

Abstract

Objective:

Recently, a new technology, Web 2.0, has emerged and it is increasingly used in education. Wiki is one of the web 2.0 applications which is used in e-Learning. Wiki is a simple, easy editable, interactive application that enhances learning, so this study was conducted to investigate the effect of using wiki on learning of information searching skills on medical students in Kerman University of Medical Sciences.

Method:

The study population included the medical students who have chosen the Information Technology Course in the second semester in 2013. The course was held in four groups, two groups were selected randomly. One group was considered as test group, teaching through wiki (wikispaces). The second one was the control group, traditional teaching (lecture). We asked about students' attitudes toward learning through a researcher-made questionnaire. Data was analyzed by using SPSS.

Result and conclusion:

Most of the students (72.0%) have used at least one of the web 2.0 technologies and 21.9 percent were used wikis. The mean scores of two groups increased and the difference between the mean scores was significant. The mean and standard deviation of the students' scores before and after training by using wiki enhanced from 2.80 ± 1.852 to 12.85 ± 4.258 , whereas it was 3.83 ± 4.303 to 13.75 ± 3.25 in the traditional group ($p < 0.001$). There was no significant relationship between two teaching method (wiki and traditional) ($p = 0.506$) and the improvement of both groups was almost equivalent but most of students (55%) preferred training by wiki. According to finding of us suggested using new technologies such as wikis in teaching at least as a supplement method.

Keywords: Web 2.0, Wiki, Education, Information searching skills, Learning, Kerman University of Medical Sciences, Medical students