



Education Technologies for Physicians Do Physicians See This in the Their Future?

Barbara Baasch Thomas
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Research for Professional Education

- Educational Technologies for Physician Continuous Professional Development: A National Survey Cook DA, Blachman MJ, Price DW, West CP, Baasch Thomas BL, Berger RA, Wittich CM (Academic Med. 2018 Jan;93(1))
- Past, present and future use of technology
 - Online
 - Simulation
- Will practicing physicians accept and use them?
 - Attitudes and beliefs
 - Variation by age, specialty, size of practice

Research Methodology

- Nationwide, cross-specialty survey of US physicians from 9/15-4/16
- Random sample of 4,648 physicians
- Asked them about current use, past use, and anticipated future use of online learning and simulation-based education
- Survey developed by 4 CME experts at nonaffiliated institutions

Background

- Few studies explored the attitudes and beliefs of physicians and educational technology creating a gap in knowledge
- We do know:
 - Physicians moderately likely to participate in an online course
 - Increased amount of time seeking online information
 - Want it to be free, and address an important topic
 - Feel able to navigate technology

Results

- Response rate was 21.6% (988/4,583)

Age	Responded
<45	23.6%
45-59	46.3%
60+	30.1%

Results

- 97.1% used online learning in past 5 yrs, 84.2% simulation
- Agree point of care learning for effective patient care (5.5/7)
- Desire for more online learning was modest (4.6/7)
- Most desired technology for searching for CME, tracking completion and receiving credit
- Desire for 5 minute and 20 minute clinical updates
- No significant differences across age for prior use
- Physicians under 45 rated technology highest

Implications

- Physicians are generally receptive to technology
- Modest interest in utilizing patient outcomes data to direct professional education
- Physicians of all ages are willing, interested and capable to use online learning and simulation-based education
 - Older physicians indicated less likely to regularly use than younger physicians
- Beliefs about educational technologies vary little across practice types and specialties

Application of Research in CME/CPD

- Avoid the hype, building online learning doesn't guarantee use
- Focus on problems physician are facing and try to help them solve them, rather than the technology itself
- Develop short, high relevance and patient-focused activities

Application of Research in CME/CPD

- Patient outcome information would help make better CPD choices
 - Common EMR
 - AI
- Challenges in reaching physicians who don't work in a large practice setting
- Younger physicians express slightly more interest, will this trend continue?



Questions & Discussion