceptance towards information technology and mentors efforts to ensure that students would stay involved are the critical factors for the successful online teaching learning programme.

Classroom teaching is the traditional method and it is not easy approach to replace the traditional method in short interval of time, especially when classroom teaching is the only method used by the students for academic learning. The present study was planned to assess the perceptions and issues regarding online study among nursing students during lockdown (COVID-19 pandemic).

As the best of our knowledge previous studies conducted were basically focused on attitude of nursing students towards e-learning under normal circumstances but the present study was attempted with an aim to ascertain the attitude of nursing students towards the online classes during lockdown period in Karaikal.

### Objectives

1. To determine the perception of nursing students towards online learning during pandemic.
2. To assess the attitude of nursing students towards online learning.

## Materials and Methods

### Research Approach

Non Experimental, Descriptive survey approach

### Research Design

Cross sectional study

### Research Variables

- 1) **Dependent variables:** Attitude of Nursing Student on Online Classes.
- 2) **Demographic variables:** Demographic variables of Nursing Student's such as Age, Year, Distance of college from home, income of the family, Locality and type of family, Network Availability etc.

### Sampling method

The survey was prepared online and the link of the survey was distributed to students using mobile group messaging application. It was made sure in a class that most of the students are having smart mobile devices and sufficient Internet connectivity to fill up the form online. Students who were not using Internet were encouraged to take help from their friends having Internet enabled device. Student participation was voluntarily and they could opt not to fill up the survey.

### Instrument for Data Collection

A closed type questionnaire 5-points Likert scale.

### Study population

Nursing students

### Study sample

GNM students, Karaikal

### Sample Size

136 students

### Sample Criteria

#### Inclusion Criteria

1. Students are not having internet facility with phone or laptop
2. Those who are all willing to participate
3. Those who are all available at the time of data collection

#### Exclusion criteria

1. Those who are not willing to participate
2. Students not having internet phone and laptop facility

### Tool for Data Collection

#### Section 1

It consist of demographic variable of nursing student's such as age, sex, course, year, income of the family, locality, and type of family, etc.

#### Section 2

It consist of structured self administered questionnaire (5-points Likert scale) to assess the nursing student's attitude towards the online classes.

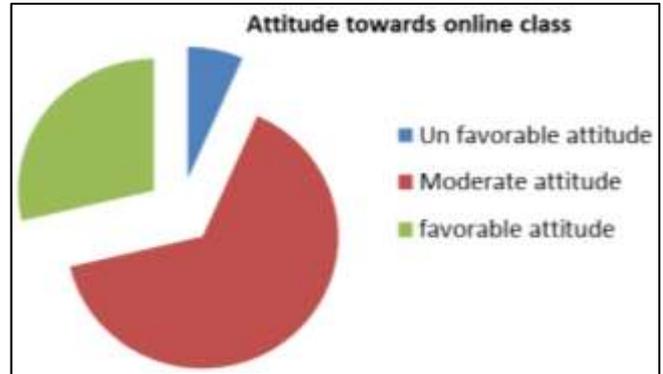
**Table 1:** Demographic variable of nursing students.

Variables	Categories	Frequency (F)	Percentage (%)
Age	17-18 years	04	2.94%
	19-20 years	63	46.32%
	21-22 years	55	40.44%
	Above 22 years	14	10.29%
Class of study	Second year	18	13.23%
	Third year	80	58.82%
	Final year	38	27.94%
Area of living	Rural area	59	43.38%
	Urban area	77	56.61%
Family monthly income	Below 5000	8	5.88%
	5001 -10000	32	23.52%
	10001 -15000	36	26.47%
	Above 15000	60	44.11%
Type of family	Nuclear	72	52.94%
	Joint	64	47.05%
Gadget used for online classes	Mobile	119	87.5%
	Tablet	9	6.61%
	Laptop	8	5.88%
Network connectivity /quality	Poor	30	22.05%
	Average	84	61.76%
	Good	22	16.17%
College distance from home	10 to 20 KM	22	16.17%
	21 to 30 KM	72	52.94%
	More than 30 KM	42	30.88%

**Table 2:** Distribution according to level of attitude

Attitude	Frequency (f)	Percentage (%)
Unfavorable attitude	09	6.61%
Moderate unfavorable attitude	88	64.70%
Favorable attitude	39	28.67%
Total	136	100%

Table no.2 Revealed that the distribution of sample according to attitude regarding online classes were 9 (6.61%) had inadequate attitude 88 (64.70%) had moderate attitude and 39 (28,67%) had adequate attitude.



**Graph 1:** Distribution of attitude towards online classes.

**Table 3:** Distribution according to percentage of attitude questionnaire

Attitude question	SA	A	U	DA	SDA
Do you like class from home than college?	7%	38%	20%	38%	15%
Is online class save time, you can do home activities also	12%	52%	18%	10%	8%
Online classes give more time to you to spend with your family?	18%	51%	16%	8%	7%
Is online class saves your travel cost?	38%	40%	10%	8%	4%
Do you get disturbed for your online class because of house work?	23%	30%	22%	12%	13%
Do get internet problem?	25%	38%	20%	9%	8%
Is online lecture more understanding	27%	26%	22%	28%	25%
Do you understand the content provided by the teacher during online class?	9%	30%	41%	13%	7%
Do you feel like you are not getting full attention?	15%	38%	32%	7%	8%
Online teaching is not secured?	14%	34%	36%	10%	6%
Do you good communication with your teacher when you are not able to join your class?	16%	50%	22%	3%	9%
Do you clarify your queries to online class?	15%	45%	23%	15%	2%
Do you get your homework / assignment after online class?	15%	43%	22%	14%	6%
Is online classes attentive in day to day evaluation of learning out comes	10%	48%	31%	9%	2%
Do you feel like that you are suffering from eye, headache, and neck pain due to online classes?	22%	30%	17%	14%	17%
Is teacher able to make you understand about topic	11%	35%	24%	18%	12%
Do you update your digital technology knowledge?	16%	48%	22%	12%	2%
Is online class decrease your risk for accident?	19%	52%	12%	6%	11%
Online teaching is better than traditional teaching	9%	28%	27%	19%	17%

SA: Strongly Agree, A: Agree, U: Uncertain, DA: Disagree, SDA: Strongly Disagree

**Discussion:** Out of 136, 63(6.32%) were belong age 19-20 years, 80(58.82%) were third year, 77(56.61%) were live urban, 59(43.38%) were rural area, 72(52.94%) were travel 21-30km, 42(30.88%) more than 30km, 60(44.11%) have above Rs.15,000 monthly family income 119(87.5%) were used mobile for online lecture, 84(61.76%) were have average network, Attitude regarding Online Classes were 9(6.61%) had Inadequate Attitude, 8(64.70%) had Moderate Attitude, 39(28.61%) had adequate Attitude.

**Conclusions**

Nursing students had positive perception of online learning. They were very satisfied that their teaching learning activities were carried out during COVID-19. Age, academic year, and devices used had an impact on positive perception. However, obstacles perceived by the students

need to be addressed by the academic institution to improve quality of online education. In conclusion, the current pandemic has caused severe damage to our society but it also provides a great opportunity for educators to capitalize on this and integrate approaches such as online-learning to the mainstay nursing education that creates more student-centered learning environment.

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